

t r a n s f o r m e r

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ON Gallery & Vending Machine Branch

Performance by NY based artist
ON megumi Akiyoshi

**Saturday, March 24, 2012
6-8pm**

Pepco's Edison Place Gallery
702 Eighth Street, NW, Washington, DC

The organic white cube, exhibiting a floral painting outside the frame with a white wall inside, is actually artist ON megumi Akiyoshi performing "ON Gallery & Vending Machine Branch" inside the closing reception of *2:46 and thereafter*.



A collaboration between Washington, DC based Transformer and Tokyo based DANDANS, *2:46 and thereafter* is an exhibition highlighting 18 emerging Japanese artists' responses to the March 2011 earthquake and tsunamis that struck Japan's north-east coast, and their affect on the country and the Japanese people. The title of the exhibition, *2:46 and thereafter*, marks the time the earthquake hit, referenced throughout Japan in the same vein Americans now reference the date 9/11.

Featuring a gumball machine that sells tiny original paintings for a friendly price, ON's pink gumball capsules include images such as 'Five petals flower', 'peony', and the 'shape of eight'.

The five petals flower, with its simplicity, symbolizes perpetuity from its technical name, "rotate corolla" like an eternally spinning wheel. The peony is the artist's favored bloom with its confident expansiveness and myriad promise of figure, as if it could embrace anything in its presence. The shape of eight, reminds her of a female torso, and also represents the idea of infinity.

This performance is a projection of ON's wish to go on, lively, after *2:46 and thereafter*. "We are all given a certain amount of time in one lifetime, during which, I wish full blossoming for all beings." – ON megumi Akiyoshi

Further information about ON megumi Akiyoshi and her work can be found on her website: www.onmeg.com.
Image credit: ON megumi Akiyoshi.

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

DANDANS began in 2005 as a group for young, emerging artists and supporters seeking exhibition possibilities in Tokyo. DANDANS member artists are mainly in their twenties and thirties, working in a variety of genre including oil painting, Japanese traditional painting (nihonga), sculpture, video, photography, mixed-media and installations. An important feature of DANDANS is the artists' involvement in the organization and setup of all the exhibitions.