



WITHYOUGROUP
ART PROJECT:
Making Art a
Factor in Medical
and Elderly Care
Facilities

DR. HISASHI HOZUMI



The future of medical and healthcare is trending towards improving the quality of life (QOL) through cure and patient care. Over many years, WITH YOU GROUP has incorporated art projects in its medical and healthcare services. The art projects are categorized in two; the 'environment art project' and the 'participatory art project'. The environmental improvement by art design utilizes art as design and attempts to improve the health care facility environment. Participatory art offers patients/senior residents in a facility to be part of a creative process and to be able to express themselves. The following are a few pictures of the WITH YOU GROUP art projects in the hospital, nursing homes and the outpatient clinic.

SOTOASAHIKAWA HOSPITAL

Opened in 1988 and has a general care unit with 207 beds and a hospice sections with 34 beds

The SOTOASAHIKAWA HOSPITAL art project started with designing the entrance hall and lounge areas displaying works of great artists thereby changing the functional image of the hospital into a relaxing space that helps the mental well-being of the patients as well as attract visitors and or art lovers.



SOTOASAHIKAWA HOSPITAL

Art in the Hospice Lounge



Art in the Main Entrance Lobby



Stairway to the 2nd Floor



NURSING HOME HONOKA

Established in 2010, Honoka is a nursing home with 50 rooms, each with single occupancy for seniors

HONOKA has exhibition spots to works of art by Kusama Yayoi who is a well-known artist in Japan and around the world. The exhibitions are part of the approach to enhance the quality of services in the facility as well as provide areas of relaxation for the residents, their families and staff. The exhibitions also attract visitors from outside.



NURSING HOME **HONOKA**

Art exhibition in the hallway and public spaces



NURSING HOME SOPHIE

Opened in 2003, the facility accommodates 50 senior residents. All the rooms are for single occupancy

NURSING HOME SOPHIE is an 'assisted-living pay nursing home'. During the planning stage, the facility building was also designed to function as a regional museum. In the lobby, there is a mural by a British contemporary artist Richard Long. The mural is called 'Akita Waterfall Line'. In addition, artworks by Japanese and international artists are exhibited in the hallways and public spaces.



NURSING HOME **SOPHIE**

**The Mural by Richard Long
'Akita Waterfall Line'**



**A Giant Pumpkin Art by Kusama
Yayoi Display in the Main
Entrance Lobby**



NURSING HOME GREEN

The facility was opened in 2010 to provide long-term care and assisted living.

As part of the environmental art project, the facility building was designed to incorporate art meant to contribute to improving the quality of life of the senior residents. The art designs and exhibitions provide a platform for discussions and engagements between the residents, their families, friends, visitors and staff. The artworks are the interaction of nature and history created by various artists inspired by their visits to Akita.



NURSING HOME GREEN

Art Exhibition on the Wall of the Main Lobby and Hallway



Built-in Art in the Hallway



Art Exhibition in the Hallway



SOTOASAHIKAWA SATELLITE CLINIC (SOSAC)

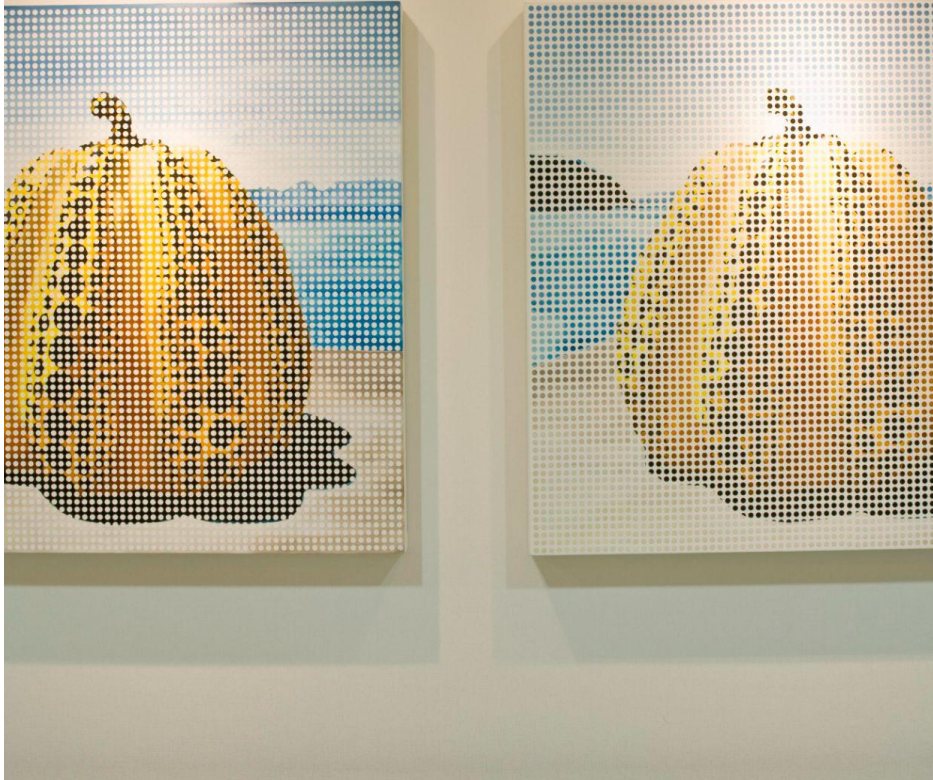
SOSAC is an outpatient clinic with a diagnostic and treatment department and a dentistry

During construction, art projects were included in the exterior and interior designs of the building. The most noticeable feature of the building is the giant pumpkin on the roof. It is the symbol of the clinic and the creative work of Kusama Yayoi. Inside the building, there is a huge mural painting representation of Mount Tahei which can be seen outside from across the clinic. In addition, artworks are exhibited in the hallways and consultation rooms. Another major art design of the building is the arc shaped wall that can be seen both from outside the clinic and inside the dentistry.



SOTOASAHIKAWA SATELLITE CLINIC (SOSAC)

Art Works of Kusama Yayoi



The Mural of Mt. Taihei



Art Exhibition in Hallway

SOTOASAHIKAWA SATELLITE CLINIC (SOSAC)

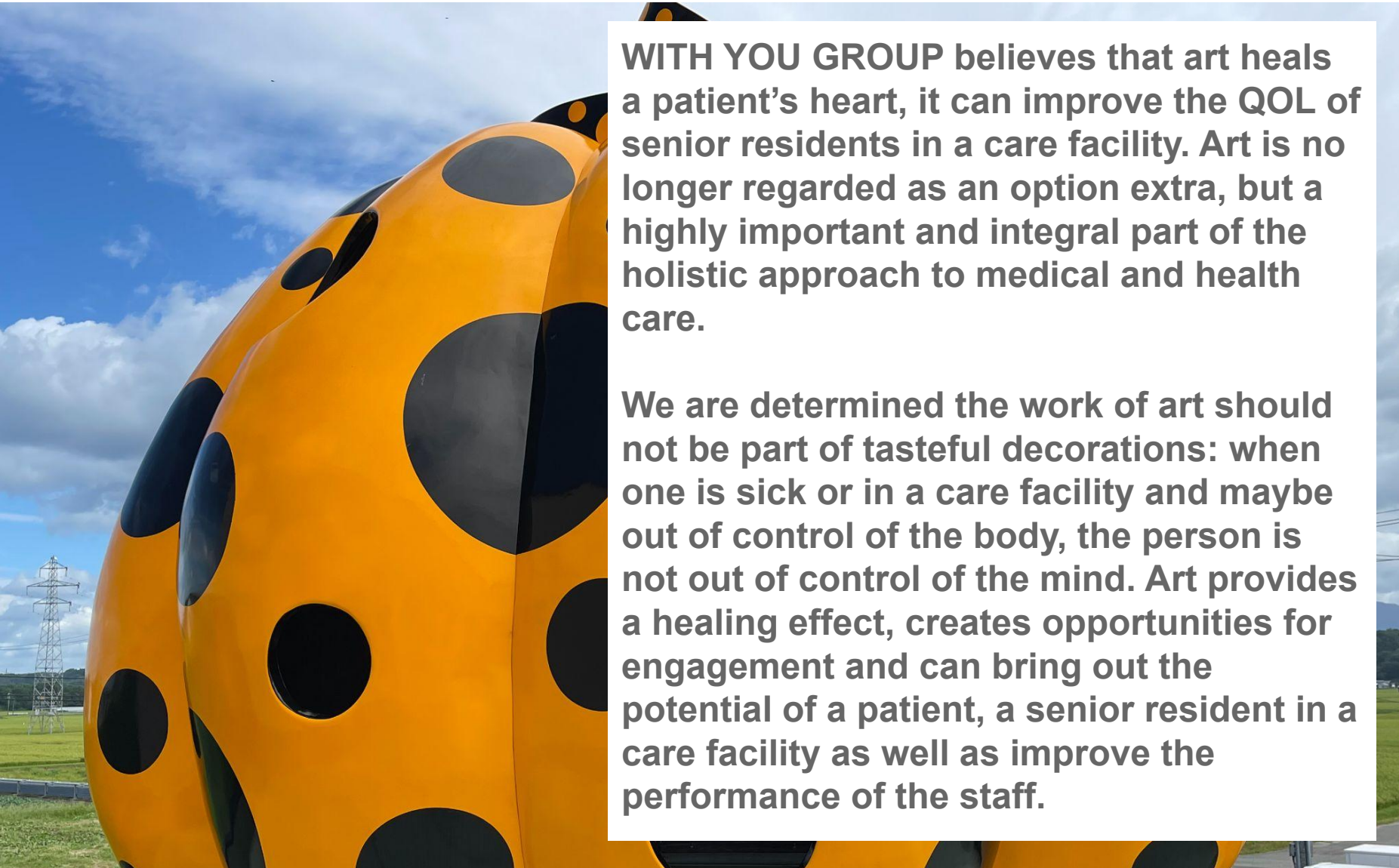
The Arc Wall Design of the Dentistry: A View from Outside



SOTOASAHIKAWA SATELLITE CLINIC (SOSAC)

The Arc Wall Design of the Dentistry: A View from Inside





WITH YOU GROUP believes that art heals a patient's heart, it can improve the QOL of senior residents in a care facility. Art is no longer regarded as an option extra, but a highly important and integral part of the holistic approach to medical and health care.

We are determined the work of art should not be part of tasteful decorations: when one is sick or in a care facility and maybe out of control of the body, the person is not out of control of the mind. Art provides a healing effect, creates opportunities for engagement and can bring out the potential of a patient, a senior resident in a care facility as well as improve the performance of the staff.