



# THE ATOMIC ARTISTS

How one group of artists is challenging Japan's unusually strong faith in nuclear power

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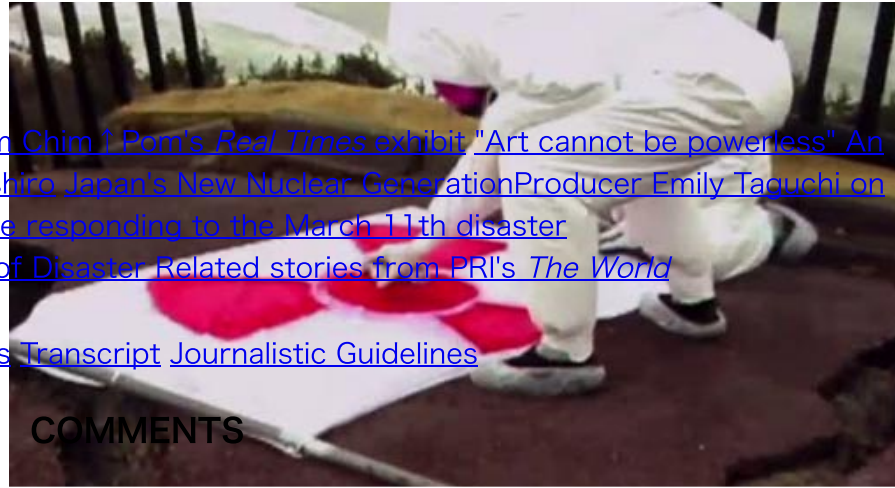
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Mr. Smith • 7 years ago

So what exactly is the endgame for this group? Kicking the nuclear power industry out of the country? Giving up completely on it? That sounds like exactly the wrong thing to be advocating.

Accidents do happen and it sucks when they do. But isn't throwing the baby out with the bathwater going too far? I'd rather the Japanese embrace nuclear power MORE and help to innovate and make it safer, cheaper, and more efficient. If they produce less power from nuclear it just means it's going to have to come from somewhere else.

10 ^ | ▼ • Share ›



Øyvind → Mr. Smith • 7 years ago

I love what they did with the national flag, considering how much radiation we get from the rising sun and how many people die from it (skin cancer, etc.) every year. A brilliant way to put the miniscule death/destruction toll of nuclear power in perspective!

Unfortunately, I have a hunch the activists made this point accidentally and are as detached from reality as ever.

3 ^ | ▼ • Share ›



Dominic Danso Okyere → Mr. Smith • 7 years ago

dat's not a bad idea, but that's wishful thinkin.....how long do u think it take to make nuclear energy much safer

and more efficient after the disaster

^ | v • Share ›



**grayarea** • 7 years ago

Are the nuclear industry hacks invading this site with vapid comments and opinions? The Fukushima disaster has rendered hundreds of km of land uninhabitable and they have the audacity to frame the reaction by a fledgling artist co-op with typical western contempt and lecturing? It's absurd to question whether Japan might have a bit more of a perspective on the nuclear issue because they've heard the horror stories from grandparents and been affected directly by the Fukushima plant. I guess it comes easy from the comfort of a recliner while surfing the web as coal fired electrical plants power the A/C cooling your brains thousands of miles away from the reality which these people actually have to live.

8 ^ | v • Share ›



**Øyvind** → grayarea • 7 years ago

Are the nuclear industry hacks invading this site with vapid comments and opinions? Yes, that's right, grayarea, whoever disagrees with you are employed by the atomic industry, which doesn't have anything better to do with its money than employ people to sit on PBS boards and disagree with people. Every industry does this -- all the people you see on YouTube talking about how much Modern Warfare rocks? Infinity Ward shills.

7 ^ | v • Share ›



**marialuciagomezgreenberg** • 7 years ago

The power of the artist! Great to see young people creating a new world one paint stroke at a time, a safer world.

3 ^ | v • Share ›



**Øyvind** • 7 years ago

I assume this group is also against hydroelectric power because it's killed hundreds of thousands of people and caused catastrophic environmental damage (the worst dam disaster in history killed 250 000 and destroyed two million buildings). Obviously, the massive threat posed by hydroelectric dams means we must start to phase out their use globally. No? I'm afraid I don't understand, I thought you were against nuclear power because it was dangerous?

Oh, I suppose they're focusing on nuclear power because it is so much more dangerous than the other forms of power, especially when measured against power output. After all, it has killed... what? Only a couple thousands? In one accident caused by lacklustre Soviet engineering and disastrous safety policies, and another by a freak once-in-a-thousand years tsunami?

Going by this group's logic, we should stop building skyscrapers because they collapse when hit by hijacked airliners. Utterly ridiculous.

5 ^ | v • Share ›



**Ms. Moore** • 7 years ago

A hurricane of social movements that will change the way people view the world...to come.

2 ^ | v • Share ›



**nattotoday.wordpress.com** • 7 years ago

Local citizens standing up to the nuclear power industry, it is wonderful, it is historic -- Japan may actually (according to trends as of August 2011) phase out nuclear power instead of expanding their reliance on it. And if the total rate of cancer induced amongst children near Fukushima were known, they would wipe nuclear power out today.

Mr. Smith, obviously you do not have children in Japan, but I would imagine you do have nuclear investments.

1 ^ | v • Share ›



**Øyvind** → nattotoday.wordpress.com • 7 years ago

Would the death toll of the Banqiao Dam wipe out hydroelectric power if it were to be commonly known? Did 9/11 wipe out the skyscraper industry? Should we stop using seat belts because they cause tens of thousands of fatalities each year? Or are there such things as perspective and cost-benefit equations? Even the video above says there have only been two serious nuclear accidents in fifty years.

As for your end sentence, please do not smear those who disagree with you, it makes you come across as immature.

^ | v • Share ›



**Mr. Smith** → Øyvind • 7 years ago

Are you kidding me!? I work the graveyard shift as bellhop in a hotel and make \$18,000 a year! I couldn't buy a stock if my life depended on it; I've never invested in anything.

What do you people have against economics, business, and trade? Building businesses and generating profits are what drags the average people out of poverty and into the working world. The more you get in the way the more inefficient it works.

Think about all the high paying jobs that were to disappear if nuclear power were outlawed in Japan. They would just have to pay even more money to middle east oil companies to keep the lights on. Putting engineers out of work is THE REAL TRAGEDY!

2 ^ | v • Share ›



**miss b** • 7 years ago

Hiroshima and Nagasaki were intentional nuclear bombs dropped during the war....The tsunami that hit was an unexpected very unfortunate event of mother nature....that then caused accidental harm because of the damage to the nuclear power plant that is providing energy for people to consume....it's not like someone decided to intentionally cause

harm....they seem to be 2 somewhat separate issues here...

1 ^ | v • Share ›



**Øyvind** → miss b • 7 years ago

Saying Japan has a special reason to be against nuclear power is like saying Vietnam should stop using gasoline for their cars because they were bombed by napalm during the war. Two separate issues, indeed.

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**D. B. Guidinger** • 7 years ago

Chim Pom reflects the new real of Japan and Marco Werman informs the world. Good work!

1 ^ | v • Share ›



**Kyoto Journal** • 7 years ago

Come and join the discussion at the Kyoto Journal facebook page, where we have been providing regular updates on the Fukushima crisis: <https://www.facebook.com/ky...>

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**Caroline Darlington Leonard** • 7 years ago

Wow! This really connects you to some Japanese emotional reaction to the tsunami.

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