## 井波美術館解体待った!購入者公募延期、地元が活用検討



芸術の町、南砺市井波地域のシンボルとして親しまれながらも耐震性への不安などから存続が危ぶまれている 井波美術館について、同市は購入者の公募を延期することを決め、解体が視野に入る手続きをいったん中断した。 存続を願う地元団体の要望を受け入れ、歩み寄った形だ。地元関係者は、新たな活用策や運営組織づくりについ て検討し、存続の可能性を模索する。 井波美術館は、大正末期の1920年代半ばに建てられた中越銀行(北 陸銀行前身の一つ)支店の建物を活用し、87年にオープン。旧井波町や南砺市の所有の下、井波美術協会有志 らが運営してきた。ルネサンス様式の外観などで歴史的価値が高いとされ、文化庁の日本遺産に認定された「木 彫刻の町・井波」のシンボルとして親しまれている。

一方、建物は耐震化されておらず、安全性への不安が付きまとう。このため、市は公共施設としての維持が困難と判断。井波美術協会への譲渡に向け交渉を進めたものの、不調に終わったため、今年1月から購入者の一般公募を予定していた。

買い手がつかなければ、解体する方向となっていたが、存続の危機にある現状を伝える昨年11月の本紙報道をきっかけに、地元住民や東京の出身会から「町の大切な財産をなくしていいのか」などの声が上がった。これを受け、日本遺産を生かしたまちづくりを検討する井波日本遺産推進協議会や井波美術協会、井波彫刻協同組合などの代表者が12月、田中幹夫市長に、購入者の公募を延期するよう求める要望書を提出。市長は即座に了承した。

今後、井波日本遺産推進協議会などが運営組織づくりや新たな活用策の検討に入る。同協議会ワーキンググループ座長の島田優平さん(41)は、作品展示の枠を超えた活用法を模索し、「地元と民間事業者との連携で、ビジネス展開したい」と意気込む。

同協議会長の三谷直樹さん(65)は、美術館が位置する八日町通りが日本遺産の構成文化財に含まれていることを念頭に、「まちなかの振興につながればいい」と願う。

耐震工事や購入などの費用負担の在り方も課題となる。市は地元負担の軽減に向け、土地を市の所有としたまま建物のみを売却するなどの対応を検討している。今年中をめどに地元との調整を進める考えだ。地元側の対応が固まった段階で、譲渡への手続きに入る。 (南砺総局長・宮田求)

## Wait for the dismantling of the Inami Art Museum! Postponement of buyer public offering, Locals to explore re-use opportunities.



For the Inami Art Museum, which is being considered as a symbol of the art town,

Nanto City Inami area but still worried because of anxiety about earthquake resistance, the city decided to postpone purchase of the public offering, dismantling is in view I interrupted the procedure once. We accepted the requests of local organizations that wish to survive, and we are in a form that we have come up with. Local stakeholders will consider new utilization measures and management organization creation and seek possibility of survival. Inami Art Museum opened in 1987, making use of the building of the branch of the Chuetsu Bank (one of the predecessors of the Hokuriku Bank) built in the late Taisho era in the mid-1920s. Under the possession of former Inami Town and Nanto City, Inami Art Association volunteers and others have operated. It is regarded as a high historical value due to the Renaissance style appearance, etc. It is familiar as a symbol of "wood sculpture town · iba" certified as a Japanese heritage of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Meanwhile, buildings are not earthquake-resistant, and there is concern about safety. For this reason, it is judged that the city is difficult to maintain as a public facility. Although we negotiated for the transfer to the Inami Art Association, we have scheduled public offering of purchasers from January this year, as we have failed.

Without a buyer, it is in the direction to disassemble, it is the crisis of survival. By the paper coverage of last November, the local residents and Tokyo's group voiced their opinion "We will lose the important property of the town. Is it OK?" Following this, representatives of the Inami Japan Heritage Promotion Council, Inami Art Association, Inami sculpture cooperative association etc. who are considering the town development that made use of the Japanese heritage request Delegate Mayor Tanaka Mayor to postpone purchaser's public offering. Submit a request form. The mayor instantly approved it.

In the future, Inami Japan Heritage Promotion Council and others will consider creating a management organization and examining new utilization measures. Mr. Yuhei Shimada (41), the chairperson of the Working Group of the Council, explored how to use beyond the framework of the exhibition, "I want to develop business through collaboration between local and private businesses."

Mr. Naoki Mitani (65), the chairman of the council president, hopes that "YokkaMachi street where the museum is located is included in the cultural assets of the Japanese heritage," We hope to lead to the promotion of a town."

The way of burdening costs such as earthquake-proof construction and purchasing is also an issue. For the purpose of reducing local burden, the city is considering measures such as selling only buildings while owning land as city. I thought to promote the adjustment of the local to the prospect of this year. At the stage when the response of the local side is settled, the procedure for transfer is entered.

(Nanto General Director - Mr. Miyata)