

PRESS RELEASE

Portrait / Still life 人物と静物

五十嵐 大地

熊倉 涼子

清水 浩三

松浦 美桜香

Michaël Borremans



Gallery Koyanagi is pleased to announce the group show "Portrait / Still life" from Saturday, February 3 to Saturday, March 30, 2024. Michaël Borremans, known for his tranquil portraits, has also made some works of still life motifs. In "Commutation" (2008) he depicts several corks. This work seems to be a still life, but Borremans once regarded it as a portrait. Drawing inspiration from this work, this exhibition features works by Daichi Igarashi, Ryoko Kumakura, Kozo Shimizu, and Mioka Matsuura, all exploring the motif itself and delving into the wavering boundary between portrait and still life.

Daichi Igarashi exhibits a still life painting of peaches reproduced in resin. Peaches have long symbolized vitality, fertility, and immortality, as written in Kojiki, the oldest surviving historical record in Japan, and myths across the globe. With resin mixed with iron powder and pigments, Igarashi replicates peaches, which turn deformed and damaged during the process. The hollow inside shows the thinness of the resin which simulates the skin of peaches. He then photographs and realistically paints them. Within his practice, he questions the existence of true nature between the process of reproduction and human perception.

Ryoko Kumakura displays works that explore the imagined shape of Earth in the past, and the obsolete constellation, Cerberus. By composing images from historical documents, she makes the motif herself. She then photographs and paints them. These images have once embodied and solidified the ambiguous nature of past beliefs and imaginations. Through these motifs, Kumakura suggests that the contours of the world remain ambiguous even today and will eventually be overwritten and take on a completely different form, akin to historical precedents.

Kozo Shimizu expresses a contradictory state in his paintings. Composing the clay model made by himself, he turns it into a 2-dimensional painting, juxtaposing several opposing phenomena: fullness and emptiness, expansion and contraction, and light from both the sky and the ground. His work creates something unstable, although figurative, the depicted object or situation cannot be perceived at once. For the exhibition this time, a 17th-century botanical drawing of a tulip with bulb and roots exposed with blooming blossoms became his inspiration, in which he saw life and death simultaneously.

Mioka Matsuura's artistic narrative incorporates hand-sewn dolls and three-dimensional objects into flat surfaces employing charcoal and oil paints. Matsuura explores the shifts and gaps in quality during the process. Her seemingly distorted and surreal dolls are immobile, but she believes that they seem to come to life through her charcoal drawings which cloth them in a certain beauty. She has made paintings with a single object portraiture, but in this work, she depicts multiple objects, inviting viewers to empathize with the objects and their facial expressions.

On the first day of the exhibition, 3rd of February, the opening reception will be held at Gallery Koyanagi from 5 to 7pm.

For further inquiries, please contact us at [mail@gallerykoyanagi.com](mailto:mail@gallerykoyanagi.com)

Gallery Koyanagi

KOYANAGI BUILDING 9th FLOOR, 1-7-5 GINZA CHUO-KU TOKYO JAPAN 104-0061

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[Caption]

Daichi Igarashi

*Peach and Peach Seed #1*

2024

oil on canvas

[Credit Line]

© Daichi Igarashi



[Caption]

Ryoko Kumakura

*Still Life with Artifacts about the World*

2023

oil on canvas

[Credit Line]

© Ryoko Kumakura



[Caption]

Kozo Shimizu

*Tulip*

2023

Oil on canvas

[Credit Line]

© Kozo Shimizu



[Caption]

Mioka Matsuura

*The scene of the doll I*

2023

Charcoal on paper

[Credit Line]

© Mioka Matsuura

Image for reference



[Caption]

Michaël Borremans

*Commutation*

2008

oil on canvas

[Credit Line]

© Michaël Borremans / Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi

GALLERY KOYANAGI

Information

Portrait / Still life

Artists: Daichi Igarashi, Ryoko Kumakura, Kozo Shimizu, Mioka Matsuura, Michaël Borremans

Saturday, February 3 – Saturday, March 30, 2024

[Opening reception: Saturday, February 3, 5 – 7pm]

Opening hours: 12 – 7pm

Closed on Sundays, Mondays and National Holidays

Gallery Koyanagi

9F, 1-7-5 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, JAPAN

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Daichi Igarashi

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- 1996 Born in Tokyo, Japan  
 2019 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Oil-Painting Department, Tokyo University of the Arts  
 2022 Master of Fine Arts, Oil -Painting Department, Tokyo University of the Arts

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 The state of things, Gallery Blue 3143, Tokyo  
 2022 Sweet Spiral Garden, biscuit gallery, Tokyo  
 2021 gjallarhorn, biscuit gallery, Tokyo

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Boundary Area, biscuit gallery, Tokyo  
 2022 A sainting surface: matiere that narrates, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi Main Store, Tokyo  
 2021 The 6th prophecy -The firstsentence- REAL by ArtSticker, KITTE Marunouch, Tokyo

Ryoko Kumakura

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Kumakura creates paintings based on the images that people have created throughout history. She collects images from diverse sources on a single subject and composes her work. Treating different images of the same subject equally, Kumakura mixes multiple depiction methods, seamlessly blending realistic portrayals with graffiti-like lines, paintings within paintings, and trompe-l'oeil techniques to create works that visually jolt the viewer into questioning the very nature of visibility.

- 1991 Born in Tokyo, Japan  
 2014 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Department of Painting, Oil Painting Course, Tama Art University

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 Image Skin, Ginza Tsutaya Books Art Wall, Tokyo  
 2022 Mitákuye Oyás'ïŋ, GALLERY ROOM • A, Tokyo  
 Transient Images, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi Main Store, Tokyo  
 Merkmale, RED AND BLUE GALLERY, Tokyo  
 2019 coniunctio, MEDEL GALLERY SHU, Tokyo  
 2018 Pseudomer, RED AND BLUE GALLERY, Tokyo  
 2016 PICTOMANCY, RED AND BLUE GALLERY, Tokyo  
 2013 Frame In-out, Gallery KINGYO, Tokyo

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Holbein Scholarship Exhibition 2023, N & A Art SITE, Tokyo  
 Ryoko Kumakura • Shun Okada, S(ch)ein, TAV GALLERY, Tokyo  
 2022 The Fairest Fairs #1, TAV GALLERY, Tokyo  
 2021 Shibuya Style vol.15, Seibu Shibuya Art Gallery, Tokyo  
 HOLBEIN ART FAIR 2021, +ART GALLERY, Tokyo  
 MITSUKOSHI Art Weeks, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi Main Store, Tokyo

GALLERY KOYANAGI

- Everything but..., Tokyo International Gallery, Tokyo
- 2019 STATION! in PACK 2019, Post Territory Ujeongguk, Seoul  
MID CORE, TAV GALLERY, Tokyo
- 2018 Ryoko Kumakura • Solaya Nagai, DI-VISION/0, TAV GALLERY, Tokyo  
ANOTHER LENS, Break Station Gallery, JR Ueno Station, Tokyo
- 2017 Mikan-yama Sketchbook, See Saw gallery +hibit, Nagoya  
Japane Arts Foundation Exhibition Scholarship Students Exhibition So, Gaien Campus of  
Kyoto University of Art and Design and  
Tohoku University of Art and Design, Tokyo
- 2016 Yoshiwara Super Art Service, in former Yoshiwara area, Tokyo
- 2015 Shibuya Style vol.9, Seibu Shibuya Art Gallery, Tokyo  
Shibukaru Matsuri 2015, PARCO MUSEUM TOKYO, Tokyo  
ASIA WEEK NEW YORK, Bernarducci Meisel Gallery & Louis K. Meisel Gallery, New York

Awards, Other

- 2021 The 34th Holbein Scholarship
- 2019 Selected for the 14th Gunma Biennale for Young Artists 2019
- 2017 FACE 2017 Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Art Award Exhibition
- 2014 Ichiro Fukuzawa Prize, Tama Art University Graduation Exhibition
- 2013 Japan Arts Foundation scholarship student
- 2011 Silver Prize, Art Award of Kanagawa prefecture

Kozo Shimizu

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- 1989 Born in Gunma, Japan
- 2011 Department of Political Science, Doshisha University
- 2012 Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design Foundation Diploma

Exhibitions

- 2022 6 Artists, Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo
- 2021 slip, Kurashiki University of Science and the Arts ZONE, Okayama
- 2019 Avoid a void, Yonsei University exhibition space, Seoul
- 2018 Hidden Place, Hirosegawa Museum, Gunmap
- 2017 ghost planning - 0 +, Former Yasuda Bank Collateral Warehouse, Gunma

Mioka Matsuura

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Matsuura works with a variety of media, including two and three-dimensional media, and engages in original figurative expression.

- 2001 Born in Tokyo, Japan  
 2020 - Department of Painting, Oil painting course, Tama Art University

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 wsiw<sub>i</sub>, GALLERY ROOM • A, Tokyo  
 2023 the scent of beautiful blossoms, Hidari Zingaro, Tokyo  
 2023 Une myo, CHANGTING GALLERY, Tokyo

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Art Fair, ART FAIR TOKYO 2023, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo  
 2023 6drawings, biscuit gallery, Tokyo  
 2022 DEKKAI DANSU, R for D, Tokyo  
 2022 Familiar Faces, De Huidenclub, Rotterdam  
 2022 grid, biscuit gallery, Tokyo  
 Art Fair, MEET YOUR ART FEATIVAL 2022, YEBISU GARDEN PLACE, Tokyo  
 Pouring Water into Shadows, DOMICILE TOKYO, Tokyo  
 2021 Blue Period × Artsticker third period, hotel koe Tokyo, Tokyo  
 2021 nature X unnatural, Room\_412, Tokyo  
 2021 generic angels, PRIVATE, Tokyo  
 2021 Two-person exhibition, New • Type, SPACE33, Tokyo

Awards

- 2023 GEISAI #22 & classic Aya Takano Prize  
 2023 The Ueno Royal Museum Prize  
 2022 CHANGTING GALLERY EXHIBITION 2022 Grand Prize  
 2022 Idemitsu Art Award 2022 Special Student Award  
 2021 Idemitsu Art Award 2021 Ebosi Yuasa Prize  
 2020 Selected for FACE 2021

Michaël Borremans

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Born 1963 in Geraardsbergen, Belgium; lives and works in Ghent, Belgium.

Fascinated by the techniques and themes of Western painting tradition seen in the work of artists like Velazquez and Manet. The influence of Conceptual Art, which rejects concrete meaning and narrative, is very much evident in his works, which possess a singular aura that conveys the disquiet and danger lurking in the everyday, via subjects rich in anomalies and ambiguities. In recent years Borremans has also expanded his practice to include painting-driven works on video.