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Hiro Hirakawa

"The climbing mouse, and, the cat attempting to crawl through"

May 14 - June 18, 2011

Opening reception: Saturday, May 14, 18:00 – 20:00pm / Taka Ishii Gallery Kyoto

Taka Ishii Gallery Kyoto is pleased to present Hiro Hirakawa's first solo exhibition, "The climbing mouse, and, the cat attempting to crawl through" from 14 May to 18 June. Hirakawa (born 1984, Saga prefecture) graduated from Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts and Music in 2009, in the same year winning the Tokyo Wonder Wall 2009 public award as well as the Art Award Tokyo Marunouchi 2009 Taro Amano award.

Plotting the relationship between plural entities that exist within the same or different dimensions, their several internal structures, and existence itself. At the same time they have the capability to transform into something entirely different. (Notes from 21.2.2011)

For example during a car race, in which the cars revolve around a predetermined course, a car passes through the goal several times. At that exact position, the car progresses backwards, invoking eternity at 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of a second. (Notes from 30.12.2010)

Hiro Hirakawa

This new series of work is based on a single photograph shot in Cologne, photographic fragments of Taka Ishii Gallery Kyoto's exhibition space, and the layered relationships that are formed from seemingly related instances. As the artist himself writes, "Establishing the relationship between several structures as well as existence itself," Hirakawa departs from the gesture of 'drawing' while using 'drawing' as a starting point, and speculates on the nature of structure and existence through an experimentation of numerous possibilities. The exhibited works include canvases made out of stitched cotton, charcoal drawings, oil paintings, objects, and other structures revolving around a central, site-specific installation.

We invite you take this opportunity to view Hiro Hirakawa's latest work, where the photographic image which provided the artist's inspiration for this exhibition, creates multiple layers of memory through a process of repetition and intricate layering.