



Taka Ishii

Gallery

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Koji Enokura “Figure”

Dates: Oct 20 – Nov 18, 2017

Location: Taka Ishii Gallery Tokyo

Opening reception: Friday, Oct 20, 18:00 - 20:00

Taka Ishii Gallery is pleased to present “Figure,” a solo exhibition of works by Koji Enokura from October 20th to November 11th, 2017. The exhibition comprises a series of works on canvas entitled “Figure” which Enokura had produced extensively throughout the 1980s.

In order for our consciousness to realistically respond to the outside world, a conflict between the historical existence of the self and the current existence of the self is necessary. (...) When the bright light of the sun shines upon me, a certain sensation comes to encompass my body; the sensation of sitting on the porch as a child and feeling the sunlight on my face for a while, suddenly covering my eyes with my hands to playfully enjoy my momentary encounter with pitch black darkness that soon transforms into tones of deep blue, red, yellow, and purple, and sensing the warmth of the light that I had felt at the time. These sensations are different from the way I sense the light of the sun that permeates my current surroundings. The difference in sensation between now and the past not only pertains to my childhood days, but can also be felt in the context of what occurred 10 years ago, five years ago, one year ago, three days ago, or even just the day before. In other words, these deviations accumulate within my body in the form of a certain emotion. These “accumulated emotions” serve as a highly important base for me to respond to the outside world. (...) I at times find myself struck by the frustration of my existing here, frustrated of my thinking about the past, and frustrated by having to confront the transition of time...At such moments I am driven by the urge to proclaim within my mind my desire for the “repletion of tranquility,” yet what relieves this feeling of irritation are the “accumulation of emotions.” This “repletion of tranquility” also refers to the tranquility of things being in existence, and is also a state of sensitivity for myself to purely accept the existence of things. I believe that historical existence and aspects of current existence can respectively be described in terms “accumulated emotions” and “repletion of tranquility.” For example, suppose that there is a persimmon tree in front of me. In order to fully grasp within my hands this single persimmon tree that grows across this space accompanied by a landscape, I must first make sure that the wavelength of my own body corresponds to the wavelength of the persimmon tree. At this moment, the wave of “accumulated emotions” and the “repletion of tranquility” are released beyond my consciousness. These intertwine with the wavelength of the persimmon tree to create a state of discordance, and out of this discordance the contours of the persimmon tree come to faintly emerge. It emerges as a neutral, yet as a very specific “figure.” The

"FIGURE" is a form that exists in a state of fluctuation between the real existence of the thing and my personal sensibility.

Koji Enokura, *Showing Signs into Particles of Void*, Gallery 21, 1983

For Enokura who through his work continued to question the means for building relationships between people and things as well as the space that surrounds them, the works themselves existed with a sense of tension between himself and the thing. The "accumulated emotions" and "repletion of tranquility" that is sensed throughout Enokura's oeuvre as an artist who has produced works through use of various materials, could be considered to have arrived at a certain state of completion within the context of "Figure."

For further information, please contact: Yutaka Kikutake (exhibition) / Takayuki Mashiyama (press)

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Tue-Sat 11:00-19:00 Closed on Sun, Mon, and National Holidays



Koji Enokura

"FIGURE A No,5", 1981

Cotton, acrylic

203 x 335 x 27 cm