



Taka Ishii

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Shinpei Kusanagi

"where water comes together with other water"

Dates: January 25 – March 9, 2013 Location: Taka Ishii Gallery Kyoto

Opening reception: Friday, January 25, 18:00 – 20:00

Taka Ishii Gallery Kyoto is pleased to present "where water comes together with other water," an exhibition by Shinpei Kusanagi from January 25 to March 9.

A place that is no place in particular is also any place. With a slight modification, the English word nowhere, used to describe "no place in particular," becomes now here or the place where one is now.

The train station, which is neither Kiyosumi nor Shirakawa, is simultaneously both Kiyosumi and Shirakawa. Once you climb the stairs and exit the station, you may find yourself in the town where I was born or a town in which a stranger lives. Is it possible to intentionally stay in such a place that is both nowhere and anywhere?

Shinpei Kusanagi

For five years starting in the fall of 2007, Kusanagi published a drawing of landscapes and plants in the Kiyosumi Shirakawa area to accompany each installment of Teru Miyamoto's novel *Mizu no katachi* [the shape of water] serialized in the monthly magazine *éclat* (published by Shueisha). Kusanagi's first book *Kiyosumi kawai* [Kiyosumi and its Environs] (tentative title) (to be published by Kyuryudo) will feature original drawings made for the serial novel as well as Kusanagi's own writings.

Book Title: *Kiyosumi kawai* [Kiyosumi and its Environs] (tentative title) Author: Shinpei Kusanagi

Specifications: A5 Size, approximately 160 Pages and 60 Color photo reproductions

Design: Akira Sasaki Published by Kyuryudo <http://www.kyuryudo.co.jp/>

The current exhibition marks the publication of *Kiyosumi kawai* [Kiyosumi and its Environs] (tentative title), a book of Shinpei Kusanagi's drawings and writings, from Kyuryudo; the exhibition will feature approximately 60 original drawings from the book as well new acrylic-on-canvas paintings. By overlaying the seemingly disparate facets of his work—paintings and book illustrations—onto the city of Kiyosumi Shirakawa, Kusanagi carefully examines the commonalities between them.

Born in Tokyo in 1973. His recent major exhibitions include, "project N 45 KUSANAGI Shinpei" (Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, 2011), "VOCA" (The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, 2011) and "Towing Voyage" (Altman Siegel Gallery S/F, San Francisco, 2009).



Shinpei Kusanagi, "The ally", 2011, Acrylic on hemp canvas, 194 x 259 cm



Left: Shinpei Kusanagi, "Untitled", 2009, Acrylic on wooden panel, 36.4 x 25.7 cm



Right: Shinpei Kusanagi, "Untitled", 2011, Acrylic on wooden panel, 36.4 x 25.7 cm

For further information, please contact:

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Open : 11:00 - 19:00 Closed on Sunday, Monday and National holiday