



Taka Ishii

Gallery

6-5-24 3F Roppongi Minato-ku Tokyo #106-0032, Japan
tel +81 (0)3 6434 7010
fax +81 (0)3 6434 7011
web www.takaishiigallery.com
email tig@takaishiigallery.com

Shinpei Kusanagi “Anywhere Out of the World”

Dates: Feb 17 – Mar 17, 2018

Location: Taka Ishii Gallery Tokyo

Opening reception with the artist: Saturday, Feb 17, 18:00 – 20:00

Taka Ishii Gallery is pleased to present “Anywhere Out of the World”, a solo exhibition of works by Shinpei Kusanagi from February 17 to March 17. This will be his fourth exhibition with the gallery and it will feature new paintings. His previous show with the gallery was presented three years ago.

Behold this flag waving in the wind, Tibetan monks say to initiates.

Is it the flag which is in motion or is it the wind?

One must respond: it is neither the flag nor the wind.

It is the mind.

Jean Grenier, “Islands”, (Takeuchi shoten, 1968) p147

In the past, Kusanagi produced landscape paintings by staining untreated canvases with layers of translucent colors. In recent years, he has continued to use staining as his principal method, while incorporating dynamic and improvisational brushstrokes to apply vivid colors resulting in striking abstract paintings. The coexistence of motion and stillness in the composition and colors, and their contrast and harmony are compositional elements that dramatically extend the pictorial space. Kusanagi’s landscapes evoke familiar natural scenes and phenomena, such as trees, greenery, and flowers; the sun and the moon; and the sea and clouds, while simultaneously making viewers imagine an unknown “elsewhere” that expands outside our world.

Shinpei Kusanagi was born in 1973 in Tokyo. His solo exhibitions include, “so far so close”, Altman Siegel Gallery S/F, San Francisco (2014) and “project N 45 KUSANAGI Shinpei”, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo (2011). Kusanagi’s work was featured in the group exhibition “MOT Satellite 2017 SPRING – by the deep rivers” Tokyo (2017) and “VOCA”, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo (2011). He has also provided images for numerous book covers. In 2013, Kyuryudo published *Kiyosumi kaiwai*, a book of Kusanagi’s images and texts. He is currently based in Tokyo.

For further information please contact: Exhibition: Junko Yasumaru / Press: Takayuki Mashiyama

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



Shinpei Kusanagi, "My Garden", 2017

Acrylic on canvas, 194 x 194.5 cm © Shinpei Kusanagi