

TOMIO KOYAMA GALLERY Singapore

小山登美夫ギャラリー シンガポール

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Tomoko Nagai: Dramatic Moments

January 18, Friday - February 24, Sunday

Opening reception:

January 18, November 23, Friday, 19:00~

Venue: TOMIO KOYAMA GALLERY Singapore (Gillman Barracks, Blk47)

Open: Tue. - Sat. 12:00-19:00 / Sun. 12:00-18:00

Closed: Mon. and National Holidays

Access: SMRT Circle Line, Labrador Park Station (10 minutes walk) / Bus stop: 15049, 15041

Free admission



Dramatic, 227.5 x 364 cm, oil, glitter on canvas
2012 © Tomoko Nagai

Tomio Koyama Gallery Singapore is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new works by Tomoko Nagai, her first exhibition in Singapore.

Introduction

In Tomoko Nagai's works, various motifs, animals such as bear, cat and horse, colorful trees and mushrooms, young girls or imaginary figures, are arranged in backgrounds of forest or room, as if they were theatrical settings. They are like individual scenes that belong to one magnificent imaginary world, filled with numerous images she can never draw enough, Nagai says. Those motifs are scattered with exquisite balance in Nagai's works. Each work is enriched with a sense of contentment, and seems to address a condensed world while sharing a unique sense of space. Nagai believes that work is a result of coincidence and spontaneity. She does not draft before painting but selects the suitable

materials that match most with the subjects. On top of oil, acrylic, watercolor, color pencils or pastel, she also produces sculptures such as stuffed animals and installations consisting of various materials. The diversity in matiere and material and in levels of intensity becomes each element and seems to give rise to a whole music like different rhythms do. Nagai's works do not carry any specific narratives. By feeling this music, however, we would realize that we enter inside of her world of stories. Perhaps, it is because the narrative is not only an internal or private conception but also an expression of universal sensibility that is open-minded and beyond cultural boundaries.

About This Exhibition

In daily life, we might encounter some moments that ordinary sceneries magically become dramatic scenes in a sudden. The happenings are like fate. It is a serendipitous conjunction of various elements, such as the time, the season, even our moods. For example, the moment when leaves fall all together because of an unexpected wind and being surrounded by yellow. While producing the works, I wish I could condense those precious and dramatic moments in pictures along with my wishes and ideals, and form an exhibition as if it is a vacuum pack packing.

— Tomoko Nagai

The above is what Nagai states about this exhibition. Around 10 paintings and 15 drawings of new works, which depict these miracle moments, will be on view in this show. Besides paintings and drawings, Nagai makes installations in which the space is like the realized world from her works. In the venue consisting two gallery spaces, Nagai will use one to conduct her installation.

Moreover, Nagai has been involved in a project, in which she painted the walls of the swimming pool in a nursery school located in Shichigahama town, Miyagi, one of the stricken areas caused by the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami last year in Japan. The nursery building, which is currently being constructed, has been fully funded and supported by Singapore Red Cross. It is also a design by a Japanese emerging architect, Ippei Takahashi, which won the top prize in the proposal competition for Toyama Nursery in Shichigahama Town in 2011. (The construction will be completed in March 2013). The models and drawings for the project and two of the drafts Nagai drew for the swimming pool will also be presented in this exhibition, considering the relationship with Singapore.

Artist Biography:

Tomoko Nagai was born in Aichi Prefecture in 1982. She graduated from Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts and Music in 2006, majoring in Oil Painting. She currently lives and works in Tokyo.

Her recent solo exhibitions include “Winter Wind and Konko” (Tomio Koyama Gallery Kyoto/ TKG Editions Kyoto, Kyoto, 2011), “Small Planets and Many Kids” (Mama Kid, Hong Kong, China, 2011) and the solo exhibition held at Roppongi Hills Art + Design Store Space A/D Gallery (Tokyo, Japan, 2012).

The recent group exhibitions include “VOCA 2012” (The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, 2010), “Passion Fruits Picked from The Olbricht Collection” (me Collectors Room Berlin, Berlin, Germany, 2010), "Pathos and Small Narratives" (Gana Art Gallery, Seoul, 2011), "JAPANCONGO" (Le MAgasin – Centre National d’ Art Contemporain, Grenoble, France, 2011) and "Future Pass - From Asia to the World" (a collateral event of the 54th Venice Biennale, Palazzo Mangilli-Valmarana, Venice, Italy, 2011).

Her works have been included in the public collection of The Takahashi Collection (Japan), The Olbricht Collection (Germany), The Zabudowicz Collection (UK) and The JAPIGOZZI Collection (US/Switzerland).

About Architect, Ippei Takahashi:

Ippei Takahashi was born in 1977 in Tokyo. He received his master degree in Architecture from Yokohama National University in 2002. He worked at Office of Ryue Nishizawa from 2002 to 2009, in charge of many projects including Towada Art Center in Aomori in 2008 and Moriama House in Tokyo in 2005. In 2009, he founded TAKAHASHI IPPEI OFFICE. His current projects include Shichigahama Nursery in Miyagi from 2011 (won the top prize for design proposal), LRT station and plaza in Okayama from 2010 (won the top prize for design proposal), and Apartment Building of 12 Rooms in Tokyo from 2011 (selected by SD Review 2012). Since 2012 to present, he has also worked as a research associate of Yokohama Graduate School of Architecture.