

Yoriko TAKABATAKE *Fountain*

April 14 Sat - May 19 Sat, 2018

Opening Party: April 14 Sat, from 5 pm



Yoriko TAKABATAKE, *Dust, prussian blue*, 2017, oil, acrylic on panel, 142×85cm

Fountain

Water presents a wandering expression amidst the mundane everyday.

It fluctuates and wavers, falls in droplets, and emerges as a bubbling stream.

Fascinated by its vigorous strength, I find myself pleasantly playing with water.

Using the surface of the water as my canvas, I create bubbles, apply layers of color, and infuse it with gusts of air.

I paint a pattern of dots with the water.

I create shapes along with forces invisible to the eye, such as the gravitational forces of earth and the moon.

The clear and pure water that rises from great nature circulates through the passage of time and permeates every corner of this world.

Yoriko TAKABATAKE, February 2018

ShugoArts

ShugoArts is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new works by Yoriko Takabatake, *Fountain*, on April 14, 2018.

Yoriko Takabatake came to be known for her highly original works with a 2014 solo exhibition in the project space at Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery. In her three years at the Graduate School of Tokyo University of the Arts, where she earned a doctorate in 2016, she focused her research activities mainly on the work of Anni Albers*, while in her own work she layered thread-like paint drips so the paintings resembled textiles, and at times blew and scattered the paint before it dried, developing a style distinguished both by these unique processes and their elaborate and elegant results. In this exhibition of new paintings, Takabatake takes this style to a new level, presenting works that continue to weave thread-like paint drips while more actively embracing the forces of chance.

Takabatake has entitled this exhibition *Fountain*. Her workspace is somehow different from a typical artist's studio, with a scientific, technical atmosphere like a cutting-edge experimental painting lab where the works crystallize or are biologically generated. This studio indeed resembles a *Fountain* from which the paintings spring. As a young arty girl, Takabatake was fascinated with the world of textiles while also avidly and thoroughly studying the history of painting. Having absorbed and processed so much, she was primed to develop her own methodologies and themes, and her recent paintings have a vast and ambitious vision that counterbalances the initial impression of dauntingly dense intricacy.



Yoriko Takabatake, *Deep dust, prussian blue*, 2018, oil on panel, 36 × 28cm



Yoriko Takabatake, *water planet II*, 2018, oil, acrylic on panel, 41.5 × 32cm

In late 20th-century painting there was a seemingly inevitable succession of innovative approaches: Jackson Pollock's action painting, Morris Louis's staining, Kazuo Shiraga's foot painting, Atsuko Tanaka's circles connected by webs, Yayoi Kusama's proliferating net paintings, Minimalism, and the process of painting while stretching canvas that Masato Kobayashi (among Takabatake's teachers) developed. In the 21st century, Yoriko Takabatake is on the same intrepid mission, developing a compelling and deeply original painting style.

ShugoArts

The current show is based on the artist's dialectical principle of "making, destroying, and remaking," and actively incorporates randomness, but without sacrificing the elegance that has characterized her work thus far. In the past she has used air currents, but after executing a series of experiments, explorations and calibrations with a rigor of which only she seems to be capable, this time water and gravity are employed as the agents of chance.

This is the artist's second show at this gallery following a solo exhibition in 2016. Fresh, ambitious and authentic, Yoriko Takabatake is an artist to watch, and we are proud to present her latest works at ShugoArts. We hope that you will consider covering the event in your media outlet.

Shugo Satani, ShugoArts

*Ann Albers (1899-1994) taught in the textile department at the Bauhaus, a successor to Paul Klee, and continued to produce art after emigrating to the US in 1933 with her husband Josef Albers amid the rise of the Nazis. As important painters and dedicated teachers, husband and wife had a significant influence on succeeding generations of artists in America and elsewhere. Takabatake was a guest researcher at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Connecticut, USA, in 2015 as part of her graduate school studies.

Exhibition overview

Title: Fountain
Artist: Yoriko Takabatake
Dates: April 14 Sat - May 19 Sat, 2018
Venue: ShugoArts | complex665 2F, 6-5-24, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 11am-7pm, closed on Sun, Mon and Public Holidays
Opening Party: April 14 Sat, from 5 pm

Interview Movie

We are currently making an interview movie of Takabatake. During the exhibition you can view it on the gallery's iPad, as well as on our website, facebook and Vimeo etc.

ShugoArts

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Enquiry

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