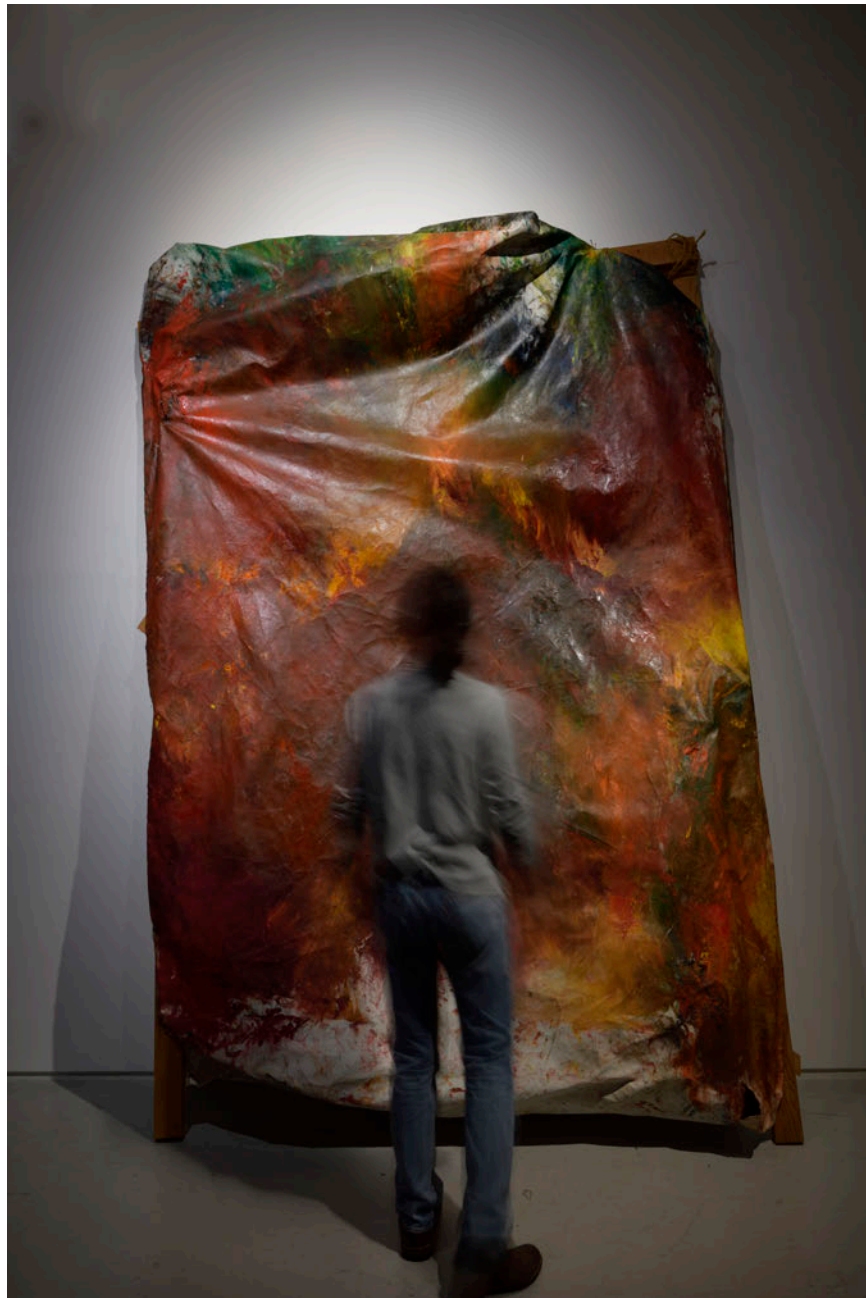


ShugoArts Online Show

**Masato KOBAYASHI**

***Paint of this Planet***

From Saturday, 20 February 2021



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Unnamed #10*, 1998, oil, canvas, wooden frame, 290x190x85cm

ShugoArts is planning to focus on *Paint of this Planet*, an autobiographical novel by Masato Kobayashi, for our fourth online exhibition. In the first volume of the trilogy, released in 2018, Masato Kobayashi's fateful encounter with "Sensei" leads him into the world of painting in this inspirational story during which the artist matures through his painting. In the second volume, the author leaves his studio in Japan and embarks on a dazzling pictorial adventure. The year is 1996, and in this volume, considered a masterpiece, the author's youth is illustrated as he travels around the international art scene and establishes his original painting style in which he is stretching canvas and painting simultaneously.

The reason why this series has been so well received is not only because of the story, but also because it shows with vivid realism how inseparable the life and works of the protagonist Masato Kobayashi are, and how the artist struggles with integrating his painting and the layers of his life events and thoughts, which engulf the background of his artistic practice.



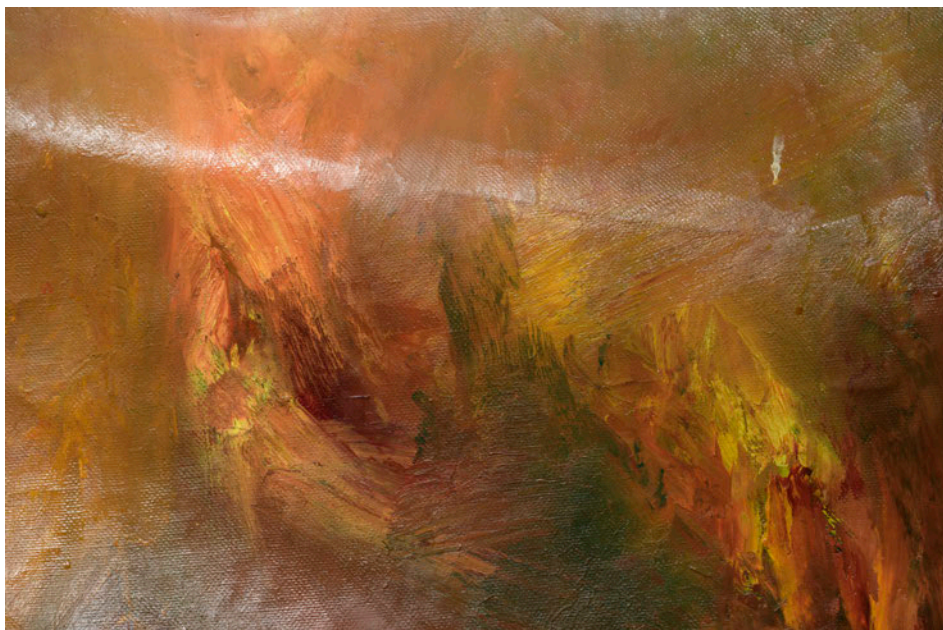
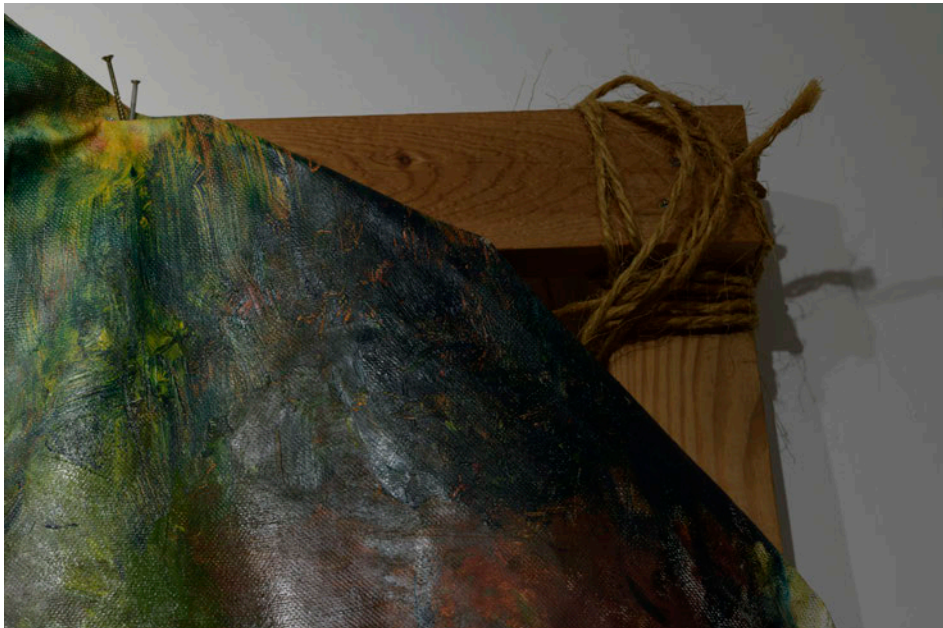
Masato KOBAYASHI, *Paint of this Planet* — Duifhuisstraat 52, 2020, ART DIVER

The structure of the novel unfolds like a Bildungsroman, containing various scenes as they switch back and forth between different times and spaces with the protagonist's memories and thoughts as the starting point; this very process reminds us of the process of making a painting in which an artist creates paintings with his daily sketches that have accumulated over time. As the story progresses, the framework of Kobayashi's painting develops along with his growing consciousness in response to the changing reality, and his uplifting emotions turn into light and engender color to his paintings. This structure is unique in that it forms both a

novel and painting theory at the same time, and it can be said that Masato Kobayashi has developed a new way of expression.

This exhibition is an attempt to introduce a part of Kobayashi's paintings in the words of this extraordinary novel, and also to show two large works created in the 1990's online, which is when the novel is set. Because of their size, these large works have not been shown in Japan very often, but we have filmed them in detail in presence of Kobayashi for this exhibition so that you can see them in the video. We hope that you will consider covering the event in your media outlet.

February 2021, ShugoArts



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Unnamed #10* (detail), 1998, oil, canvas, wooden frame, 290x190x85cm



## Exhibition overview

### **ShugoArts Online Show: Masato KOBAYASHI *Paint of this Planet***

Dates: From Saturday, 20 February 2021

Venue: ShugoArts Website <http://shugoarts.com/en/news-en/55236/>

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#### **Masato KOBAYASHI, *Paint of this Planet* — *Under the tree at Hitotsubashi University***

160 pages (including color images of the artworks)

Size: Paperback

Language: Japanese

Book design: Toshimasa Kimura

Cooperation: ShugoArts

Publisher: ART DIVER

Price: 1,500 yen (+tax)

First edition: December 2018

ISBN: 978-4-908122-10-1

#### **Masato KOBAYASHI, *Paint of this Planet* — *Duifhuisstraat 52***

368 pages (including color images of the artworks)

Size: Paperback

Language: Japanese

Book design: Toshimasa Kimura

Cooperation: ShugoArts

Publisher: ART DIVER

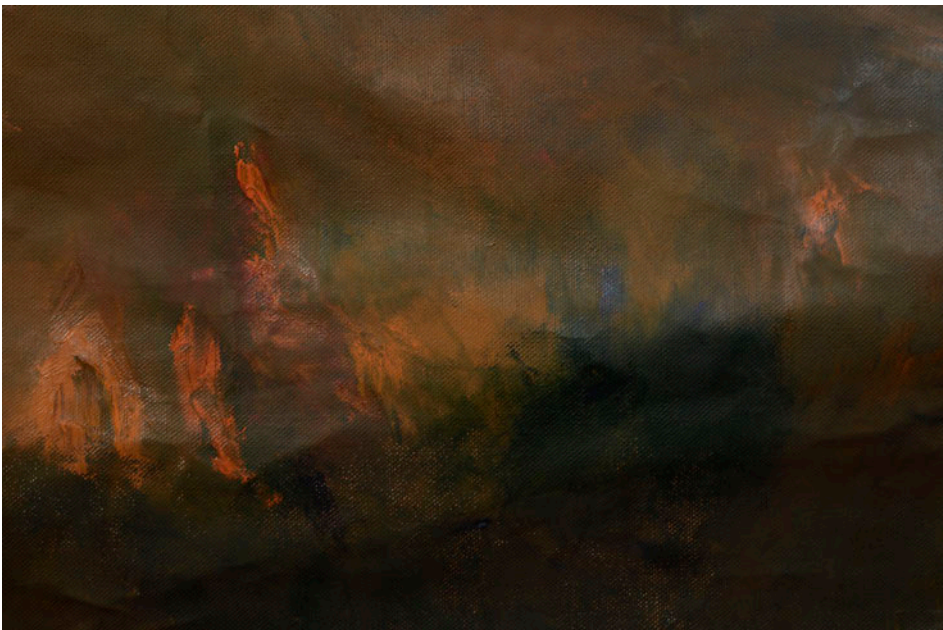
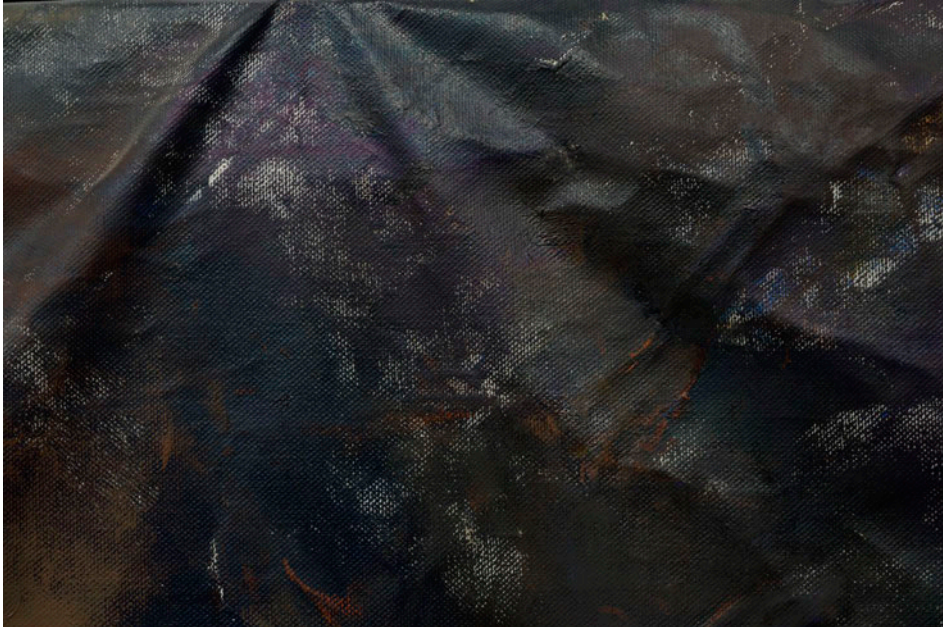
Price: 1,800 yen (+tax)

First edition: October 2020

ISBN: 978-4-908122-17-0



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Unnamed #6*, 1998, oil, canvas, wooden frame, 190x368x62cm



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Unnamed #6* (detail), 1998, oil, canvas, wooden frame, 190x368x62cm

◆Other artists' news are available on : <http://shugoarts.com/en/topics/>

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