

Tomoko YONEDA *Echoes—Crashing waves*

Saturday, June 4 - Saturday, July 9, 2022



Tomoko YONEDA, *The 70th 6 August, Hiroshima*, 2015, Chromogenic print, image: 76x96cm, ed.5

Imperialist Japan, through violence and wars forced its way into the cultural sphere of other nations in an effort to compete with other great powers, sacrificing numerous lives along the way. In 1945, at the end of WWII, Japan became the first nation to suffer an attack from atomic weaponry.

Historically, wars are repeated without an end, repetitive waves caused by the echoes of violence arrive on our shores incessantly. During my childhood, the cold war was in full swing; the West and the East were separated by different ideologies and socio-economic structures. After the Berlin Wall was demolished in 1989 the Soviet Union disintegrated and many former Soviet-controlled countries gained independence resulting in various conflicts that took place in order to draw new borders.

Europe achieved a sense of jubilation as the solidarity among democratised countries expanded which conversely caused many conflicts and an eventual crisis where there were never-ending battles, terrorist attacks, and other forms of extremism. As the conflict in Ukraine intensifies, more and more people are affected by continuing atrocities. Europe's democracy is once again at stake.

It is important to face these stormy seas, creating waves of violence. Recognise the lights and hopes inside every single one of us. Exist without letting them extinguish.

2022, Tomoko YONEDA

ShugoArts is pleased to present *Echoes—Crashing waves* Tomoko YONEDA's solo exhibition from Saturday, June 4 to Saturday, July 9, 2022. Based in London, the photographer Tomoko Yoneda sustains her international art practice in which she creates works around historically significant locations where tranquility has prevailed over time, as well as places, people and objects that conceive memories of wars and disasters. Through her works, Yoneda helps the viewers to gain a new sense of recognition by analysing history with her detailed research then translating it to photographic expression in order to reconstruct stories that were held within her initial motifs.



Tomoko YONEDA, *Window I, Soviet Border Guardhouse, Saaremaa Island, Estonia*, 2004, Chromogenic print, image: 65x83cm, ed.10

In this exhibition, the viewers are ushered to share the same lens with Yoneda who observed conflicts around the world that have not ceased to exist even in the 21st century. Yoneda depicts the form of human society that keeps updating its locality through destruction and reconstruction while capturing unnamed and natural beings living in peace. This innate sensibility assigns an unwavering poetic tone to her art practice which has lasted for more than 20 years. This exhibition features artworks that were photographed in France, Belgium, Bosnia, Sakhalin and the demilitarised zone of the Korean Peninsula from the early 2000s to 2020.

April 2022, ShugoArts



Tomoko YONEDA, *Ridge—Viewing the location of 'Mosquito Crest', Battle of Brunete, Spain*, 2019, Chromogenic print, image: 19x24cm, ed.25

About the artist

Born in Hyogo, Japan, in 1965. Currently lives and works in London. In her practice, Yoneda incorporates her laborious research in order to deal with the ideologies of the 20th century. The nature of her work has taken her not only to places in Japan where the past wars and earthquakes are still traceable, but also to regions in both Western and Eastern Europe and Asia where people's memories are still strongly ingrained. Yoneda probes into historical facts that are embedded in specific locations and objects through her photography, which recalls multi-layered memories offering a cornucopia of poetic sensibility behind each scene.

Selected exhibitions: Tomoko Yoneda, Fundación MAPFRE, Madrid, 2021; Dialogue with A.C., ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2019; 12th Shanghai Biennale 2018, Shanghai, 2018-19; Dialogue with Albert Camus, Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris, 2018; Discordant Harmony, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, 2015/ Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, 2016; The 10th Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, 2014; Aichi Triennale, Aichi, 2013; We shall meet in the place where there is no darkness, Himeji City Museum of Art, Himeji, 2014/ Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, Tokyo, 2013; Arsenale 2012: The First Kyiv International Biennale of Contemporary Art, Mystetskyi Arsenal, Kyiv, Ukraine, 2012; Japanese House, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2011; An End is a Beginning, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, 2008; Venice Biennale, The 52nd International Art Exhibition, Venice, 2007; A Decade After, Ashiya City Museum of Art and History, Hyogo, 2005; Beyond Memory and Uncertainty, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, 2003



Tomoko YONEDA Library

Exhibition overview

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Dates: Saturday, June 4 - Saturday, July 9, 2022

Venue: ShugoArts, complex665 2F, 6-5-24, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032

Opening Hours: Tue-Sat noon-6pm, closed on Sun, Mon and Public Holidays

*The opening reception will not be held this time. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we have shortened our opening hours.

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

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