

*Portrait of the Artist* — Exhibition Celebrating the Publication of *MK*

7 December, 2024 – 25 January, 2025



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Artist and the Model*, 2024, oil, canvas, wood,

*Who would have predicted that in the 21st century, an artist would paint a horse with a paintbrush in its mouth? However, this is a motif that demands to be painted now more than ever. (MK, p.140, Kenjiro Hosaka, 'An Essay on Masato Kobayashi'.)*

ShugoArts will hold Masato Kobayashi's solo exhibition starting on Saturday, December 7, to celebrate the publication of *MK*, his highly anticipated monograph.

*MK* is Masato Kobayashi's first comprehensive collection of his works. [Publisher: HeHe, Text: Kenjiro Hosaka, Design: Satoshi Suzuki]

This substantial book, with over 300 pages despite its compact size, allows readers to trace the consistent evolution of Kobayashi's paintings over the past 40 years, from his early works created during his university years to those produced in Kunitachi(Tokyo), Ghent(Belgium), Tomonoura(Hiroshima), and Toride(Ibaraki).

At ShugoArts in Roppongi, the exhibition will focus on new works from Kobayashi's ongoing *Portrait of the Artist* series, which he has been working on for the past five years.

On the opening day, December 7, Masato Kobayashi will welcome visitors with his new works and the monograph *MK*. We would greatly appreciate it if you could announce the exhibition and the monograph in your publication.

ShugoArts, November 2024



Masato KOBAYASHI, *Portrait of The Artist*, 2024, oil, canvas, wood,



## **Masato Kobayashi *MK***

Texts by Masato Kobayashi and Kenjiro Hosaka (Director, Shiga Museum of Art)

Design by Satoshi Suzuki

Edited by ShugoArts and HeHe

Price: 9,000 yen (excl. VAT)

Size: 178×235 mm / 328 pages / Hard Cover

Languages: Japanese / English

ISBN978-4-908062-62-9 C0070

To be released in early December 2024

HeHe website : <http://hehepress.com/masatokobayashi/>

Available for pre-order on HeHe's website : <https://hehepress-en.stores.jp/items/6719e8b4808e2c025a625fcd>

### **【Special Edition】**

Limited edition: 40

Includes Masato Kobayashi's new drawing (size: 18.3×12.9cm), framed, and the book "MK", presented in a special box

Price: 120,000 JPY (excl. VAT)

\* The publication will be available at ShugoArts, HeHe (online shop) and a few other bookstores.

## **Masato Kobayashi *Portrait of the Artist* — Exhibition Celebrating the Publication of *MK***

Dates: 7 December, 2024 – 25 January, 2025

Venue: ShugoArts

Hours: 11am - 6pm, Closed on Sun, Mon and Public Holidays

Winter holidays: 28 December – 6 January

Opening reception \*The artist will be present.

Date&Time: Saturday, 7 December 4pm - 6pm

Venue: ShugoArts

### **Related exhibition and event**

>Masato Kobayashi *FAMILY/Family of this Planet*

Dates: 27 October – 28 December 2024

Venue: rin art association (Takasaki, Gunma)

Exhibition Website: <https://rinartassociation.com/en/exhibition/3268>

\*For further information, please check the website above.

>Masato Kobayashi *A pair of artworks, exhibited separately = LOVE*

Dates: 27 October – 28 December 2024

Venue: SHIROIYA HOTEL (Maebashi, Gunma)

Venue Website: <https://www.shiroiya.com/en/>

>Talk event to celebrate the publication of *MK*

Masato Kobayashi × Kenjiro Hosaka (Director, Shiga Museum of Art)

Date&Time: 19 January, 2025 5pm – 6:30 pm

Venue: GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS, BOOK EVENT SPACE

Sign up for the event (Japanese Only):

<https://eventmanager-plus.jp/get/712051f841338630c6638b1365b9bff2b2e358a6ba73360238f4a310a7eb47b7>

Venue Website: <https://store.tsite.jp/ginza/english/>

## Masato Kobayashi Biography

Masato Kobayashi was born in Tokyo in 1957. He was the Japanese representative of the 1996 São Paulo Biennale. In 1997, invited by Jan Hoet, he traveled to Europe, and continued to create works in various locations while based in Ghent, Belgium. Kobayashi returned to Japan in 2006 and began working based in Tomonoura, Fukuyama City, Hiroshima. He was also a professor at the Tokyo University of the Arts from 2017 to 2023. He has developed a unique technique of applying color by rubbing it into the canvas while supporting the fabric with one hand, simultaneously stretching it over the wooden frame to bring the painting to life and "aiming for a painting that does not lose its essence by merely existing." Kobayashi has prolifically produced paintings that possess a form and unique brightness that can only emerge from that specific situation.

Selected solo exhibitions: About Freedom, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2023; Family of this Planet, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2021; Artist and the Model, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2019; ART TODAY 2012, Sezon Museum of Modern Art, Nagano, 2012; MASATO KOBAYASHI – The Paint of the Planet, Nariwa Museum, Okayama, 2009; Starry Paint, stars of outer space by pure painting, Tensta Konsthall, Spanga, Sweden, 2004; A Son of Painting Masato Kobayashi, S.M.A.K., Ghent, 2001; KOBAYASHI Masato, The Miyagi Museum of Art, 2000. Publications: The autobiographical novel trilogy, Paint of this Planet—Under the tree at Hitotsubashi University, ART DIVER, 2018; Paint of this Planet—Duifhuisstraat 52, ART DIVER, 2020

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