

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KAORI TANAKA SOLO EXHIBITION **FLOW / AND BEYOND**

Venue: HRD Fine Art
(494-1 Kamigoryo-tatemachi, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto)

Date: June 23 – August 6, 2022

Hours: **Thu: 11:00am - 3:00pm**
Fri & Sat: 11:00am - 7:00pm

Closed: Sun-Wed (available for viewing by appointment)

HRD Fine Art is delighted to announce a solo exhibition of Kaori Tanaka, titled "Flow / And Beyond," on view from June 23 through August 6, 2022. This exhibition is the first solo exhibition of the Kyoto-based artist to be held at the gallery.

Kaori Tanaka was born in 1982 and completed the post-graduate program of the painting course at Seian University of Art and Design in Shiga Prefecture. Tanaka creates fantastical landscape paintings depicting symbolic motifs inspired by Zen-Buddhist garden, Mt. Fuji, traditional Shanshui oriental paintings, among other things. Vivid, fluorescent-looking or pastel-toned colors in pink, green, or blue shades are characteristic of her work and, combined with soft, curvy lines and shapes, create utopian images that diffuse blissful and calm feelings, at least at first glance. However, her unworldly depictions of the mountains and waters give somewhat unsettling impressions to the observer, as if to reflect the insecure state of the present real world. Some sort of uncanniness can even be felt from her canvases.

In this exhibition Tanaka will present her new series for which she draws inspiration from "Akae" traditional ceramic paintings, as well as her mainstay Shanshui-inspired works.

Through her art, Kaori Tanaka continuously question and investigate the notion and the spirit of "Oriental" in modern Japan, while at the same time attempting to visualize the realm of human mind that can be glimpsed in the form of its relationship with nature.

[ARTIST'S STATEMENT]

Mt Fuji, Shanshui traditional Oriental landscape paintings, Japanese gardens, and other artificially-altered natural sceneries are the motifs of my painting. By focusing on human perception of scenery and space, and by capturing the ambiguity and blurred line between reality and fiction, I aim to reveal the shape of human consciousness.

Our lifestyles, environment, era, values — sometimes we change these things on purpose; sometimes we have no other choice but to change them for various reasons and conditions. We can try to stop and think, but the days just go beyond us, flowing on and on beneath our feet. Through my works themed on Shanshui landscape, with mountains and waters, I keep observation on this flow of the world.

In this exhibition I will present my recent and new works, including the latest series with Akae ceramic painting motifs.

Kaori Tanaka

[ARTWORKS]



Moon, Mountain, Water and Cloud Sea No.2022.5
oil on canvas, wooden panel 100x196cm 2022



Akae Fuji No.2021.4
oil on canvas, wooden panel 23x23cm 2021



Moonlight, Mountain and Water No.2021.9
oil on canvas, wooden panel 45x45cm 2021

[ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY]

Kaori TANAKA

- 1982 Born in Kyoto
- 2004 BFA in Painting, Seian University of Art and Design
- 2005 Completed Post-graduate Program of the Painting Course, Seian University of Art and Design

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2006 “Hourai” Art Space Niji, Kyoto
- 2008 “The Elegance of Silence Flowering” Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo
O Gallery eyes, Osaka
- 2009 Matsuzakaya Ueno, Tokyo
Mitsukoshi Sapporo Store, Sapporo
- 2012 “Moonlight Mountain” DEMADO PROJECT (HRD Fine Art), Kyoto
- 2013 “Floating Stone Island” KUNST ARZT, Kyoto
“Garden Island” gallery near, Kyoto
- 2014 “Moon, Mountain, Water, Flowing” Contemporary Art Gallery Zone, Osaka
- 2015 “Moon, Mountain, Water, Flowing” Gallery Inokumatei, Kyoto
- 2016 “Sand and Stone Falling” Gallery Inokumatei, Kyoto
- 2019 “Moon, Mountain, Water, Flowing” Art Gallery at Isetan Shinjuku Store, Tokyo
- 2021 “Moon and Shanshui” Art Spot Korin, Kyoto

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2003 “Art Camp in CASO” CASO, Osaka
- 2006 “Art Camp in kunst bau” Gallery Yamaguchi, Osaka
- 2008 “Thinking and Painting” Gallery wks, Osaka
“Theory Art Award” Theory Aoyama, Tokyo
“Article Award” AJC Auction Gallery, Tokyo
- 2009 “Tokyo Wonder Wall 2009” Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo
- 2010 “Kyo-ten 2010” Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto
“Thinking and Painting 2” Gallery wks, Osaka
- 2011 “Manpukuji Art Festival - EN -” Manpukuhi, Kyoto
“Kyoto Current Vol.3” Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art Annex, Kyoto (also in 2012, 2014)
“Art Auction story” Institut Francais, Kyoto
“Kyoto Aperto 2011: Open Studio Walk” artist’s studio, Kyoto
- 2012 “TRANSNATIONAL ART” Osaka Contemporary Art Center, Osaka
“Gallery wks 10th Anniversary” Gallery wks, Osaka
“ABEND” Gallery Ort Project, Kyoto
“Kyoto Open Studio” artist’s studio, Kyoto (also in 2013)
Matsuyama Mitsukoshi, Matsuyama

- 2013 “Common Sense of the East” Gallery 175, Seoul
 “ART ROAD 77 “ Heyri Art Village, Paju, Korea
 “TAKE OUT ART!” gallery near, Kyoto (also in 2014)
 “ABEND vol.2” Kyoto Research Park Machiya Studio, Kyoto
 “Kuusou Bijutsu Award” Itochu Aoyama Art Square, Tokyo / Zokiyudo, Kyoto
 “tokonoma” gallery near, Kyoto
 “Minoh no Mori Artwalk” Minoh, Osaka
- 2014 “Young Creators Award” MI Gallery, Osaka
 “Tensai 108” Zojoji, Tokyo
 “Engimono” Paku Paku An, Tokyo
 “Nature Explored: Interpretation of Japanese Landscape” Japanese Friendship Garden, San Diego
 “Kyoto Art for Tomorrow” The Museum of Kyoto, Kyoto
- 2015 “Absorbed in the Scenery” Tachibana Gallery, Osaka
 “Takao Elementary School Festival” Former Takao Elementary School of Minamiyamashiro Village, Kyoto
 “VIVID” Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo
- 2016 “Dancing in September” Tachibana Gallery, Tokyo
- 2017 “Gallery wks 15th Anniversary” Gallery wks, Osaka
 “Sakazuki” Art Spot Korin, Kyoto
 “MINA-TO Art Wall Vol.8 WONDERS vol.2 Greenscape” Spiral MINA-TO, Tokyo
 “Room Arrangements” Ryokan Mugen, Kyoto
 “Collection Exhibition for Young Artists” Gallery Kiku, Osaka
- 2020 “From Nippon! Modern Art Exhibition” Gallery at Ginza Mitsukoshi, Tokyo
- 2021 “Spiritual Landscape • ○▲□” HRD Fine Art, Kyoto
- 2022 “49th Contemporary Art Ibaraki 2022: Meta//Conceptual” Ibaraki City Lifelong Learning Center, Osaka

Selected Awards

- 2004 Award of Excellence, Graduation Exhibition of Seian University of Art and Design
- 2008 Silver Prize, Theory Art Award
- 2013 Nidec Corporation Prize, Kuusou Bijutsu Contest

[NEW CORONAVIRUS COUNTERMEASURES]

HRD Fine Art implements the following countermeasures to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus as we restart our exhibition program at the gallery.

i. Suspension of opening receptions

Previously, we used to host opening reception parties for our exhibitions held in the gallery to facilitate communication between the artists and the audience. However, to ensure safety of the visitors, we will suspend opening receptions for the time being.

ii. Body temperature measurement, facemasks, and hand disinfection

We kindly ask all visitors to measure their body temperature prior to their visit (on the same day). In some cases we might kindly request to measure the guest's body temperature using non-contact thermometer. Anyone with the body temperature at 37.5°C or higher, or anyone with respiratory symptoms such as coughing, will not be permitted entry to the gallery. All visitors are kindly requested to wear an unwoven mask or equivalent or a higher-level respirator at all time during their visit. Cloth masks, urethane masks, and gauze masks are not permitted, and those with such masks are requested to wear unwoven masks provided by the gallery. Please contact us beforehand if you cannot wear an unwoven mask due to any specific health condition. Visitors shall disinfect their hands before they enter the gallery using alcohol-based hand sanitizer provided by the gallery.

iii. Limited number of people allowed in the gallery at once

In order to avoid congestion, we might ask visitors to wait outside the building until other visitors already in the gallery finish viewing the exhibition and leave.

iv. Possibility of temporary closure of the gallery or shift to appointment-only system

As a result of close monitoring of the pandemic situation and in order to safeguard all people involved in a more secure manner, HRD Fine Art might temporarily close its door and suspend the exhibition program altogether, or introduce an appointment-only system without prior notice or on short notice. We will make sure to notify such changes as swiftly as possible through channels that include our website (www.hrdfineart.com) and social media.

Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation!

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For further information or for artwork images please contact us:

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