

Press Release

2023.2.15

Koheita Saito*Big history & Days*

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March 4 - April 2, 2023

Talion gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition "Big history & Days" by Koheita Saito.

While taking on art as a question, Koheita Saito has been engaging in creative activities across various forms of expression such as painting, sculpture, installation, writing, and design based on his own research, repeating empirical questions and humorous answers. He created a 4-meter spinning top artwork called "Gustav Fechner or Benham's Top" (2018), which was based on the toy that utilizes the phenomenon where black and white patterns appear colored when rotating. He also did some researches of unknown Japanese artist of the classical image of the Ouchi illusion, which was quoted by Jeff Koons, and eventually discovered their him. The process was documented in the book "Journey to Find the Author of the Ouchi Illusion" (2014). By contrasting visual art works and various forms of product distribution based on visual phenomena, he has undertaken projects aimed at exploring the system and its ways of existence in creating value.

On the other hand, his activities as an artist cover a wide range of areas, including exhibiting his work "Okazaemon" at the "Okazaki Art & Jazz 2012" exhibition, which was held as a regional project for the Aichi Triennale, and unexpectedly gained nationwide recognition as a local character of Okazaki City in Aichi Prefecture, garnering attention from all around. In addition, he has also written a column titled "Art is vague! Overthinking of Koheita Saito" on the Chunichi Shimbun website. With a characteristic nuance that exudes light-hearted and sometimes silly humor, Saito's multifaceted body of work can be viewed as including irony and institutional criticism. However, his approach consistently centers around the broad and vague question of what art really is, which he himself never intends to let go of. Though he has exhibited in various places including "Aichi Triennale 2010," Art Lab Aichi, and Citizen Gallery Yada in Aichi, this is his first solo exhibition in Tokyo in 23 years.

The theme of this exhibition is the connection between the flow of Big History, such as human history and art history, and the daily time that an individual can experience. The exhibition features works such as patterns carved into shells by humans 500,000 years ago, paintings modeled after patterns on stone flakes from 73,000 years ago, and a portrait of a woman created using image-generating software. To contemplate the concept of time for this exhibition, it will also feature works created from the journey that Koheita Saito took on foot from Nagoya to Tokyo in January 2023. As the oldest art works of human art, such as cave paintings, are being surpassed by even older forms of art revealed through new research and excavation, and as the development of artificial intelligence allows for instant generation of new images from accumulated images, the origin and scope of art history are constantly being redefined. How does the flow of time as formulated in history and the time that an individual can experience intersect and manifest in visual form through an exhibition?



Koheita Saito | 2023.01.20 | 2023 | AI Image generator, digital print | 5.5x5.5cm

Koheita Saito

1972 Born in Aichi, Japan
1995 B.A. Nagoya Zokei University of Art & Design

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 "Gustav Fechner or Benham's Top" Art Lab Aichi (Aichi)
2018 "Gustav Fechner or Benham's Top" Art Lab Aichi (Aichi)
2015 "The story of Gamagori 2" Gamagori City Library (Aichi)
2014 "A journey to find Mr. Hajime Ouchi"
Miyazaki ART Center (Miyazaki)
2013 "The story of Gamagori" Gamagori City Library (Aichi)
2009 MUZZ PROGRAM SPACE(Kyoto)
1999 GALLERY CANOLFAN (Aichi)
1998 Nagamine Project (Tokyo)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 "From the museum collection 2021: third period" Aichi prefectural museum of art (Aichi)
2019 "Art as a Non-Zero-Sum Infinite Stochastic Game with Imperfect Information?" TALION GALLERY (Tokyo)
"3331ART FAIR 2019" 3331Arts Chiyoda (Tokyo)
2017 "20th Taro Award: 20 Enfants Terribles" Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum (Tokyo)
"Fan De Nagoya Exhibition 2017 fiction-friction" Nagoya Citizen Gallery Yada (Aichi)
2016 "Ghost's hippocampus" Nagoya Citizen Gallery Yada (Aichi)
2010 "Aichi Triennale 2010" (Aichi)
2009 "Chojamachi Project 2009" (Aichi)
2008 "ARTS CHALLENGE 2008" Aichi Arts Center (Aichi)
2005 "8th Taro Okamoto Memorial Contemporary Art Award Exhibition" TARO OKAMOTO MUSEUM OF ART, KAWASAKI (Kanagawa)
2000 "VACANT LOT" Toyota Municipal Museum of Art (Aichi)
1998 "VOCA1998 THE VISION OF CONTEMPORARY ART 2018" The Ueno Royal Museum (Tokyo)
1994 "Benkyo-Jidai" P-HOUSE (Tokyo)

SELECTED AWARDS

2015 Aichi Prefecture Arts Culture Selection 2014 Culture Rookie Award
2005 8th Taro Okamoto Memorial Contemporary Art Award Exhibition
Special Prize

SELECTED WRITINGS

2017- Serial column on Chunichi Shimbun "Art is vague!" (2017.6~)



"ART Kun" | 2009 | Installation view of "From the museum collection 2021: third period" at Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art (Aichi)



Model of Snacks | 2021 | Oi, paints | 30x30x5cm



Painting which can folds a diagonal line and it's three dimensional object | 2021 | Wood, paint, hinge
Installation view at See Saw Gallery + hibit (Aichi)



Installation view of "Art as a Non-Zero-Sum Infinite Stochastic Game with Imperfect Information?" at TALION GALLERY
Photo: Keizo Kioku

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[Exhibition Informations]

Title Big history & Days
Artist Koheita Saito
Date March 4 - April 2, 2023 11 am - 7 pm
 Closed on Monday, Tuesday and Holidays
Venue TALION GALLERY (2-2-1 B1, Mejiro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo)
Directed by Tsuyoshi Ueda (TALION GALLERY)

[Notice]

We kindly request visitors for following measures to protect guests from infection during their visit. Please check the updated information on our web site (taliongallery.com).

- To prevent overcrowding, we may have a limited number of entry to the exhibition.
- If you have a fever or symptoms such as coughing, sore throat, please refrain from visiting the gallery.
- Please wear a mask and disinfect their hands upon entering.

[Inquiries]

TALION GALLERY

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