

Press Release

2023.11.5

Ryoko Aoki, qp, Makiko Kudo

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down

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November 25 - December 24, 2023

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Talion Gallery is pleased to present the group exhibition "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" co-directed by qp, who is also a participated artist.

The name of this exhibition is derived from the nonfiction book of the same title, "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" written by Anne Fadiman and translated by Miyuki Tadahira and others, which adopted qp's drawing as its cover image. In the original book, a young girl from a Hmong family who moved to the U.S. from Laos as a refugee suffers from epilepsy, and the book describes the clash of cultures and worldviews and also conflicts between the Hmong parents and American medical personnel during the treatment process.

"The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" means the onset of epilepsy in the Hmong's language. For the Hmong people, the onset of epilepsy is considered evidence of the ability to sense what others cannot, as well as a necessary condition to travel to the unseen world. Symptoms, which are the subject to be cured in Western civilization, are also considered to be a gift from god, not only painful and harmful, but also an irreplaceable blessing.

Ryoko Aoki, who creates drawings, sculptures, and installations by connecting drawings of familiar life forms with fluid lines and colored fields, develops in her works memories and ideas in the process of making things, which are often overlooked despite being a part of our daily lives. After activities including decorative art (including illustration), photography, and animation, qp has recently works on paintings consisting of figurative motifs and geometric units, dropping the drops of watercolors with droppers on small sheets of paper. Makiko Kudo's vivid colors and compositions, and naive yet precise brushstrokes create paintings that combine the outlandish imaginations of her subjects with the places and memories of their lives. Her works depicts a dreaming scenery which can resonate in a certain feeling. The exhibition also focuses on what grace means to people, the light that shines through pain, and the art that lies next to medicine.



qp | The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, 1st October
Watercolor on paper | 15x11.8cm

Ryoko Aoki

- 1973 Born in Hyogo, Japan
 1999 MFA, Kyoto University of Arts, Japan

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

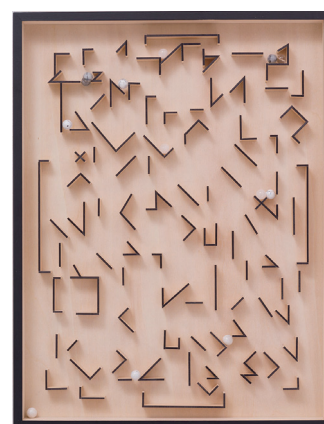
- 2020 "Workshop Free Molecules Metamorphoses,WATARI-UM",
 Watari Museum of Contemporary Art (Tokyo / with Zon Ito)
 2018 "Ryoko Aoki and Zon Ito", Yamamoto Keiko Rochaix (London / with Zon Ito)
 "Notebook forgotten at three party meeting", Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
 2011 "Green Pocket", Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
 2010 "Seeds of Wild Flower", On Sundays (Tokyo)
 2009 "Camp" Konrad Fischer Gallery (Düsseldorf / with Zon Ito)
 "Object Reading" FOIL Gallery (Tokyo)
 2007 "Ripples", Nicole Klagsbrun (New York)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 "The Yebisu International Festival for Art & Alternative Visions",Tokyo
 Photographic Art Museum (Tokyo / with Zon Ito)
 2023 "15" Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
 "Thinking about Caring and Motherhood through Contemporary Art"
 Contemporary Art Gallery,Art Tower Mito (Ibaraki)
 2022 "Vision", WATARI-UM, Watari Museum of Contemporary Art (Tokyo)
 2021 "Some Where Between the Odd and Ordinary", 21st Century Museum of
 Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Ihiskawa / with Zon Ito)
 "SOUTH SOUTH TOKYO" Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
 2020 "Collection1: Transgressing Lines", The National Museum of Art, Osaka
 2019 "Reborn-Art Festival 2019", Ajishima, Miyagi, Japan (with Zon Ito)
 2018 "Masterpieces of the National Museum of Art, Osaka: Clues for Art
 Appreciation" Toyohashi City Art Museum (Aichi); Fukuoka Prefectural
 Museum of Art (Fukuoka) - 2019
 "Treasure Box of Contemporary Art: OPAM" Toshioka Collection, Oita
 Prefectural Art Museum (Oita)
 "Public Art Research Center 8 [PARC8] ", Sapporo Ekimae-dori Underground
 Walkway (Chi-Ka-Ho)(Hokkaido / with Zon Ito)
 "helen at the mountain", Tetsuo's Garage (Tochigi)
 "181 pieces of Memories - Footsteps of the Takamatsu Art Museum's Special
 Exhibition -" Takamatsu Art Museum (Kagawa)
 "10th Anniversary" Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
 2017 "In Focus: Contemporary Japan" Minneapolis Institute of Art (Minnesota)
 "Post-Formalist Painting" Komagome Soko (Tokyo)
 "Reborn-Art Festival in Tokyo,WATARI-UM" Watarium Museum of Con-
 temporary Art (Tokyo / with Zon Ito)
 "Reborn-Art Festival 2017" Ishinomaki (Miyagi / with Zon Ito)
 "Collection - Contemporary Landscapes" The National Museum of Art,
 Osaka (Osaka)
 "Tsubaki-kai 2017 - Shoshin (beginner's mind)" Shiseido Gallery (Tokyo)
 2016 "Contemporary tales from the province IV - Susaki artist in residence -"
 Susaki Machikado Gallery (Kochi)
 "Location, Location, Location" Marc Foxx Gallery (Los Angeles)
 "Troedsson Villa "Mountain School 2016" statements (Tokyo)
 "Tsubaki-kai 2016 - Shoshin (beginner's mind)" Shiseido Gallery (Tokyo)
 "Imprisoned, Jailbreak, Imprisoned, Jailbreak" statements (Tokyo)



"Accidental Episode" | 2021
 "Some Where Between the Odd and Ordinary"
 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
 (2021) | Photo : Takeru Kuroda



Inside and Outside Game | 2022 | Wooden frame, stone
 42x33x3cm | Photo: Kei Okano



Am I the nucleus or the epidermis? | 2018
 Watercolor on paper | 40.5x33x2cm | Photo: Kei Okano



Where Did My Other Self Go? | 2018
 Mixed media | 27.5x35x6.2cm | Photo: Kei Okano

qp

1979 Born in Hyogo
2002 B.F.A. in Visual Concept Planning Department, Osaka University of Arts

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 "Flower paintings" Alt_Medium (Tokyo)
2022 "Music on paper" Alt_Medium (Tokyo)
"November 10, 2040 is a Saturday" RC HOTEL KYOTO YASAKA(Kyoto)
2020 "brightness" Alt_Medium (Tokyo)
2019 "Servetus" Parplume Gallery (Kanagawa)
2012 "We are the night" Black bird White bird (Tokyo)
2011 "leave" Gallery 8dori (Tokyo)
2010 "About Head" Higashinakanotoho1 (Tokyo)
2008 "To the lighthouse" Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (GANKA) Gallery (Tokyo)
2007 "see it" Guardian Garden (Tokyo)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018 "Health care of Museum Affiliated with Parplume"
Hitachiota of city Museum Umezu Hall (Ibaraki)
2017 "Parplume University – Fantasia from top to end"
Bird's gallery Tottori (Tottori)
"Fall in love, girls ! Parplume University and Yoichi Umetsu"
WATARI-UM, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art (Tokyo)
2016 "X club and Parplume" Moritakaya (Fukushima)
2015 "Parplume University Story" ARATANIURANO (Tokyo)
2014 "Parplume University II" Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto
(Kumamoto)
"Parplume University" Yamashita Building (Aichi)
"Summer and Painters" ARATANIURANO (Tokyo)
2013 "Der Strum" Nagoya Citizens' Gallery Yada (Aichi)
2012 "Friends of Magenta" waitingroom (Tokyo)
"After 100 years of Setagaya" Lifestyle Design Center (Tokyo)
2011 "Iconophobia :Fascinationand Terror of Image" Aichi Prefectural
Museum of Art gallery G1,G2 (Aichi)



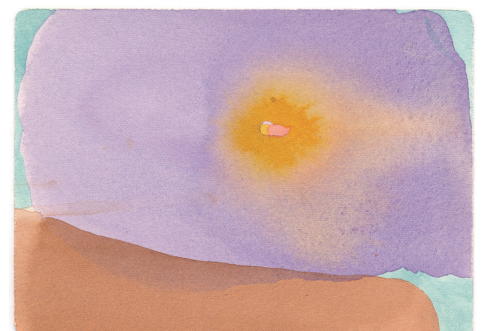
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down 4th October
2023 | Watercolor on paper | 21x14.4cm



Music on Paper 14th March | 2022
Watercolor on paper | 11.2x14cm



Solo exhibition "Music on paper"
Installation view at Alt_Medium(Tokyo) | 2022



Brightness 6th March | 2020
Watercolor on paper | 10.6x14.9cm

Makiko Kudo

all images below

©Makiko Kudo, courtesy of Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo

- 1978 Born in Aomori, Japan
2002 B.F.A, Oil Painting Department of Joshibi University of Art and Design

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

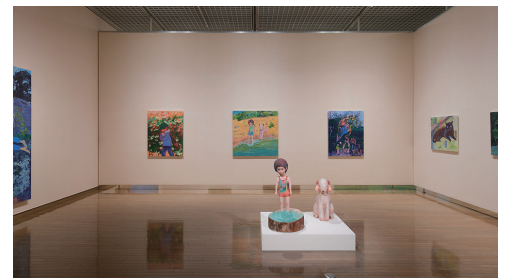
- 2022 "Color of the Shadows" Tomio Koyama Gallery Tennoz (Tokyo)
"Like When We See a Flower Bloom and Realise It Was There All Along"
Hiratsuka Museum of Art (Kanagawa)
2020 "Reborn as Air" Tomio Koyama Gallery (Tokyo)
PHILLIPS TOKYO (Tokyo)
2016 Tomio Koyama Gallery (Tokyo)
2015 Wilkinson Gallery (London)
2013 8/ ART GALLERY/ Tomio Koyama Gallery (Tokyo)
2012 Wilkinson Gallery (London)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "DMZ Exhibition: Checkpoint" DMZ Border area in Paju and
Yeonchoen (Korea)
"ceremony: Miya Ando, Kengo Kito, Makiko Kudo, Vik Muniz" Maebashi
Galleria, Gallery 2 (Gunma)
2022 "Jinan International Biennale" Shandong Art Museum, Jinan,
Shandong (China)
"Under Current Satellite Exhibition" N&A Art SITE (Tokyo)
"Under Current" Powerlong Museum, Shanghai (China)
"Unnatural Nature: Post-Pop Landscapes" Acquavella Galleries, Palm
Beach (USA) / New York (USA)
2021 "萬華鏡 KALEIDOSCOPE" YIRI ARTS, Taipei (Taiwan)
2019 "Can You Dream It? (Yes I Can.)" Kristen Lorello (New York)
2018 "Hypnagogia" Pippy Houldsworth Gallery (London)
2017 "The Riddle of Art: Takahashi Collection Resonance or Repellence?"
Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art (Shizuoka)
"MAKIKO KUDO & HIROSHI SUGITO" Marc Foxx Gallery (Los Angeles)
"ICONOCLASTS: ART OUT OF THE MAINSTREAM"
Saatchi Gallery (London)
2015 "TIGER TIGER" Salon 94 Bowery (New York)
"Yuka Kashiwara, Hideaki Kawashima, Makiko Kudo, Toru Kuwakubo,
Masahiko Kuwahara, Atsushi Fukui" 8/ ART GALLERY/ Tomio Koyama
Gallery (Tokyo)
2014 "The Way of Painting" Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
"Bishojo no Bijyutsushi" Aomori Museum of Art, Aomori, Japan [traveled
to Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan, 2014; Shimane
Arts Center, Shimane, Japan, 2014-15]
"The New International 2014" Garage Museum of Contemporary Art,
(Moscow)
"Queensize -Female Artists from the Olbricht Collection" ME
COLLECTORS ROOM BERLIN (Berlin)
2013 "Towada Art Center 5th Anniversary Exhibition: flowers" Towada Art
Center, around Central Shopping etc (Aomori)
"Body Language" Saatchi Gallery (London)



"I'm Growing Poison" | 2023 | Oil on canvas | 112x145.5cm
Photo: Kenji Takahashi



"Like When We See a Flower Bloom and Realise It Was There
All Along" Installation view at Hiratsuka Museum of Art
2022 | Photo: Keinji Takahashi



"Reborn as Air" | Installation view at Tomio Koyama Gallery
2020 | Photo: Takahashi Kenji



Natsuko and Fuyuko | 2005 | Oil on canvas | 131x162 cm
Collection of Takahashi Ryutarō | Photo: Yoshitaka Uchida

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[Exhibition Informations]

Title "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down"
Artists Ryoko Aoki, qp, Makiko Kudo
Date November 25 - December 24, 2023 11 am - 7 pm
Closed on Monday, Tuesday and Holidays
Venue TALION GALLERY (2-2-1 B1, Mejiro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo)
Directed by qp, Tsuyoshi Ueda (TALION GALLERY)
Cooperated with Tomio Koyama Gallery, Take Ninagawa, Misuzu Shobo

[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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