

Yuka Tsuruno Gallery is pleased to present four emerging artists Tomona Matsukawa, Maiko Kasai, Saki Sumida and Yu Yasuda at booth #E9 of Art Stage Singapore in 2017. In the presentation of the booth, we focus on imaginative portrayals depicted on oil paintings by the artists.

Tomona Matsukawa

Tomona Matsukawa has been drawn to the habits and lifestyles of women of her generation that leave "traces" on their belongings. In recent years, she has interviewed women with various lifestyles, and adopted their phrases as subjects or titles of her works. She reconstructs their belongings and bodies employing figurative painterly techniques. By refusing just to replicate motifs on the canvas, and instead choosing to reconstruct them as close-ups or flattening the surface to a smooth layer, she attempts to transform their traces and voices, which appeared as the shadows of human nature, into a new value.

Tomona Matsukawa (b.1987) graduated from Tama Art University in 2011, having specialized in oil painting. Her recent exhibitions include *Artist Meets Kurashiki vol.12* (Ohara Museum of Art, Okayama, 2016) and *Roppongi Crossing 2016: My Body, Your Voice* (Mori Museum, Tokyo, 2016). Public and private collections include Mori Art Museum, Ohara Museum of Art, Tony Podesita Collection and Takahashi Collection.

Maiko Kasai

Maiko Kasai interweaves tales of her own devising into everyday landscapes. Her dreamy landscapes feature a cast of unique motifs such as young girls, animals and costume characters. Lately, being impressed by distinguished techniques and images of historical or mythical works by European masters, such as Caravaggio, she has tried to depict their intentions in her own way. She creates the scenes with a bird's-eye view, which is a characteristic point of view in traditional Japanese art.

Maiko Kasai (b. 1983) completed her MA in Oil Painting at Kanazawa College of Art. She received Second Prize in the Shell Art Award in 2008. Selected exhibitions include *30th Outstanding Rising Artists Exhibition* (Sompo Japan Museum of Art, Tokyo, 2011), *SAS* (The National Art Center, Tokyo, 2012) and *VOCA* (The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo 2016). Public and private collections include Showa Shell Sekiyu, Pigozzi Collection, and Takahashi Collection.



Tomona Matsukawa
Remember me, once in a while
2016
89.4 x 130.3 cm
oil on panel



Maiko Kasai
She's Just Asleep
2016
91 x 91 cm
oil on canvas

Saki Sumida

Sumida has depicted landscape and a daily scene that combine traditional Japanese motifs, such as Mt. Fuji and the Seven Gods of Fortune, with other disparate elements. Although such juxtapositions are a common sight in Japanese everyday life, Sumida's paintings composed of tourism pictures, fashion advertisement, or scenes from mythological stories, bring a somewhat cynical assemblage of heterogeneous images. Sumida extracts the images of phenomena that have come to be regarded as "original" despite arising from cross-cultural exchange since antiquity and reproduces them by using the traditional Western pictorial technique of oils-on-canvas in a way that the contrast between multiple cultures is consciously accentuated.



Saki Sumida
Benzaiten and Daikokuten
2016
97 x 130.3 cm
oil on canvas

Saki Sumida (b. 1985) completed her master's degree in oil painting at Onomichi City University. Selected exhibitions include *Tokyo Wonder Wall* (Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, 2013), *VOCA 2014* (Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, 2014), *Fuji* (Tokyo Wonder Site, 2015), and *Mr. I selected Prize Exhibition* (Okayama Prefectural Museum of Art, Okayama, 2016).

Yu Yasuda

Yu Yasuda has been creating unique paintings while adhering strictly to the traditional artistic tools of oil pigments and canvases with his contemporary sensibility. His recent and the most abstract works *Untitled* have been developed as a continuous Nameless Landscape series. With an inimitable touch and shimmering layers of bold colors, his paintings leads you to a place where time and space seem to mingle and collide. Yasuda depicts dream-like landscapes and a fluid, painterly world liberated from existing notions of space and time.



Yu Yasuda
Untitled
2016
22.7 x 15.8 cm
oil on canvas

Yu Yasuda (b.1982) completed his MA study in oil painting at Musashino Art University in 2007. His recent exhibitions include *VOCA* (Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, 2008), *Art in an Office* (Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi, 2011). Public and private collections include Toyota Motor Corporation, Yokohama Art Museum, Mori Building, Takahashi Collection and Daisuke Miyatsu Collection.

Yuka Tsuruno Gallery is a contemporary art gallery active in the primary market established in 2009. With its keen attention to concept, context, and quality, the gallery showcases the work of prominent international artists including Candida Hofer and Jose Parla, while also nurturing the careers of emerging artists in Japan, in various media include painting, sculpture, video, photography, and installation.



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