

Time of My Life
Art with Youthful Spirit

難波田史男
NAMBATA Fumio

有元利夫
ARIMOTO Toshio

舟越桂
FUNAKOSHI Katsura

山本容子
YAMAMOTO Yoko

保田井智之
HOTAI Tomoyuki

奈良美智+"graf"
NARA Yo hitomo+"graf"

村瀬恭子
MURASE Kyoko

杉戸洋
SUGITO Hiroshi

中川トラヲ
NAKAGA A Torawa

工藤麻紀子
KUDD Makko

奥村雄樹
OKUMURA Yuki

Time of My Life

Art with Youthful Spirit

タイム・オブ・マイ・ライフ
永遠の少年たち

2004年2月21日 (土) - 5月9日 (日)
東京オペラシティアートギャラリー

ARTGALLERY
TOKYO OPERA CITY

[Time of My Life Home](#) [Introduction](#) [Information](#)

タイム・オブ・マイ・ライフ
永遠の少年たち

21 February, 2004 (Saturday) - 9 May, 2004 (Sunday)

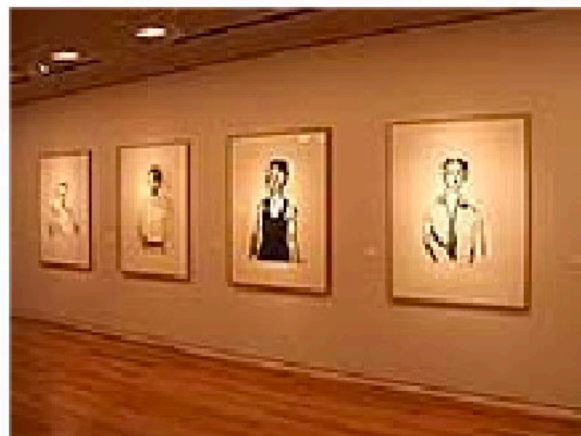
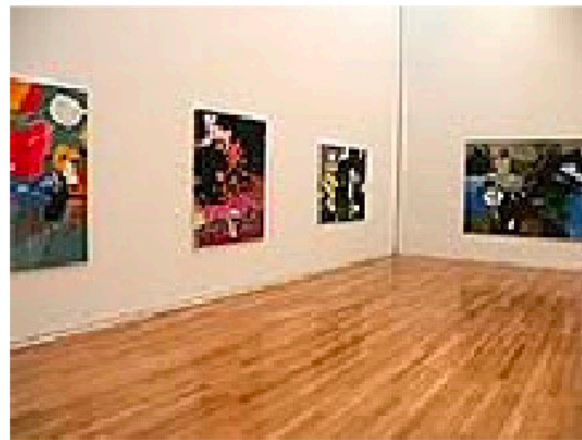
Open hours: 12:00 - 20:00 (to 21:00 on Fridays and Saturdays, entry up to 30 minutes before closing)

Closed on Mondays (Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday, except Tuesday, 4 May)

Admission: adult 800(600)yen / university and high school students 600(450)yen / junior high and elementary school students 400(300)yen

Organizer: Tokyo Opera City Cultural Foundation / Sponsor: NTT Urban Development Co.

Introduction



Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery is pleased to present Time of My Life - Art with Youthful Spirit, an exhibition featuring Japanese artists who regard youth and adolescence as their primary creative theme.

The impressionable years of youth carry enormous weight in our personal development; for artists, this is also an influential period in the cultivation of their artistic styles. Many of them move on, amassing experiences as they advance in career and age, with their work maturing in accordance and sometimes undergoing significant changes. There are, however, those who preserve and nurture what they discovered in their youth as an indispensable nucleus upon which their works evolve throughout their lives. These artists, like poets who refine words into their pure crystalline forms, perpetually create works that sustain their purity and innocence.

This exhibition commemorates the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Nambata Fumio, by presenting artists who have since pursued their own unique ideas and images of eternal youth.

Artists

Information

Dates: 21 February [Sat] 2004 - 9 May [Sun] 2004

Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery

Opening Hours: 12:00 - 20:00 (to 21:00 on Fridays and Saturdays, entry up to 30 minutes before closing)

Closed: Mondays (Tuesday if the Monday is a public holiday, except 4 May [Tue].)

Admission: Adults 800 (600) yen

Senior High School and University students 600 (450) yen

Junior High and Elementary School students 400 (300) yen

* Admission fee includes entry into Project N.;

() indicates group admission fee for over 15 people.

* Discount for late entry, senior citizens and children on weekends. Please ask for details.

Organizer Tokyo Opera City Cultural Foundation

Sponsor NTT Urban Development Co.,

For further information:

Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery Tel. +81-3-5353-0756

難波田史男 NAMBATA Fumio

◁ Index

▷ Back Next ▷



Self-struggling Days
1961 / watercolor, ink on paper
Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery

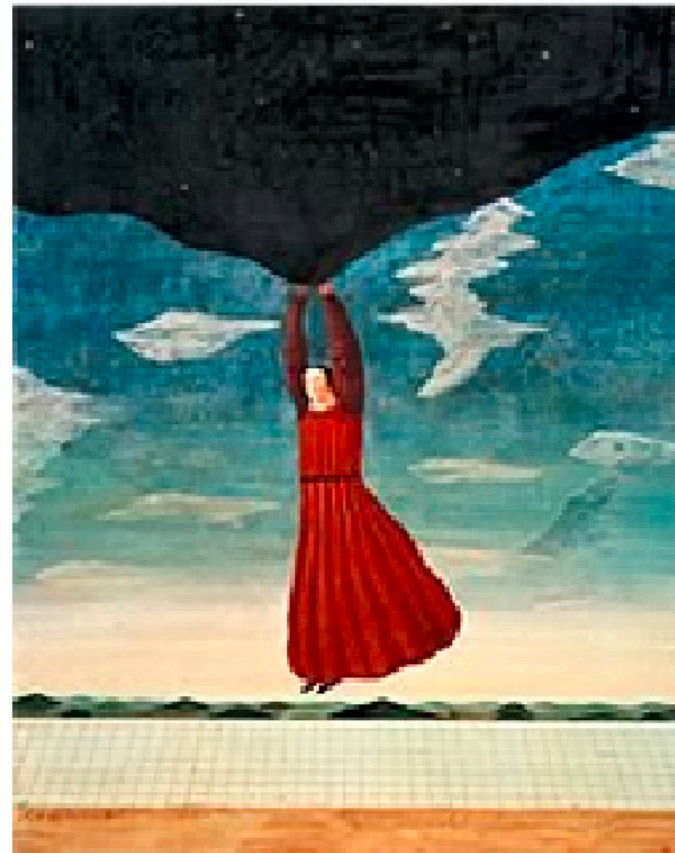


photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1941 as a second son of the artist Nambata Tatsuoki. He studied art at Bunka Gakuin and Waseda University but soon stopped attending classes, locking himself up in his room lost in painting, reading books and listening to Beethoven. His sharp, sensitive intuition and his inner intense passion, in the midst of his struggle with the reality of a blatantly hypocritical society, enabled him to observe and express his daily bliss and grief with keenness and poignancy.

Fumio departed this world in 1974 at the age of 32 when he fell from the deck of the ferry crossing the Strait of Setonaikai.

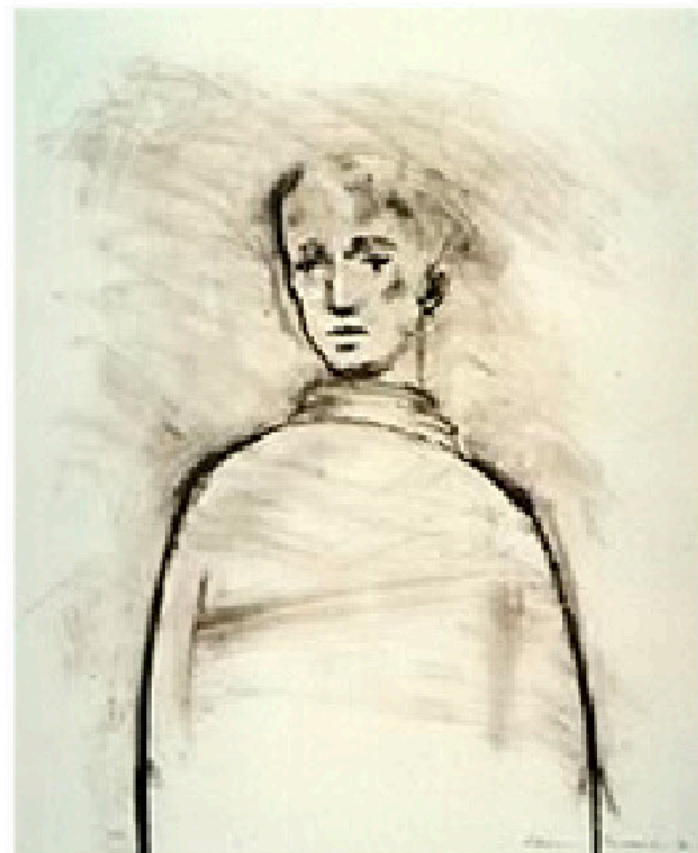
Artists



Curtain of the Night
1980
mixed media
Private collection

Born in 1946. At the end of his sophomore year at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music he traveled to Italy, and his encounter with fresco there became a turning point which led to the establishment of his style. Upon returning to Japan, he began experimentally using Iwa-enogu (Japanese mineral pigment) in an effort to integrate the traditional European technique with the spirituality of Japanese Buddhist painting.

In 1978 he received the Yasui Award Special Prize, followed by numerous accolades including the 24th Yasui Award in 1981, became a leading popular artist. But he became ill in November of 1984, and died the following year on February 24th.



A Strange Story
1993
lithograph on paper
Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery



photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1951 as a second son of the sculptor Funakoshi Yasutake. He has been world-known since the 1980s for his unique style of using Kusu (Cinnamomum camphora) and to create statues of upper bodies having marble insets for the eyes. The Catholic spirituality imbued in his work seems to be inherited from his father, a devout Christian, but his execution of sculpted figures and eyes which seem to skillfully avoid literal representation while conveying reality, points to his Christian, metaphysical view and a yearning for the Eternal.



To the Park <JOURNEY>
1978
etching, aquatint on paper
Collection of the artist

Born in 1952. Since her memorable debut in 1975, Yamamoto has created numerous print works whose qualities are lucent and wholesome. Her expression which possesses both innocence and boldness can be seen as a celebration of her youth itself. The straightforward and pellucid impression found in her work convey for us the breath of eternal spring. Also known for cover design for books such as TUGUMI by Yoshimoto Banana.

保田井智之 HOTAI Tomoyuki

[⌂ Index](#)

[⌂ Back Next ⌂](#)



photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1956. Hotai is known for inventing a technique to combine wood and bronze. His organic yet structured work appears to be a fused mutation of a human body and a sea vessel. With its indefinable form and unexpected combination of materials, it is almost awe-inspiring, often evoking religious sentiments and a mysterious spirituality.

Artists

ARTGALLERY
TOKYO OPERA CITY

[Time of My Life Home](#) [Introduction](#) [Information](#)

奈良美智+"graf" NARA Yoshitomo+"graf"

[Index](#)

[Back](#) [Next](#)



S.M.L. 2003-04
mixed media



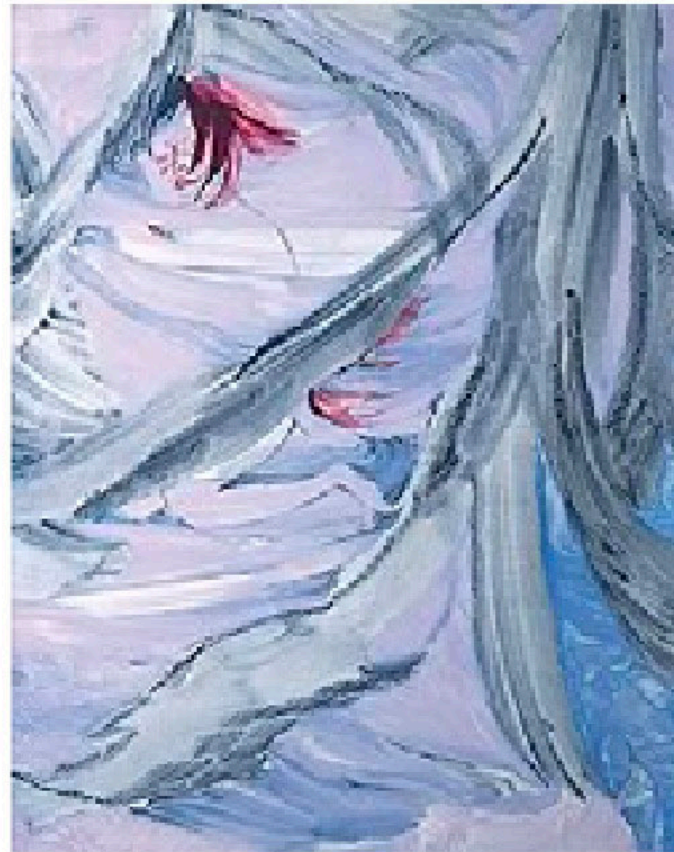
photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

S. M. L. is a collaborative installation presented by Nara with the designer group xgraf from Osaka. They constructed three rooms of different sizes, small, medium and large. The medium sized room is a loose replica of Nara's studio, made in ordinary human size, with numerous drawings of his familiar girls decorating its walls. Small and large size rooms each houses kid-size and giant-size furniture, gently challenging our grown-up perceptions of spatial relations, as if we are Gulliver visiting a bizarre island.

Artists

ARTGALLERY
TOKYO OPERA CITY

[Time of My Life Home](#) [Introduction](#) [Information](#)



Grape
2002
oil on cotton
Private collection

Born in 1963. In paintings of Murase, we find girls who yearn for the eternity. With their long hair and floating and drifting in water, her girls resemble nymphs. The random reflection of light renders their bodies to dissolve in water, and to become one with it. Just like the pristine flow of water, her nymphs also live in the eternal flow of time.

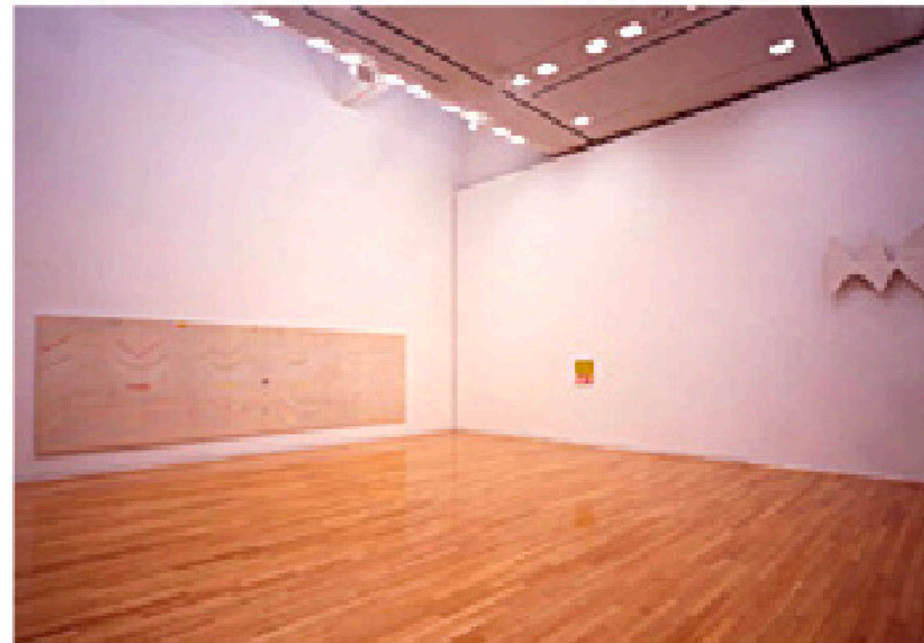


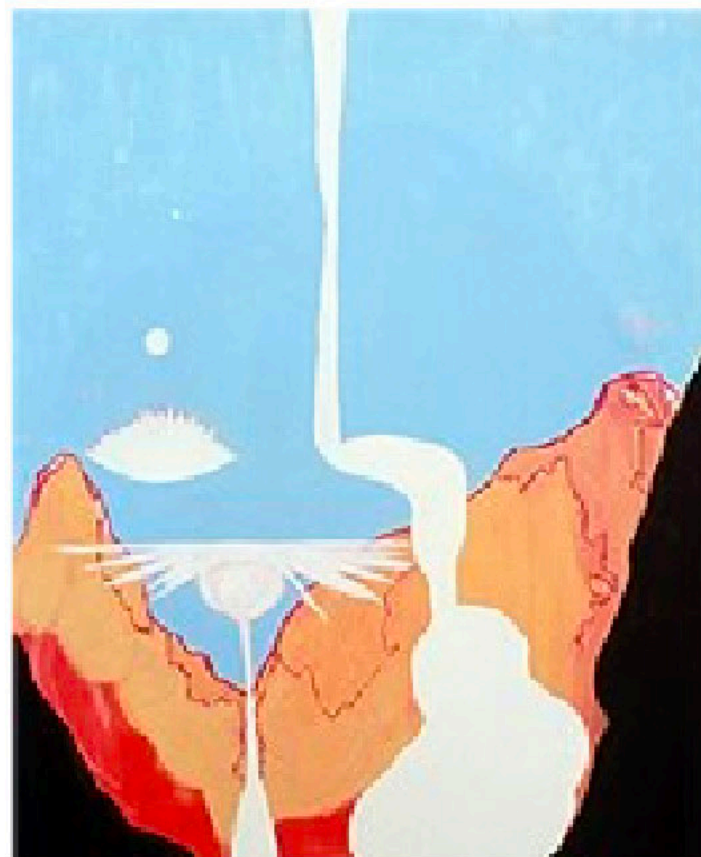
photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1970. Sugito used the motif of draperies painted on both sides of the picture surface in his early works. The pair of drapery suggests that the image depicted in the center of the canvas is a scene from a story performed on a stage. Sugito, the creator of the painting is also the author of the story being forever told on the stage. His sensitive pictorial space effected by hazy, pale colors, carries a somewhat jaded emptiness, professing that a fiction is nothing but a fiction.

中川トラヲ NAKAGAWA Torowo

[Index](#)

[Back](#) [Next](#)



nothing has started and nothing has been lost
2003
oil on canvas
Collection of the artist
courtesy: Kodama Gallery

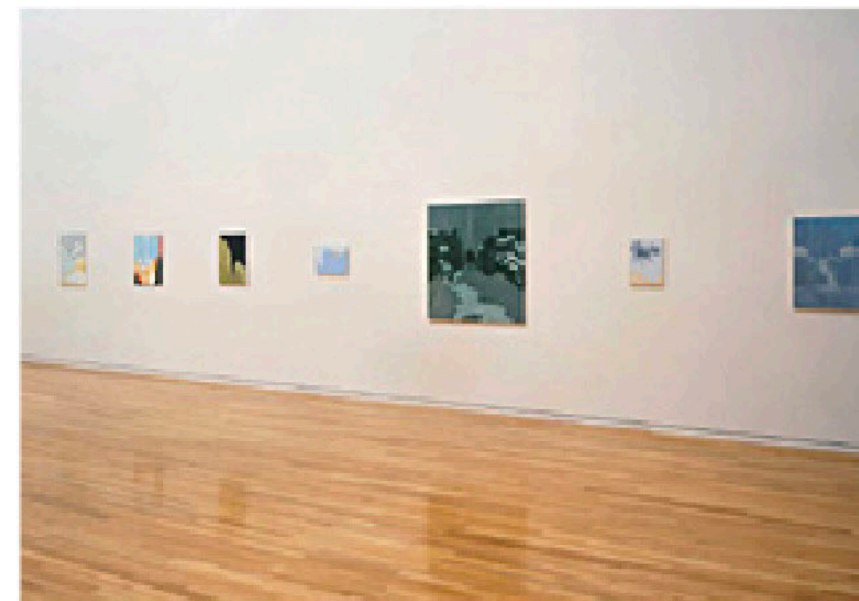


photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1974. The landscapes of Nakagawa have a strange familiarity not unlike that of 史 史. Dramatic yet enveloped in ennui, its surface composed of thin layers of paint conceal casually drawn figures and abstract forms. He spends a considerable amount of time applying layers of paint over such forms, eventually obscuring them, and completes his landscapes. The scene depicted is not based on actual locality but originates in the artist's mind. Such imaginary landscapes can be interpreted as a kind of utopia.

Artists



Hot summer morning
2001
oil on canvas
Private collection
courtesy: Tomio Koyama Gallery

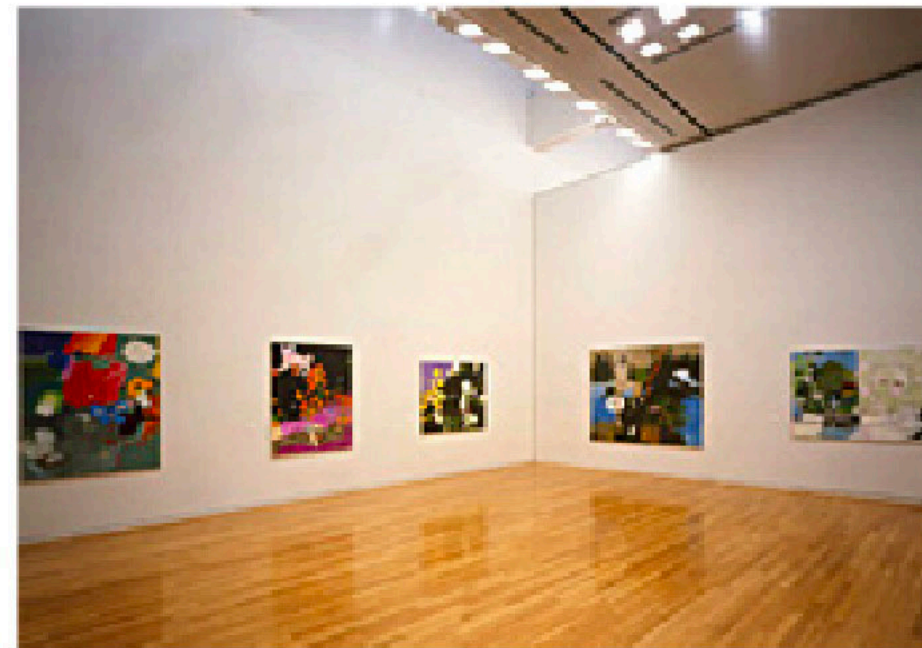
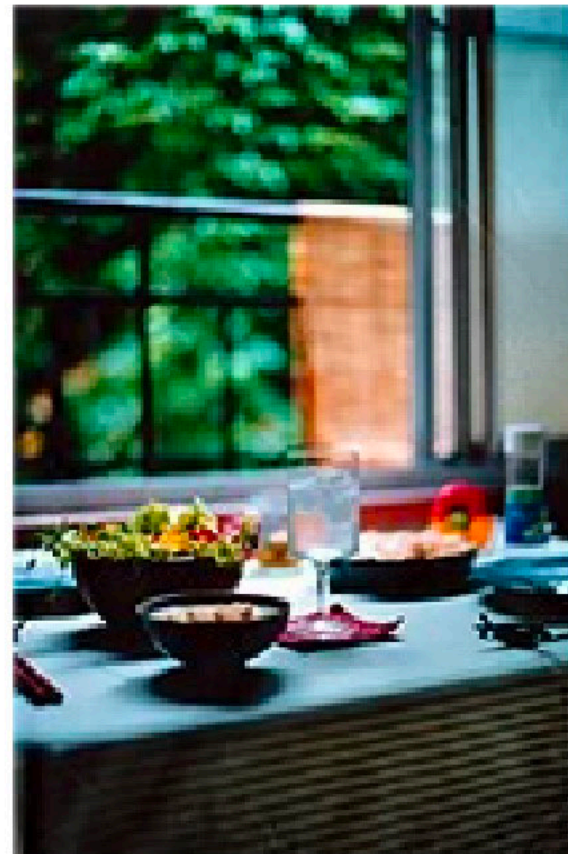
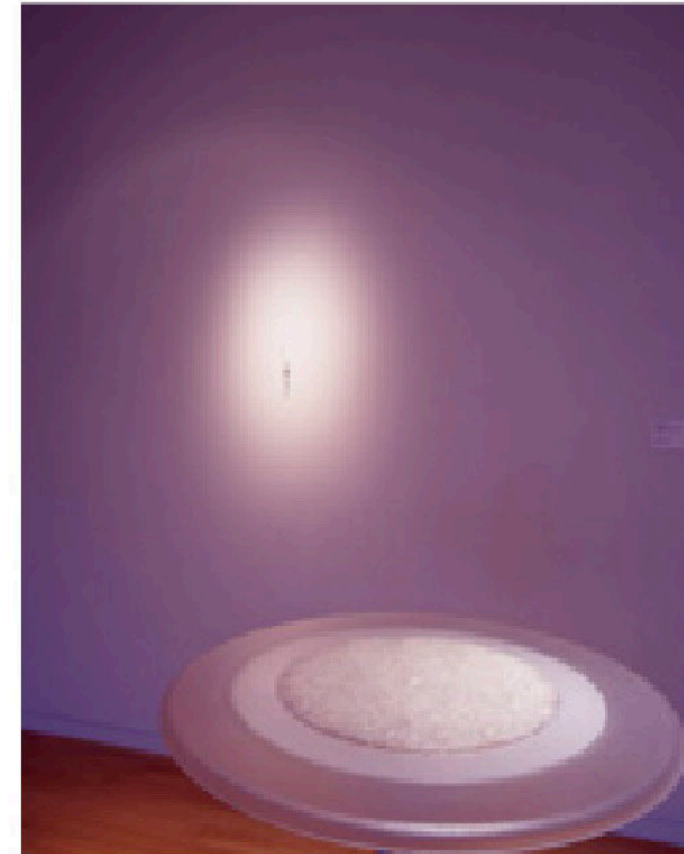


photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1978. In paintings of Kudo, current events and past scenes from the memory, like a tree she met while taking a walk or a house she used to live in, are mingled to compose stories of nostalgia and melancholy. In works like Hot Summer Morning and Asphalt, she paints young girls who look like the artist herself. Their stories, like a dream that you don't know when you will wake up from, maintain themselves in a constant and fragile balance.



Innocent Invader
2002
crystal print
Collection of the artist
cooperation + photograph: YOKOYA
Naho



Romance 2001-02
pubic hair, glass beads,
table/Collection of the artist
photo (c) KIOKU Keizo

Born in 1978. Okumura, one of the youngest of this exhibition, uses body secretions like nail clippings, skin fragments and saliva as materials. Quite raw and corporal, his scheme to preserve particles of his body that are ordinarily shed and lost, is a quintessential record of his life.