

Group Exhibition | Visions

Efrain Vivas Hattori, Honoka Okuyama, Kousuke Nishimura

January 13, 2023 - February 4, 2023

Honoka Okuyama remember me, oil on panel,
1500×2490 mm, 2022

YUKIKOMIZUTANI is pleased to present 'Visions', a group exhibition featuring three Tokyo-based emerging artists: Efrain Vivas Hattori, Honoka Okuyama, and Kousuke Nishimura, from January 13 (Fri.) to February 4 (Sat).

Raised between Japan and Venezuela, currently based in Tokyo and Amsterdam, Efrain Vivas Hattori has spent his entire life in cities. Founder of UgoKu Estudio, an artists' platform with a strong DIY spirit, his artwork is centered around modern architecture of the various cities he explores by bicycle. Through the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic Hattori turned his attention away from cityscapes to close-at-hand back alleys and buildings. Works made with industrial materials embrace randomness, from exposed pipes on building walls, to patterns on the ground that may go unnoticed beneath our feet, Hattori sews together various shapes to create a microcosmic landscape that fall between reality and imaginary. With his extensive activities spanning painting, sculpture, and music, Hattori brings a new nomadic perspective to our daily lives.

Currently based in Tokyo, Honoka Okuyama paints natural scenes from her native Hokkaido, exploring the relationship between humans and nature. To Okuyama "nature by its very essence cannot be contained in a square", a painting is merely a representation, no matter how realistic it may be. However, through the physical process of creation, rather than just a replication, a painting becomes a reflection of an artist's personality and body. By seeking out abstract images in nature, with depictions of trees wherein figure and ground become ambiguous, Okuyama creates paintings with blurred perspectives. Though her motifs of nature and everyday life in Hokkaido are grounded in reality, Okuyama's use of abstraction gives the viewer space for reflection. With an emphasis on vibrant colors, that give a suggestion of subjectivity to the paintings, the original landscapes and the viewers own sentiments become intertwined.

Working out of Tokyo, Hyogo born artist Kousuke Nishimura utilizes the traditional technique of decalomania to mirror the modern world in his painting. Through decalomania, in which paint arranged on a digitally printed image is blotted onto canvas, a digitally constructed image on a flat screen is transferred into the defined physicality of canvas and paint. Nishimura's way of working overlays a contemporary society where widely recognized images are mass produced and consumed. With the rapid spread of social networking services and the prevalence of the internet in our everyday lives, images become unfixed through each user's appropriation and alteration. Through decalomania Nishimura expresses this multifaceted essence of the modern-day visual image. Some of his works become almost diagrammatic through replication of color and form, while others become transformed by the disappearance of structure untethered from their original context. Nishimura harnesses the unpredictability of decalomania and the fuzziness of human cognition to oscillate between meanings of the image.

The three artists featured in 'Visions', through their varying mediums, disciplines and perspectives, each offer an intimate glimpse of their personal sensitivities. We hope you enjoy this group exhibition from Efrain Vivas Hattori, Honoka Okuyama, and Kousuke Nishimura, presenting their work at YUKIKOMIZUTANI for the first time.

Efrain Vivas Hattori (エフライン・ビバス・服部)

Born in 1991, Tokyo, Japan, Efrain Vivas Hattori draws inspiration from Caracas and Amsterdam, the modern architecture of his surroundings, and the sprawling concrete metropolis of Tokyo. Working independently in Amsterdam for four years and currently based in Japan, he has been presenting installations incorporating industrial materials alongside paintings.

Honoka Okuyama (奥山帆夏)

Born in 1996, Hokkaido, Japan, Honoka Okuyama completed her MA in Fine Art in 2022 from the 6th Graduate School Laboratory of Tokyo University of the Arts. Based in Tokyo, her motifs are of scenes from Hokkaido, with place of birth and a sense of belonging as points of departure for her works. Through her depictions of nature, she seeks abstract images in concrete forms. A two-time winner of LANDSCAPE of N.E. Tohoku and Hokkaido Landscape Exhibition (2014, 2016).

Kousuke Nishimura (西村昂祐)

Born in 1999, Hyogo, Japan, Kousuke Nishimura completed his BA in Fine Art in 2022 from Osaka Kyoiku University, and is currently enrolled in the Graduate School of Fine Arts Tokyo University of the Arts. Nishimura uses a blotting process of transferring paint between two surfaces, known as decalomania, to paint iconic characters, paintings, and ukiyo-e woodblock prints, exploring the possibilities of decalomania as a form of expression of the mass-produced, mass-consumed image. He was nominated for the 30th Turner Award (2019), and was a recipient of the Mitsubishi Corporation ART GATE Program scholarship (2020).

Thank you for your interest in the exhibiton at YUKIKOMIZUTANI.
If you have any inquiries, please reach out to us with the contacts below.

YUKIKOMIZUTANI

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