

Artist Statement & Biography: Keita Sagaki

Keita Sagaki (b.1984 in Ishikawa, Japan). At a young age, I was exposed to a rich culture of Buddhism and a vivid recollection was when my father and I visited the Buddhist Temple known as Toga Meiso no Sato (Contemplative Village) where some magnificent and monumental Mandala paintings are on display. The extremely elaborate depictions, the rich psychedelic colors, the fractal design with countless Buddhas of various sizes arranged within inspired my fascination to draw a two dimensional, non-linearity composition painting similar to Mandala. I was greatly moved and the obsessional visual impact of Mandala has now become the core of my works.

The extensive use and manipulation of Japanese anime or manga characters defines my drawings. The subtle application of infinite strokes deconstructing and reconstructing the manga characters, some originating from famous Japanese anime, rendering a new perspective that shapes the body of works, a discipline learned over the years.

In his first solo exhibition in Hong Kong, Fabrik Gallery will showcase 7 new drawings on paper inspired by some of the most celebrated Baroque masters including Vermeer, Caravaggio, Brueghel, and Rembrandt – the “Baroque Deconstruction” body of work took Keita Sagaki nearly a year to draw. Some of the featured works are “Boy with a Basket of Fruit” by Caravaggio, “Girl Reading a Letter at an Open Window” by Vermeer and “Flowers in a Blue Painted Vase” by Brueghel. “If you look closely and within, a world of countless manga characters unfold which ornament my works, bringing into life the old masters in a fresh and distinct practice, and concept.”

The interpretation of ‘Deconstruction’

The word “Deconstruction” is the central theme of this exhibition and is a way of thinking advocated by French philosopher Jacques Derrida. This philosophical term aims to break existing value from Binary opposition and build new value. These fundamentals are similar to my artistic concept and style.

“When looking at my works, changes in viewpoint visually dismantle Baroque classical masterpieces [Baroque painting also has a binary confrontation such as “light and shadow”, “static and dynamic”]. By eliminating prejudice on existing values, I want to create new values from various opposing concepts, for example, life and death, the sacred and the profane, order and chaos, beauty and ugliness, western art and Japanese art”

- 1984 Born in Ishikawa, Japan
- 2006 Graduated from in Art education, Fukushima University
- 2008 Completed master program in Art education, Fukushima University

Solo Show

- 2016 "flowers and birds poetic genius / crime wave" Nihonbashi Mitsukoshi Main building 6F art spot, Tokyo
- 2016 "MERONYMS" MICHEKO GALERIE, Munich
- 2015 "MASTERS" MINNA NO GALLERY, Tokyo
- 2014 "Convertism" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2010 "Obit" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2008 "Birthday" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2004 "9 ~INSIDE AND OUTSIDE~" Fukushima University Library, Fukushima

Group Show

- 2017 "dpi" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2017 "Re:OPEN" MINNA NO GALLERY, Tokyo
- 2016 "TRANS ARTS TOKYO 2016" Tokyo
- 2016 "Contemporary Art Biennale of Fukushima 2016" Adachigahara Furusato-mura, Fukushima
- 2016 "Design code -the code of beauty-" Roppongi Hills Mori Tower Hills Café/Space, Tokyo
- 2014 "Contemporary Art Biennale of Fukushima 2014" Kitakata Museum, Fukushima
- 2014 "Identity X -fusion of memory ~ memory for the future-" nca | nichido contemporary art, Tokyo
- 2012 "Contemporary Art Biennale of Fukushima 2012" Fukushima Airport, Fukushima
- 2011 "LONARTE 2011" Galeria dos Prazeres / Praia da Calheta, Portugal
- 2011 "Group ShowⅤ" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2010 "The 13th Exhibition of the Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art" Taro Okamoto Museum of Art, Kanagawa
- 2009 "Taro Okamoto's Museum: The viewpoint to begin -The artists who awake from a museum-" Fukushima Museum, Fukushima
- 2009 "Group ShowⅠ" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2009 "The Next Stage SHO Exhibition" Inoue Gallery, Tokyo
- 2008 "Shell Art Awards Exhibition 2008" Hillside Terrace, Tokyo / Kyoto Municipal Museum, Kyoto
- 2008 "100degrees Fahrenheit vol.0" CASHI, Tokyo
- 2007 "Shell Art Awards Exhibition 2007" Hillside Terrace, Tokyo / Kyoto Municipal Museum, Kyoto
- 2007 "Artown of Misato 2007" Aidumisato, Fukushima
- 2007 "25th Ueno Royal Museum Grand Prize Exhibition" Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo
- 2007 "26th Sompo Japan Art Foundation Juried Exhibition" Seiji Togo Memorial

Museum, Tokyo

- 2007 "The 11th Liquitex Biennale" Spiral Garden, Tokyo
- 2007 "My Alice" Akane GalleryTokyo / Gallery Buratto, Fukushima
- 2006-2010 "Contemporary Art Biennale of Fukushima"[2006,2008,2010] Fukusima Prefectural Culture Center, Fukushima
- 2006-2009 "Modan Art Exhibition" Tokyo Municipal Museum, Tokyo [06 Society of Award, Sompo Japan Art Foundation Juried of Award]

Art Fair

- 2017 "ART FAIR TOKYO 2017" solo show "Re:MASTERS" Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo
- 2015 "3331 Art Fair 2015 –Various Collectors' Prizes–" 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo
- 2011 "Emerging Directors Art Fair Ultra004" solo show "I wanna go to BIDAI!" Spiral Garden, Tokyo
- 2009 "101 TOKYO Contemporary Art Fair" AKIBA SQUARE, Tokyo
- 2008 "Emerging Directors Art Fair Ultra001" Spiral Garden, Tokyo

Art Work and Publication

- 2017 art book "coloring book of Mandala part2"/Publisher:SHUFUNOTOMO Co
- 2016 Arashi [Akira Sakata/Johan Berthling/Paal Nilssen Love] 2nd Album "Arashi"
- 2015 art book "coloring book of Mandala"/Publisher:SHUFUNOTOMO Co
- 2014 Arashi [Akira Sakata/Johan Berthling/Paal Nilssen Love] 1st Album "Arashi"
- 2013 EXPEDIA Tourism Posters, Design : OGILVY & MATHER LONDON
- 2013 Bachus Album "Bachus"

Public Collection

Showa Shell Sekiyu