



Aya Takano "Past: at the soshimai In shin-yoshiwara" 2011 Acrylique sur toile / Acrylic on canvas 150 x 260 cm / 59 inches x 8.6 feet ©2011 Aya Takano/Kaikai Kiki Co., Ltd. All Rights Reserved.



Aya Takano "Present: we had a natural disaster, a ship landed in the field" 2011 Acrylique sur toile / Acrylic on canvas 22 x 38,1 cm / 8 3/4 x 15 1/4 inches ©2011 Aya Takano/Kaikai Kiki Co., Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

Aya Takano, "To Lose Is To Gain"

Galerie Perrotin, Paris is presenting a solo show of Aya Takano, "To Lose Is To Gain" from 23rd June to 28th July 2012 bringing together a new series of paintings in rectangular and diamond shapes, all inspired by the earthquake that struck Japan in March 2011.

Painter, artist, creator of Mangas and author of science-fiction novels, Takano belongs to the Kaikai Kiki artistic production studio created by Takashi Murakami in 2001. We find surprising and sundry references in her paintings : Italian Renaissance, animes, art from the world of Ukiyo-e (Hokusai for example), particularly that of Shunga and the erotic prints in her work.

Slender child-women, often naked, inhabit her half fantastic, half real universe and more rarely, feminised masculine characters. These mutant-like figures with oversized eyes and elongated legs dally in amorous scenes and improbable encounters with mythical animals in lunar landscapes and urban settings. Her colours are always delicate and shaded, the surface and chromatic richness of her paintings at times recalling fresco techniques.

As the artist explains, "When I first began work on this collection of images, only a few months separated me from the events of 3.11. Overwhelmed by the breadth of the shock, I was virtually unable to think or paint, but I tried, in the midst of that confusion, to focus on the path down which Japan had come and the future to which it was moving. It is this which I have painted and the images are special ones that could only have come from such a chaotic time."

The small diamond shaped paintings literally float in the same space as the monumental canvasses. The works are gathered around three themes: past, present and future. Paintings such as "Past: at the soshimai In shin-yoshiwara", 2011, which represents intimate scenes tied to the traditional image of Japan, as well as episodes of violence resulting from the recent history of the country, belong to the first group of works. On the contrary, in paintings like "Present" 2011, we see frightening scenes that are bizarrely connected to dreamlike visions. Finally, as is often the case in her works, Takano imagines an upside down world where cities and their inhabitants are not subject to the laws of gravity and roam freely in futuristic galaxies ("Future: with their foundations in outer-space, metropolises float in mid-air", 2011 and "Future: cities shaped like internal organs and cubic vehicles", 2011).

Aya Takano, "To Lose Is To Gain"

La Galerie Perrotin organise l'exposition personnelle de Aya Takano «To Lose Is To Gain» du 23 juin au 28 juillet, livrant une nouvelle série de peintures losangiques et rectangulaires, toutes inspirées du tremblement de terre survenu au Japon en mars 2011.

Peintre, dessinatrice, créatrice de mangas et auteur de nouvelles de science-fiction, Takano fait partie de Kaikai Kiki, studio de production artistique créé par Takashi Murakami en 2001. Dans son travail on retrouve des références surprenantes et hétéroclites, la Renaissance italienne, les animes, l'art du monde de l'Ukiyo-e (Hokusai par exemple), le shunga en particulier et ses estampes érotiques.

Son univers mi-fantastique, mi-réel est habité par des femmes-enfants longilignes, souvent nues, et plus rarement par des personnages masculins féminisés. Ces figures, sortes de mutants aux grands yeux et aux longues jambes jouent des scènes amoureuses ou des rencontres improbables avec des animaux fabuleux au milieu de paysages lunaires ou de décors urbains. Les couleurs sont toujours délicates et nuancées et parfois la surface et la richesse chromatique de ses peintures rappellent la technique de la fresque.

Comme l'explique l'artiste, « quand j'ai commencé à travailler sur cette nouvelle série, quelques mois seulement me séparaient des événements du mars 2011. Bouleversée par l'ampleur du choc, j'étais presque incapable de penser ou de peindre, mais j'ai essayé, au milieu de ce chaos, de me concentrer sur le parcours historique du Japon et sur son futur ».

Les tableaux de petits formats en forme de losange flottent littéralement dans le même espace que les toiles monumentales. Les œuvres sont regroupées autour de trois thèmes : passé, présent et futur. Des peintures comme « Past: at the soshimai In shin-yoshiwara », 2011 qui représentent des scènes intimes liées à l'image traditionnelle du Japon ainsi que d'épisodes de violence issus de l'histoire récente du pays, appartiennent au premier groupe d'œuvres. Dans des toiles comme « Present », 2011 on assiste, au contraire, à des scènes effrayantes de destruction bizarrement associées à des visions oniriques. Comme souvent dans ses œuvres, Takano imagine un monde à l'envers où des villes futuristes et ses habitants ne sont pas soumis aux lois de l'attraction et errent librement dans les galaxies (« Future: with their foundations in outer-space, metropolises float in mid-air », 2011 et « Future: cities shaped like internal organs and cubic vehicles », 2011).



Aya Takano "Present" 2011 Acrylique sur toile / Acrylic on canvas
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Aya Takano "Present: we had a natural disaster, at the scene" 2011 Acrylique sur toile / Acrylic on canvas
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Aya Takano was born in 1976 in Saitama, Japan. She lives and works in Japan.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011** SieboldHuis, Leiden, Netherlands
- 2010** "Rooms of the World", Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan; "Aya Takano", Museum Frieder Burda, Baden Baden, Germany; Hong Kong Art Fair, Booth Galerie Perrotin, Hong Kong
- 2009** "Reintegrating Worlds", Skarstedt Gallery, NY, USA
- 2008** "Toward Eternity", Galerie Perrotin, Paris, France
- 2007** "Tradition and modernity" Miro Foundation, Barcelona, Spain; "Wild dogs, hawks, owls, cats, a landfill the size of 44 and a half Tokyo Domes, the stratosphere", Galerie Perrotin, Miami, USA
- 2006** "Aya Takano", Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, France; "City Dog", Parco Museum, Tokyo, Japan; Parco Gallery, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan
- 2005** Frieze Art Fair, London, UK; "The Far Reaches of The Universe, My Garden", Blum & Poe Gallery, Santa Monica, USA
- 2004** "Aya Takano, a web project for Digital Gallery", Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA; Naoki Takizawa for Issey Miyake, 2004-5 Autumn Winter Collection, Paris, France & Tokyo, Japan
- 2003** Galerie Perrotin, Paris, France
- 2002** Space Ship EE, nanogalerie, Paris, France
- 2000** "Hot Banana Fudge", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan
- 1997** "SHU WA KIMASERI", shop33, Tokyo, Japan

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010** "Kyoto-Tokyo: From Samurai to Mangas", Grimaldi Forum, Monaco; "Garden of Painting Japanese Art of the 00s", The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
- 2009** "The Very Bottom Of The Air", Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; "Winter Garden", Hara Museum, Tokyo, Japan; "VRAOUM", La Maison Rouge, Paris, France
- 2008** "Aya-Chiho-Drive", Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; "Quando vidas se tornam forma - Panorama da arte contemporanea brasileira e japonesa", Museum of Modern Art, San Paolo, Brazil & Museum Oscar Niemeyer, Curitiba, Brazil; "Kaikai Kiki Artists", Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007** "Kawaii! Japan now", Foundation Joan Miro, Barcelona, Spain; "The Door to Summer", Art Tower Mito, Mito, Japan
- 2006** "Spank the Monkey", Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK; Etoile, Xavel, Inc. (Virtual department store design); "Aya Takano, Chiho Aoshima, Chinatsu Ban Exhibition", Mizuho Oshiro Gallery, Kagoshima, Japan
- 2005** "Kaikai Kiki Exhibition", Aoi Gallery, Osaka, Japan; "Japan Pop", Helsinki Museum of Art, Helsinki, Finland; "The Sensual Line", Museum der Moderne Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria; "Little Boy: The Arts of Japan's Exploding Subculture", Japan Society, NY, USA (curated by Takashi Murakami); MTA Subway Poster Design, Public Art Fund and Japan Society, New York, USA; Galerie Perrotin, Paris, France
- 2004** "T-Junction", Galerie Perrotin, Paris, France; "Fiction. Love: Ultra New Vision in Contemporary Art", Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan; "Chiho Aoshima, Mr., Aya Takano", Galerie Perrotin at LFL Gallery, NY, USA; "Tokyo Girls Bravo", Marianne Boesky Gallery, NY, USA
- 2003** "Girls Don't Cry", Parco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; Naoki Takizawa for Issey Miyake, Tokyo (collaboration), Japan; "Hope—The Future is in Our Hands", LaForet Harajuku, Tokyo, Japan
- 2002** "The Japanese Experience – Inevitable", Das Museum der Moderne Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria; "Tokyo Girls Bravo 2", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan; "Chiho Aoshima, Aya Takano, Mr., Takashi Murakami", Galerie Perrotin, Paris, France
- 2001** "Superflat", Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles & Walker Art Center, Minneapolis & Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, USA; "Hiropon Show", White Cube Gallery, London, UK; Shinsaibashi Parco, Osaka, Japan; "Yokai Festival", Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2000** "Superflat" (curated by Takashi Murakami), Parco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 1999** "Tokyo Girls Bravo", NADiff, Tokyo; Parco Gallery, Nagoya, Japan; "Hiropon Show", Parco Gallery, Nagoya, Japan; "Hiropon 32/80", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan
- 1998** "Ero Pop Christmas", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan; "Hiropon Show", George's, Los Angeles, USA
- 1997** Hiropon Show, shop33, Tokyo; Iwataya Z-side, Fukuoka, Japan; Hiropon Show, Manken Gallery, Kanazawa, Japan