

# M & R Telegraph

15 Year Anniversary No.42 April 11th 2021

## 15 YEARS AND COUNTING; TOKYO'S OWN MISAKO & ROSEN CELEBRATE THEIR ANNIVERSARY

Opened in December of 2006, MISAKO & ROSEN formed from the unlikely fusion of the sensibilities of Tomio Koyama protege Misako (then Niida) and longtime Taka Ishii staffer Jeffrey Rosen. Perhaps still best exemplified in the work presented by painter Shimon Minamikawa in the gallery's first solo exhibition, the space remains devoted to supporting an aesthetic rooted in the everyday; in artwork which is literal in orientation - and all the the complexity that this dumbness implies. Opening in December of 2006 with a core group of 5 artists, Maya Hewitt, Naotaka Hiro, Nathan Hylden, Shimon Minamikawa and Miki Mochizuki, all participants in a preview exhibition, the gallery also asserted its commitment to promoting a cross-cultural conversation between like-minded artists from within Japan and abroad. A selection of highlights from across the years, in no particular order, includes the dual series of group exhibitions, "Here's Why Patterns" and "Happy Mind" each of which introduced within Japan and to the world artists such as Trevor Shimizu, Richard Aldrich, Shimon Minamikawa, Fergus Feehily, Naotaka Hiro, Stephen G. Rhodes and Maya Hewitt. 2014's exhibition, "Made in Tokyo" which brought the legendary Dutch artist Daan van Golden and his muse and assistant daughter Diana to Japan 50 years following the artist's one and only solo presentation in Tokyo comes to mind as another standout; as does Yuki Okumura's contribution to the empty gallery genre, which his 2015 exhibition "Measuring Roman Ondak". In 2010, Brazilian artist Erika Verzutti made a gesture towards pragmatism and equality by filing the gallery stairs with a slew of mystery gift bags containing fragments of sculptures as well as, for a couple of lucky supporters, actual finished artworks. Nathan Hylden not once, not twice, but in three instances played with the gallery visitor's sense of place by installing his work according to the exaggerated nature of the physical gallery space; same with J. Parker Valentine in her 2014 tour de force "Node". It is difficult to believe that it was last in 2015 that S.G.Rhodes transferred the gallery into an overall environment impossible to describe. Photographer Motoyuki Daifu presented his take - both indoors and out - on a contemporary Japanese psychological landscape as Mie Morimoto effortlessly captured a photographic ineffable, Ayako Mogi open-eyedly chronicled an ongoing relationship-life narrative and Takashi Yasumura expanded the field of contemporary critical photography from a humorous perspective. Josh Brand's 2011 exhibition, "Face", presented a focused take on photographic abstraction whereas his 2014 show, "Face" painted a blur over any fine-tuned edges, echoing an undercurrent of unease not realized until 2016 and the seismic world changes that would occur. Also in 2014, Ken Kagami made an assured solo debut, "Bronze Works 2013-2014" cementing humor in the foreground of the gallery aesthetic (also, not to be forgotten is Kagami's iconic "portrait Session". Off-site, Yui Yaegashi made a splash on the world-stage with a solo presentation at Minneapolis Minnesota's Midway Contemporary in 2015 while Kaoru Arima surprised the Tokyo art world by debuting a series of portrait paintings at the gallery in 2012 and in 2013, the ongoing collaboration between MISAKO & ROSEN and Milwaukee, Wisconsin's very own The Green Gallery took shape in a group exhibition "19516 kilometers from Milwaukee or 12126 miles" featuring artists from Tokyo and Milwaukee. We would be remiss, as well, not to mention the several projects, including a solo show for Miki Mochizuki, organized together with the now defunct Shane Campbell Gallery in Chicago as well as the countless alternatives to mainstream art fairs, such as the Dark Fair, Cologne, Paramount Ranch, the various Raster Gallery (Warsaw) organized Villa projects as well as the Paris Internationale A highlight was the gallery participation in Okey Dokey, hosted in Dusseldorf by Galerie Max Mayer where Fergus Feehily was presented alongside artists represented by Arcadia

Missa and Miguel Abreu. Also off-site, the gallery was integral in the realization of Kazuyuki Takezaki's solo museum exhibition at the Kochi Museum of Art, "A Sunny Day After Rain" as well as Naotaka Hiro's participation in "Made in LA" at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles in 2018. In more recent years, the gallery has presented incommensurably strong debut Tokyo exhibitions by the likes of Margaret Lee, Paulo Monteiro Vincent Fecteau and artist duo C&K (COBRA & Ken Kagami). Last but not least, it's more than worth noting the large number of gallery artists that have participated in and have entered the collection of the National Museum of Art, Osaka - including Richard Aldrich, Shimon Minamikawa, Kazuyuki Takezaki, Hisachika Takahashi, Vincent Fecteau and Daan van Golden. And...finally, the local art scene eagerly anticipates the debut Tokyo solo exhibition of Brazilian artist Tiago Carneiro da Cunha in 2021. Text By Poderta Zumith



2008 Trevor Shimizu at MISAKO &amp; ROSEN



2006 MISAKO &amp; ROSEN Preview exhibition. Jeffrey and Misako Rosen, Shimon Minamikawa, Miki Mochizuki photo: Maya Hewitt



2009 Jeffrey Rosen and Nathan Hylden Los Angeles

### Tokyo Gallery exhibition schedule

#### MISAKO & ROSEN

Forevermore  
15 Year Anniversary Exhibition  
Apr. 11 - May. 16

#### AOYAMA | MEGURO

Jiri Kovanda "Open Air"  
- Feb. 21

#### Take Ninagawa

Andro Wekua "Drift Angle"  
Apr. 24 - May. 12

#### KAYOKOYUKI

Daichi Takagi  
"Light, Colour, outlines"  
Mar. 27 - Apr. 25

#### Mujin-to Production

Kazuhiro Hachiya  
"Shusui and M-02J"  
Mar. 11 - Apr. 18

#### XYZ Collective

Yuka Hasegawa "Boys, Girls and Cats"  
Mar. 21 - Apr. 18

#### 4649

Yusuke Abe  
Jan. 31 - Feb. 28

#### ANORMALY

Noe Aoki "Mesocyclone"  
Apr. 17 - May. 22

#### Imlabor

India Nielsen "Cybaby"  
Mar. 28 - Apr. 24

### Books



You and I are Earth  
Edited by Fergus Feehily  
Published by Paper Visual Art



Takashi Yasumura  
I don't expect too much  
Published by MISAKO & ROSEN

Commercials requested!  
Please record the following statement:  
Hi My name is xxx from xxx and you are listening to Ken Kagami's All Night Supponpon! Please send in MP4 format to Ken Kagami via MISAKO & ROSEN gallery@misakoandrosen.jp Thanks you for your support!