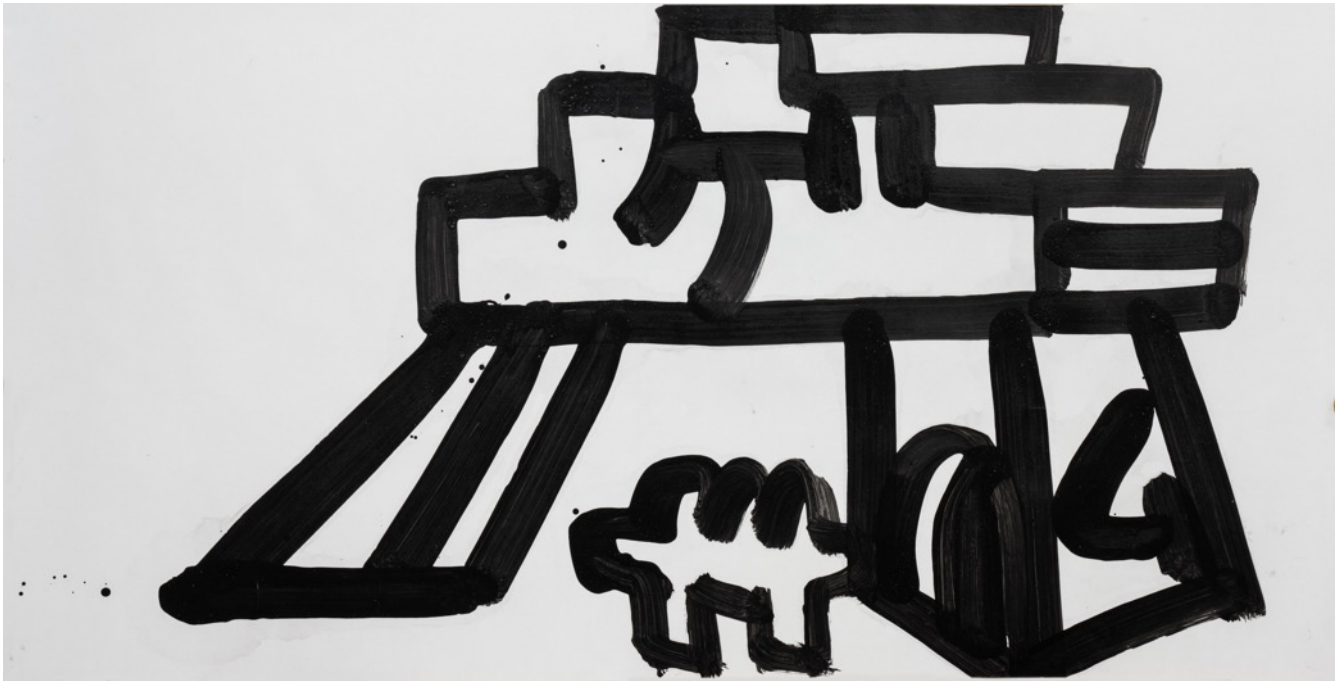




Hisashi Yamamoto Naming The World



"Dinosaur and Pyramid Slide Game" ©Hisashi Yamamoto, Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates.

Tuesday, February 13 – Saturday, March 23, 2024

An opening reception will be held on Friday 16 February.18:00-20:00

Venue: Yumiko Chiba Associates

ROPPONGI HILLS Hollywood Beauty Plaza 3rd Floor,6-4-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

Gallery Hours: 12:00 - 19:00 (Closed on Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays)

Yumiko Chiba Associates is excited to announce a new exhibition of work by calligrapher Hisashi Yamamoto.

Yamamoto has carved out a unique space for himself in the world of contemporary calligraphy using a method that involves drawing a figure or symbol (pictogram) showing a particular subject, and writing a name for that subject alongside.

In this exhibition of new calligraphy, he presents works portraying everything from imaginary games, to personal (ie difficult to share with others) sensations. This means presenting things that until now did not exist, as "made-up characters," only generated, it could be said, through the format of calligraphy.

Just as kanji characters originated in pictograms, pictograms could be described as primitive symbols combining text and picture into a harmonious whole. In other words, rendering a pictogram could also mean presenting as calligraphy a particular phenomenon before it is established as a symbol and refined as a character. Though Yamamoto's attempt at this exhibition to take things that previously did not exist and turn them into calligraphy, is in theoretical terms similar to his previous work in that it involves naming as-yet unnamed phenomena, and assigning them "made-up characters," here we find he has added some new and intriguing pathways. Don't miss this exhibition of new work by Hisashi Yamamoto that seems to delve deep into the source of calligraphy, and characters.



Artist statement

We humans spend our lives constantly surrounded by one thing or another, be that the natural environment, an urban landscape, or our own imaginings.

I like to name these things.

Sometimes that means showing a thing's original name, sometimes not. Sometimes I just make up names for things no one has yet encountered.

When we try to communicate something to a person, that person's perceptions may give rise to a gap between their perceptions, and ours.

I actually enjoy those gaps, and devise little tricks to help the person in question discover something different to what they were originally thinking.

This is a calligraphy exhibition, but take a closer look and you will see something written in the pictographs, or alongside them, akin to the legend in an ink painting. This is where you'll find those tricks.

The work *Eyes and Eyes and Light* represents the childhood sensation, as I remember it, of being dazzled by the lights of passing cars while driving. In *Rivergate* I've shown the two flood gates on the Ota River that saved my birthplace of Hiroshima from disaster, along with a prayer. In the "Game" series I have written non-existent, imaginary games as if they were perfectly routine, making them so by "naming" them myself.

Characters written are words created in the moment of writing. I also question myself, in the manner of a Zen koan: "What is this?" "This is XX."

As in, "Why on earth do you write, and what do you write?"

That is what calligraphy is all about. The kind of calligraphy in which you reject the bland and pious, and instead write something a little anticlimatic, that raises a chuckle.

An art that interrogates the very essence of language, I think it's fair to say calligraphy is directly linked to conceptual art as it has existed since Duchamp. Eastern calligraphy and art lie within that connection.

Hisashi Yamamoto (calligrapher/contemporary artist)



■Related Information■

Solo Exhibition 「*Moving Tree*」

Venue : NADiff Window Gallery

Saturday, February 10 – Sunday, February 25, 2024

■Talk Event

"Calligraphy as language art"

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2024, 19:30-21:00 (doors open at 19:15-)

Speakers: Hisashi Yamamoto (Calligraphers · Contemporary Artists) , Junya Komatsu (Lawyer / Art Collector)

Venue: NADiff a/p/a/r/t Seating capacity: 30

■Works

「Hisashi Yamamoto Works 2016–2023: Moving Tree」

Publication Date: February , 2024

Price: 3,850JPY (Tax in)

Published : ART DIVER

Author : Hisashi Yamamoto

Text : Minoru Shimizu

Cooperation: Yumiko Chiba Associates

■Artist Profile

Hisashi Yamamoto

1969 Born in Hiroshima

1991 Engaged in reorganizing Yuiichi Inoue's works for his catalogue raisonne at UNAC TOKYO
Lives and works in Hiroshima

2024 Solo Exhibition, *Naming The World*, Yumiko Chiba Associates, Tokyo

Solo Exhibition, *Moving Tree*, NADiff Window Gallery, Tokyo

Solo Exhibition *Stars*, Chigira Jinsentei, Gunma

2023 Study: Osaka Kansai International Art Festival, "Calligraphy strayed from the beaten track",
ICHION CONTEMPORARY B2, Osaka

Group Exhibition "Moji no shisō", [Visualized letterforms], Gallery green&garden, Kyoto

Group Exhibition *KYOTO SHODO SHOW special exhibition*

"Hisashi Yamamoto + Haru Yamaguchi + Mayuka. Kobayashi three-person exhibition
three-person exhibition MEDIA SHOP GALLERY, Kyoto

Group Exhibition *Lintalow Hashiguchi × Hisashi Yamamoto GRAM FORCE*, YUKIKOMIZUTANI, Tokyo

Group Exhibition *SHODO NEXT STAGE 2023*, Urawa Isetan 6th Floor The Stage 6, Saitama

Group Exhibition *JAPAN SHODO SHOW*, Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo Citizens Gallery, Tokyo

Solo Exhibition *Machine*, Hakata Hankyu, Fukuoka

Group Exhibition *Hiroshima Contemporary Art Salon 2023*, Fukuya Hatchobori Main Store, Hiroshima

Group Exhibition *ART SHODO EDGE*, GALLERY SCENA, Tokyo

Group Exhibition *SHODO NEW AGE special exhibition "Hisashi Yamamoto + Haru Yamaguchi
*two-person exhibition** MEDIA SHOP GALLERY, Kyoto

Solo exhibition *Hisashi Yamamoto Exhibition*, Akamanma, Gunma

Solo exhibition *Nami* Artist Cafe Fukuoka, Fukuoka

Group Exhibition *Hengshan Calligraphy Biennial "Era of Principle and No Principle Interwoven—Calligraphy.
*as a Visual Form**, Hengshan Calligraphy Art Center, Taiwan

2022 Group Exhibition *Exhibition NAGOYA ART SHODO 2*, Nagoya

Group Exhibition *Exhibition ART SHODO HANKYU #2*, Fukuoka

Group Exhibition *Exhibition ART SHODO HANKYU*, Fukuoka

Group Exhibition *Exhibition by four artist ~ of the new tide of the ART SHODO*,
Nagoya Sakae Mitsukoshi. ARTE CASA, Aichi

Group Exhibition *ART SHODO SELECTION in Kyoto*, MEDIA SHOP GALLERY, Kyoto

Group Exhibition, *The present of calligraphy*, Taguchi Bijutsu, Gifu

Solo Exhibition *Game*, Fukuya Hatchobori Main Store art gallery, Hiroshima



- Group Exhibition *Hiroshima Contemporary Art Salon 2022*, Fukuya Hatchobori Main Store gallery 101, Hiroshima
Solo Exhibition *Motor Show*, Akamanma, Gunma
Group Exhibition *JAPAN SHODO SHOW*, Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo Citizens Gallery, Tokyo
Group Exhibition, *Atarashisugiru shodōten [Too New Calligraphy Exhibition]*, MDP GALLERY Kamakura, Kanagawa
- 2021 Group Exhibition *REAL by ArtSticker DAIKANYAMA ART WEEK*, Daikanyama HILLSIDE TERRACE HILLSIDE FORUM, Tokyo
Group Exhibition, *Nangālan Nazo no teikoku [Nangaland, Mystery Empire]*, art space tetra, Fukuoka
Group Exhibition *ART SHODO FESTA* in Fukuoka, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka
Group Exhibition *OSAKA SHODO SHOW 2021*, SEASIDE STUDIO CASO, Osaka
Group Exhibition *ART SHODO EIGHT*, MDP GALLERY, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *SHODO NEW AGE*, Tachikawa Civic Hall Tamashin RISURU Hall, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *Contemporary Art SHODO*, Fukuya Hatchobori Main Store 7F Art Gallery, Hiroshima
Group Exhibition *Mark and the human*, Iwataya Head Office Main Building 2F Gallery CONTAINER, Fukuoka
Group Exhibition *JAPAN SHODO SHOW*, Shibuya Hikarie8/CUBE, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *Calligraphy and not calligraphy KIWA (overlaps)*, Kyoto Wang Inter-Art Museum, Kyoto
- 2020 Group Exhibition *OSAKA SHODO SHOW 2020*, SEASIDE STUDIO CASO, Osaka
Group Exhibition *What's SHODO*, MARUEIDO JAPAN, Gallery, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *The World of Contemporary Calligraphic Art 2, - "Symbols and the Times"*
Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku, Tokyo
- 2019 Solo Exhibition *ENTRANCE ⇄ EXIT ⇄ LID ⇄ BOTTOM*,
Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku, Tokyo
- 2018 Solo Exhibition *Mado (Window)*, PLACE by method, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *ART SHODO TOKYO AUTUMN 2018*, Mitaka City Arts Center, Tokyo
Solo Exhibition *Triple Tower*, TMMT, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *ART SHODO TOKYO SPRING 2018*, Mitaka City Arts Center, Tokyo
- 2017 Solo Exhibition *Door, Light, Sound, Glass, and Water*, gallery feel art zero, Aichi
Solo Exhibition *Badge, Towel, and Cardboard*, B GALLERY, Tokyo
Solo Exhibition *Speech balloon*, GALLERY NOW, Toyama
Group Exhibition *Modern Art: World of Calligraphy*, Takashimaya Shinjuku Art Gallery, Tokyo
Group Exhibition *Future of Calligraphy*, ITOCHU AOYAMA ART SQUARE, Tokyo
Exhibition of Two Artists *poison and small huts*, Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku, Tokyo
- 2016 Solo Exhibition *flying saucer*, Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku, Tokyo
- 2015 Solo Exhibition *Machine*, La Galerie Métanoïa, Paris, UNAC SALON, Tokyo
- 2014 Solo Exhibition *Tower*, Shimokita Art Space, Tokyo, Art Forum JARFO, Kyoto
- 2013 Group Exhibition Japan/China Modern Elite Calligraphers Exhibition, *Sho to Hisho no Kiwa* [Edge of Calligraphy and Non Calligraphy], The Museum of Kyoto
- 2011 Participating in a calligraphers' blog, *Daily Shod*
- 2010 Group Exhibition *Art of Power Born of Pleasure*, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art
- 2009 Group Exhibition *Mojiku*, Tokyo Metropolitan Theater, etc.
- 2008 Group Exhibition *SEOUL CALLIGRAPHY BIENNALE*, Seoul
- 2006 Group Exhibition *World Calligraphy Festival*, Seoul
- 2004 Group Exhibition *HOMAGE to YU-ICHI by the TEN-SAKU-KAI*

Public Collections

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