



Bystanders

Risako KOKUBU / Shunsuke SAIKI / Aoi TOKUNAGA
Planning: Risako KOKUBU, CASHI / Organizers: CASHI, Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (GANKA) Gallery / Cooperation: myheirloom

[CASHI]

Fri. February 24th–Sat. March 25th, 2023
Venue: CASHI 5-6-12-1F Asakusabashi Taito-ku Tokyo 111-0053, Japan
Open: Wed.–Sat. 11:00–18:00
<http://cashi.jp>

[Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (GANKA) Gallery]

Fri. February 24th–Wed. March 15th, 2023
Venue: Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (GANKA) Gallery Space M 5-18-11
Shinjuku Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 160-0022, Japan
Open: 12:00–20:00 *12:00–17:00 on Wed. *Closed on Thu.
<https://www.gankagarou.com/>

CASHI is pleased to announce a new exhibition "Bystanders" featuring Risako Kokubu, Shunsuke Saiki, and Aoi Tokunaga. This exhibition will be on view at the gallery starting on February 24th (Fri) and continuing through March 25th (Sat).

We are currently living in an era of large-scale disasters and sociopolitical issues such as the Great East Japan Earthquake, the COVID-19 pandemic, and Russian aggression in Ukraine. We must continue to consume large amounts of information and content provided on a daily basis through electronic display screens. The three artists featured in this exhibition accept these everyday tasks of modern society while attempting to capture them from their unique third-party perspective.

Kokubu treats nostalgic everyday scenes and images of subcultural content with which she has been familiar since childhood, cropping and distorting them into abstract forms and painting them with vivid colors. Their superficial beauty seems to emphasize the superficiality of the affluence that modern society pursues and the nihilism lying there. Saiki deconstructs and reconstructs the images and symbols that abound in the real world and on the internet, cynically presenting a contemporary sense of everyday life that is a fusion of reality and the internet. His paintings suggest several social issues that we are forced to consume through electronic display screens while also seeming to pose the question of how we can empathize with and be close to others who are on the other side of a screen. Meanwhile, Tokunaga creates manga-like pictorial surfaces by inserting flattened characters into landscapes derived from his own childhood memories. The characters depicted with the vague memories of the landscapes are somewhat escapist and evoke a sense of detachment (a loss of subjectivity from one's own body, emotions, thoughts, and senses with an unrealistic sense of one's own existence).

This exhibition will be held concurrently at the Shinjuku Ophthalmologist (GANKA) Gallery (please note that the gallery has various opening hours and closing days). We look forward to welcoming you to the cities and introducing you to this new exhibition.

Risako KOKUBU

Born in 1999 in Tokyo Prefecture. Graduated in 2022 from the Department of Oil Painting at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts. Currently enrolled in the Department of Oil Painting Technique and Material at the Graduate School of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts. Recent major exhibitions include "P.O.N.D. 2022 In Doubt" (PARCO MUSEUM TOKYO, 2022) and "Everyday Melancholic" (Artas Gallery, 2022).

Shunsuke SAIKI

Born in 1987 in Fukuoka prefecture. Graduated in 2012 from the Department of Art at the Graduate School of Fine Arts, Kyushu Sangyo University. Recent major solo exhibitions include "Scrolling Landscape" (Gallery Yukihiro, 2020) and "Scrunching Landscape" (Artas gallery, 2020). Recent group exhibitions include "dpi" (KANZE ARTS, 2021) and "Image of Non/Touch" (IAFshop*, 2020).

Aoi TOKUNAGA

Born in 1999 in Kagoshima prefecture. Graduated in 2022 from the Department of Painting at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Kyoto City University of Arts. Currently enrolled in the Department of Oil Painting at the Graduate School of Arts, Kyoto City University of Arts. Recent major exhibitions include a solo exhibition "Assignment to Memory" (myheirloom, 2022) and a group exhibition "Where Twists Meet" (YOD Editions, 2022).

CASHI

Contact details for inquiries : info@cashi.jp

* If you wish to inquire about Aoi TOKUNAGA, please contact myheirloom directly at contact@myheirloom.info.

5-6-12-1F Asakusabashi Taito-ku Tokyo 111-0053, Japan

tel : 03-5825-4703 fax : 03-5825-4704

Gallery hours : Wed.–Sat. 11:00-18:00

5 min walk from JR Sobu Line Asakusabashi sta. West Entrance.

10 min walk from JR Sobu Line Asakusabashi sta. East Entrance or Toei Asakusa Line Asakusabashi sta. Exit A2.

10 min walk from JR Sobu Line and Yamanote Line Akihabara sta. Showa-dori Entrance or Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line Akihabara Sta. Exit 1.

