

MISA SHIN GALLERY

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Press Release
January 2024

On the Nature of Daylight

Shingo Francis, Jaeun Choi, Shimizu Jio, Iba Yasuko

Saturday, January 20 - Saturday, March 9, 2024

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12:00-19:00 (Closed on Mon, Sun, Public holidays)

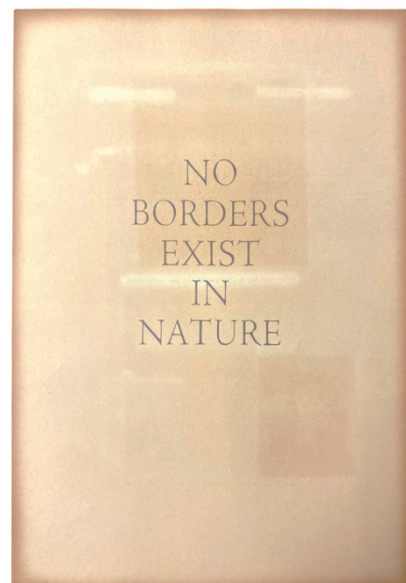


Shingo Francis, *Spectral Visions I*, 2023, acrylic on paper mounted on panel, 155 x 60 cm

MISA SHIN GALLERY is pleased to present *On the Nature of Daylight*, a group exhibition featuring Shingo Francis, Jaeun Choi, Shimizu Jio, and Iba Yasuko. The exhibition runs from January 20 to March 9, 2024.

At a time when it was difficult to travel between cities during the COVID-19 pandemic, Shingo Francis began work on *Daily Drawing* as a physical response to the global situation. He made himself draw every day without fail in his studio in Los Angeles as a sort of meditation. In this exhibition, he exhibits large drawings that are brimming with a vibrant transparency.

Jaeun Choi's *No Borders Exist in Nature* is a drawing of a poem in graphite on a single page from an old field guide having margins that are tanned by exposure to light over time. Words that reflect Choi's thoughts on nature, as well as coexistence and anthropocentrism—which lie at the very root of his work—are meticulously spelled out on paper that that has been etched by time.



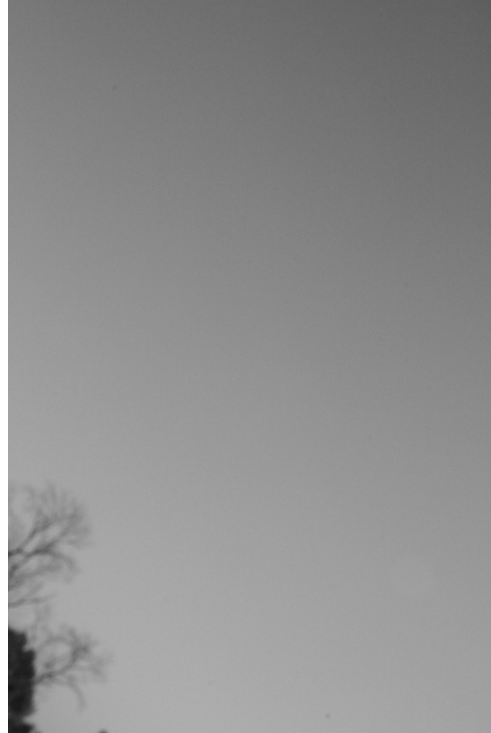
Jaeun Choi, *No Borders Exist in Nature*
2020, graphite on aged paper
49.5 x 34 cm

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Shimizu Jio magnifies the characteristics of the infinitesimal elements that make up the physical world—sound, light and vibration—to visually reproduce the physical phenomena resulting from those characteristics. His *19:31.0 + 27° Cygnus 25th Nov 2007* is a daytime photograph of the sky in the direction of the Cygnus constellation. The tranquil monochrome photo appears to contain nothing at all, but it informs us that what we see with our eyes is not the only thing that exists.

Textured landscapes with a feeling very unlike normal vision unfold in Iba Yasuko's works depicting plant life. The work arouses non-visual sensations and memories in the viewer, so the act of seeing becomes an experience that goes beyond sight alone.



Shimizu Jio, *19:31.0 + 27° Cygnus*, 2007
Lambda print, 180 x 120 cm



Iba Yasuko, *Untitled* 2021-12, oil on canvas, 89.4 x 145.5 cm

Beyond "sunlight" and "daytime," the "daylight" of the exhibition title can also be interpreted as referring to an understanding and knowledge of heretofore unknown things, or to the dawn or the light of day. With our individual lives and society as whole undergoing major transformations in the post-pandemic era, works that hint at the future from the perspective of each of these artists provide an opportunity to think about nature and human existence.

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Jaeeun Choi

Born in Seoul in 1953. In 1976, she moved to Tokyo where she studied ikebana in the Sogetsu style. From the 1980s onward, she has been producing artwork around the themes of life cycles and time. She has participated in international art exhibitions such as the São Paulo Biennial, the Venice Biennale. Major solo exhibitions include Samsung Gallery, Hara Museum, the National Gallery, Prague. Currently her solo exhibition "La Vita Nuova" is on view at Ginza Maison Hermès Le Forum, Tokyo.

Shingo Francis

Born 1969 in Santa Monica, California. Lives and works in Los Angeles, USA and Kamakura, Japan. Francis explores the vast space and spirituality of painting through abstract expressions that consist of multiple layers of blue and deep monochrome color works. Major exhibitions include DIC Kawamura Memorial Museum of Art, (Chiba), Sezon Museum of Modern Art, (Nagano), Martin Museum of Art, (Waco).

Iba Yasuko

Born in Kyoto in 1967. Kyoto Saga University of Arts, postgraduate degree in print. Recent solo exhibitions include *Whereness of Brilliance* at the Museum of Art Kamakura (2009), and *A Way of Seeing* at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum (2019).

Shimizu Jio

Born in Tokyo 1966. Lives and works in Hiroshima and Saitama. From 1994 to 1996, participated in WrK label. Major exhibitions include Museum of Contemporary Art Roskilde (Copenhagen), Tungenes Fyr (Norway), NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC] (Tokyo), The National Art Center (Tokyo), Setouchi Triennale (Kagawa).

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Access

Route by subway:

12 minutes' walk via Nanbu-zaka from Hiroo Station on the Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line.

15 minutes' walk via Rakuen-zaka from Shirakane-Takanawa Station on the Tokyo Metro Nanbu / Mita Line

16 minutes' walk via Sendai-zaka from Azabu-juban Station on the Tokyo Metro Nambu Line / Toei Oedo Line

Route by bus:

3 minutes' walk after getting off at Sendai-Sakaue on the Toei-Bus [橋 86].

3 minutes' walk after getting off at Sendai-Sakaue on Chii-Bus, Azabu-West route.

(Hiroo Station ~ Azabu-Juban Station ~ Roppongi-Keyakizaka ~ Hiroo Station)

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