

© ACG Press Release –Exhibition Announcement–



## Tomoko Takagi: *Today feels a lot like yesterday*

高木智子「きのうとよくにてるきょう」



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**Exhibition Title: Tomoko Takagi: *Today feels a lot like yesterday***

**Duration: November 13 (Sat) - December 18 (Sat), 2021**

Venue: ARTCOURT Gallery OAP ARTCOURT 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0042

Hours: 11:00am - 6:00pm [Sat -5:00pm]

\*Closed Sun, Mon and national holidays. \*Duration and hours may change depending on the spread of COVID-19

**Artist will be present on Nov. 13 (Sat), Nov. 25 (Thu) and Nov. 27 (Sat)**

Organized by ARTCOURT Gallery (Yagi Art Management, Inc.)

Sponsored by Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd., Mitsubishi Materials Coporation, Mitsubishi Jisho Property Management Co., Ltd.

Image: *Dandelions* Oil on panel | 88 x 150 cm | 2021

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We are proud to present a solo exhibition by Tomoko Takagi. It is her first at ARTCOURT gallery.

Takagi's use of overflowing color makes the viewer want to unconsciously reach out and touch the uneven surface of her paintings. Her motifs seem decipherable but only reveal themselves upon closer examination. The simple inquiry, "what exactly am I (or you) looking at," is always in the background of her works. There is a mismatch lurking between her subject and her perception, a contradiction found in paintings where the image and the materiality of the paint work together to conceive while at the same time inhibiting each other. This overlap shapes her artistic world where "what seems to be evident is not" and "what seems to be disconnected is unified."

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\* Please contact Michiko Kiyosawa or Mizuho Haida at ARTCOURT Gallery for any inquiries including photographic materials.

OAP ARTCOURT 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka, 530-0042 | [info@artcourtgallery.com](mailto:info@artcourtgallery.com) | T: (+81) 6-6354-5444 | F: (+81) 6-6354-5449 | [artcourtgallery.com](http://artcourtgallery.com)

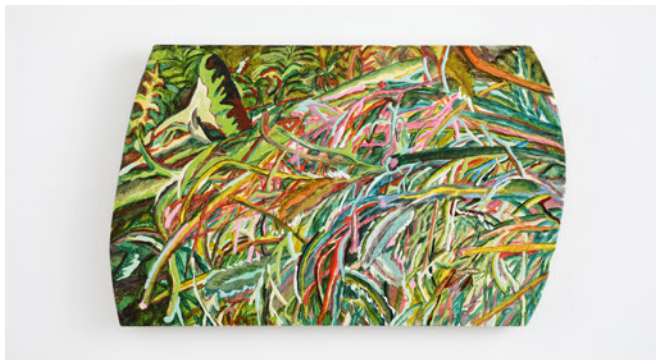
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Until now, Takagi's principal motifs have been scenes that others have created: the garden decor of a private home, the display window of a tobacco shop, or scenes from her travels. Due to the ambivalence Takagi feels between the perplexing nature of the world that heavily reflects the tastes of others and the mysterious gravitation that draws her to it, for her, the act of seeing is like a pendulum swinging between her determination to see without excess and her desire to see only what she wants. Through the act of painting, she intervenes in her thoughts in the extreme otherness of the motif. To paint, Takagi visualizes the perplexing nature of her subject which becomes amplified by the oscillation between objectivity and subjectivity. Ultimately, it is an act of determining the distance between herself and the world.

For this exhibition, Takagi has set her sights on scenes that change little by little every day, and things that are categorized under the same name but are slightly different. Due to the pandemic, her focus has shifted to the 'similarities and differences' that shape the world around us, and to the succession of 'todays that feel a lot like yesterday.' We will present a group of her works experimenting with these new motifs and a new installation method. In this new expression, she does not objectify or assimilate to herself the subjective world that dwells inside of the motifs themselves. It is almost as if she is trying to hold hands while keeping her distance which may invoke a type of precariousness.

It is impossible to understand or see everything in the world. Perhaps it is more accurate to say what we can understand and see is preponderantly limited. After accepting that difference between herself and the world, the reciprocity that connotes change between subject and self will continue. We must face that fragmented world that bubbles on that limited surface of contact. Through this exhibition, I hope that we can share the gaze of Takagi who endeavors to grasp what it means to live.



*Preparing for a Bonfire*  
Oil on board  
30.5 x 49.5 cm  
2021



*On the way home*  
Oil on canvas  
88 x 150 cm  
2021  
\*Reference Work

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## ◆ Tomoko Takagi 高木智子

1989 Born in Chiba Prefecture  
2013 B.F.A. in Painting, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto  
2015 M.F.A. in Painting, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto

### Solo Exhibitions

2021 *Tomoko Takagi Exhibition*, LADS Gallery, Osaka  
*Tomoko Takagi Solo Exhibition: Something moved at the edge of my view*, Gallery Keifu, Kyoto [’19, ’16, ’14]  
2020 *Tomoko Takagi Solo Exhibition: On the way home*, COHJU contemporary art, Kyoto [’17]  
2015 *Tomoko Takagi Exhibition*, Artothèque Gallery, Kyoto  
2013 *Tomoko Takagi Solo Exhibition*, gallery morning kyoto, Kyoto

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2021 *Flower*, gallery morning kyoto, Kyoto  
2020 *Manabu Yokota: Kyoto City University of Arts Retirement Exhibition “Tsunagu, Tsunagaru”*, Kyoto City University of Arts Gallery@KCUA, Kyoto  
2019 *Three Artists Show*, Gallery 50po, Kyoto  
2018 *15 Years*, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka  
*Sakaidani Elementary School Work Exhibition*, Kyoto Municipal Elementary School Sakaidani, Kyoto [’17]  
*Shimogyo Shosei Elementary School Work Exhibition*, Kyoto Municipal Elementary School Shimogyo Shosei, Kyoto  
*Presence*, AYUMI GALLERY, Tokyo  
2017 *STILL LIFE Painting 2017*, gallery morning kyoto, Kyoto  
*Kyoto Art for Tomorrow - Selected Artists Exhibition 2017*, The Museum of Kyoto  
*Unsweated? Japanese Contemporary Art Show*, House Art, Taoyuan  
2016 *Insecure Tide Land - International Art Exchange Exhibition*, FreeS Art Space, Taipei / WINWIN ART, Kaohsiung [’17]  
*Selected Artists Exhibition - Rimpa FOREVER*, The Museum of Kyoto  
*The Ew, ho hoe hoe ho Art Show 2016*, namisagashitekkara, Kyoto  
2015 *Creative Gallery@Knowledge Salon vol.2*, Knowledge Salon, Osaka  
*Tomoko Takagi, Takuya Yamashita: Someone Else’s Sensibility*, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka  
*Selected Artists in Celebrating 400 Years of the Rimpa School of Japanese Painting*, The Museum of Kyoto  
2014 *Kyo Ten 2014*, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto  
*ART OSAKA 2014 - Waking up in Art vol.2*, Hotel Granvia Osaka  
*Brushes & Smudges -Messages from brushmark and materials-*, YOD Gallery, Osaka  
2013 *WONDER SEEDS 2013*, Tokyo Wonder Site Hongo, Tokyo  
*Art Award Tokyo Marunouchi 2013*, Gyoko-dori Underground Gallery, Tokyo  
*Yummy Show -art dinig*, Galerie 16, Kyoto  
*ART OSAKA 2013 -Sleeping in Art, Waking up in Art*, Hotel Granvia Osaka  
*SNIFF OUT 2013*, INTEX Osaka  
*Colors of KCUA 2013 BRIDGE - Between artists and materials-*, Kyoto City University of Arts Gallery@KCUA, Kyoto  
2012 *Curtainpool*, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto  
*The 11th Gunma Biennale for Young Artists*, The Museum of Modern Art, Gunma  
*Scenery in my mind*, Wright Shokai-Sanjyo, Kyoto  
*Kyoto Current*, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto

### Public Collection

Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art