

WONDERS vol.3 In & Out

Dates: 4 - 24 September 2017

Venue: MINA-TO (Spiral 1F)



Images : Yasuhide Kunimoto 《Sumo》 (2017)、Ayako Okuda 《Untitled》 (2017)、Isabelle Boinot Drawings (2017)

This fall, the “WONDERS” exhibition series returns to MINA-TO with a new edition “WONDERS vol.3 In & Out”. The works of three contemporary artists will provide some keys to the mysteries of Japanese society and the complexity of balancing the traditional group system with individuality inspired by modern consumerism.

The title “In and Out” refers to Uchi-Soto, meaning the inside and outside of a group. It is a fundamental rule affecting the attitudes of Japanese citizens and on which Japanese society is organized. In this show, the paintings of Yasuhide Kunimoto depict the loss of individual characteristics when an individual joins a group, rendering them as nothing more than a human being. The works of French artist Isabelle Boinot offer WONDERS an outsider’s perspective on Japan, at once depicting its sweet and colorful atmosphere and its grotesque and outrageous individual behaviors. Ayako Okuda’s paintings remind us, through her unique touch and point of view, that no matter how many rules a man can impose on himself, he remains just a tiny part of nature.

On exhibition for the first time at Spiral, we hope you will come and discover the works of these three up-and-coming creatives, who together unveil another side of Japanese culture.

“WONDERS” is a term reminiscent of the first European private art collections. Starting in the 15th century, rare objects from all around the world called “Wonders” were gathered in one room or “Cabinet of Wonders”. With the development of trade between Europe and the Orient, these collections soon included Japanese art and craft. The exhibition series WONDERS is an opportunity to discover and purchase works by young, contemporary Japanese artists.



《Untitled》(2017)

Courtesy of GALLERY MoMo

Ayako Okuda (奥田文子)

Born in 1980, based in Osaka. In 2005, she graduated from Osaka Kyoiku University (M.A.) and won a prize at the 5th Kiyosu City Haruhi Painting Triennial. She exhibits in group and solo shows and works as a teacher.

<Artist comment>

There are moments when I am in a pitch-dark place or in front of a vast landscape, and I suddenly feel like my body outline vanishes. Then I sense my soul leaving my body and I become one with the air. I think that it would be nice if the characters in my paintings could feel the same.



《Sumo》(2017)

Courtesy of Nii Fine Arts

Yasuhide Kunimoto (国本泰英)

Born in 1984, in Oita, Japan, Yasuhide Kunimoto graduated from Kyushu Sangyo University in 2006. He lives and works in Oita.

<Artist comment>

As soon as we open the door and step into the world outside, we become a member of the group. I, as an individual, disappear into the crowd on streets and in squares and become deprived of such characteristics as my tone of voice, habits and expressions, and am transformed into an anonymous human being.



Drawing (2017)

Isabelle Boinot (イザベル・ボワノ)

Isabelle Boinot is a French artist, born in 1976. After graduating from Angouleme's Fine Arts College, she worked on illustrations and publications. Her artistic work, which can be described as "kimo-kawaii", is composed of drawings, collages, photographs, embroidery and videos. Since 2010, she has worked on many different projects in Japan, including solo exhibitions, workshops and collaborations with companies. Each month, she illustrates a page about Paris for the Japanese magazine &Premium.

Information

WONDERS vol.3 In & Out

Date : 4 - 24 September 2017 11:00-20:00 (Open everyday)

Venue : MINA-TO (Spiral 1F) 5-6-23 Minami Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo

URL: <https://www.spiral.co.jp/wonders3>

MINA-TO

MINA-TO exhibits and sells contemporary artworks, introduces products by new designers, supplies information on exhibitions in the Tokyo area, sells tickets for performances on the same day, and presents workshops and lectures by varied guests.

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