



'78-24, 1978, color felt-pen on photograph, 50x50cm
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Kazuyo Kinoshita

In Search of Substantiality Unifying the Absolute and the Relative

Part1 : March 18 (Sat) - April 8 (Sat), 2017

Part2 : April 13 (Thu) - April 28 (Fri), 2017

*No opening reception will be held.

Venue : Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku

Park Grace Shinjuku Bld., 206

4-32-6 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023

Closed on Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays, April 11 and 12.

Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku is pleased to present *In Search of Substantiality: Unifying the Absolute and the Relative*, an exhibition of work by Kazuyo Kinoshita.

Kazuyo Kinoshita was born in Kobe in 1939. She started to create art in the 60s and continued to work until her death in 1994; her work always conceptualized the question of 'self' and 'existence'.

For Kinoshita, the act of art creation started as confirmation of her own existence for which she felt the fear of losing when she observed everything in the environment as having only non-absolute, relative existence. She was then in a constant cycle of creating art to eliminate the terror and to confirm her being, consequently eradicating the anxiety arising from the original observation.

From the middle of the 1950s to the early 70s, the group Gutai was at the center of artistic activities in Kansai, a region in the western part of Japan where the artist lived. Whereas on a national scale, the younger groups such as High Red Center, Neo Dada, Kyushu School, Timism, who experimented with highly performative methods of Happening or Event were developed to cultivate the anti-art movements from the 60s to the early 70s. Amid the flourishing of such avant-garde movements gave her first solo show in 1966 and came in close contact with the group 'I' in Kobe from 1965 to 1968, whose leader was Tatsuo Kawaguchi. The essentially conceptual nature of Kinoshita's work was strengthened by the influence of the trend at the time and the connection to the group.

It is the fact that there are always disparities between observations by different people towards the same things. Such differences in human cognitions give multiple characters to an object. However, it is also true that the object itself has only one existence. In her work, Kinoshita tried to visualize the substantiality that exists between the absolute and the relative. In other words, she aimed for the coexistence of the possibility of observational differences and innate universality within the object that we perceive; striving to create a unity where the inside and the outside become one.

Photography was a convenient medium for the expression of such ideas because a photo can present various different meanings depending on different viewers' interpretations of it. If ten people see the same picture together, ten different pictures will be conjured into existence because of their different perspectives. Kinoshita made good use of photography's nature of multiplicity to express her idea about the diversity of existence arising from people's cognitive differences.

However, in the middle of the 70s, leaving her persistent adherence to conceptual methods, she started to paint to tackle the issue of the relationship between existence and space; and sought to found the substantial existence within her pictorial space that lay beyond words, thereby establishing a place for free spirit. She aimed to establish two dimensional space that actively existed as an autonomous being.

In the 80s, Kinoshita started to focus on the medium of painting. It was coincidentally the same time that the rise of 'new paintings' took place around the world. However, her work was contrary to the subjective trend of the time; it was aimed at developing new conceptual paintings which realized pictorial space that negated the boundaries between the subjective and the objective, where all of the elements became equivalent and absolute.



The exhibition is in two parts; the first part (18th March to 8th April) will show early photographic works; the second part (13-28th April) will present paintings of the later years.

Kazuyo Kinoshita - Profile

1939 Born in Kobe, JAPAN.
1962 Graduated from Kyoto City University of Fine Arts
1989 Granted Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art Award.
1994 Died in Kobe.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2014-15 Kazuyo Kinoshita Memorial Museum, Kobe
2005 Gallery Shimada, Kobe ('14, '16)
2001 Art Gallery K, Kobe
1989 AD&A Gallery, Osaka ('91, '92, '94, '96)
1982 Tor Road Gallery, Kobe ('84-'90)
1977 Contemporary Art Series : Self-Portrait '77, Art Core Gallery, Kyoto
1981 Heidelberger Kunstverein, West Germany
1974 Muramatsu Gallery, Tokyo ('75, '76, '78, '80, '82, '83)
1972 galerie16, Kyoto ('73-'78, '80, '82, '91)
1966 Gallery Vienna, Kobe

Selected Group Exhibitions

2015-16 *For a New World to Come: Experiments in Japanese Art and Photography, 1968–1979*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Grey Art Gallery, New York; Japan Society, New York
2008 *Kazuyo Kinoshita and Nakata Jitsuro Collection*, Gallery Shimada, Kobe
2006 *Yoshimi Okuda and Kazuyo Kinoshita*, Gallery Shimada, Kobe ('11)
1997 *Recommendations for an 'I' Art – Why I Was Painted*, Itabashi Art Museum, Tokyo
1994 *Art in Kansai 1950s-1970s*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Kobe
1993 *Video: A New World–The Potential of the Medium*, O Art Museum, Tokyo
1992 *Paintings Now - OSAKA '92*, Osaka Contemporary Art Center
1989 *Das Foto als autonomes Bild Experimentelle Gestaltung 1839-1989*, Bielefeld, Munich
1988 *Artists Today-Phases Multiple Movement-*, organized by Hideki Nakamura, Yokohama Civic Art Center
1987 *The 5th Osaka Contemporary Art Fair '87*, Osaka Contemporary Art Center
1984 *Hyogo Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Kobe
International Experimental Art, Petofi Osarnok, Budapest
1983 *Photography in Contemporary Art*, MOMAT, Tokyo; MOMAK, Kyoto
1982 *Travaux sur Papier*, Centre Culturel de Villeparisis
1978 *Art Now '78*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Kobe
The 12th Tokyo Biennale, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum
1977 *The 8th International Young Artists Exhibition*, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum
Self-Portrait '77: From the Present to the Present, Art Core Gallery, Kyoto
Hyogo Prefectural Art Festival, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Kobe
1976 *The 12th Contemporary Art Exhibition of Japan*, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum ('77, '79)
1974 *Photo/Art Gallery Signum*, Kyoto
Video/Kyoto/1974, Gallery Signum, Kyoto
"Signifying", Language-Thing/with the manifestation of attitude, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Fine Arts
1972 *Exhibition with Yoshimi Okuda*, Shirota Gallery, Tokyo
1963 *Kyoto Independents Exhibition*, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Fine Arts ('71-'85)

Public Collections

Itami City Museum of Art; Osaka City Museum of Modern Art; National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto;
Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art; The National Museum of Art, Osaka; Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art; The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; Learned Memorial Library in Doshisha University; Nagoya City Art Museum; Otani Memorial Art Museum, Nishinomiya City; Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art; Fukuyama Museum of Art; Wakayama Museum of Modern Art.

For further information or images, please contact Yumiko Chiba Associates.

E-mail: info@ycassociates.co.jp Tel. +81-3-6276-6731 <http://www.ycassociates.co.jp>
Office: Park Grace Shinjuku Bldg. 316, 4-32-6, Nishi-Shinjuku Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023 Japan.
Opening Hours: 12:00 - 19:00 (Closed on Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays)