



## Elina Brotherus



©Elina Brotherus, film still from Event for the Midnight (after Mieko Shiomi), Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates

**Tuesday, February 12 - Saturday, March 9, 2019**

**Venue : Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku**

Park Grace Shinjuku Bldg. #206, 4-32-6 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023

Gallery Hours: 12:00–19:00

\*Closed on Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays

**Opening Reception: Saturday, February 16, 18:00-20:00**

**Special Talk: Wednesday, February 13, 19:00–20:00**

**\*Speakers: Elina Brotherus and Chihiro Minato (photographer / writer)**

Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku is pleased to present a solo show of Elina Brotherus, a female photographer and video artist based in France and Finland.

Elina Brotherus who mainly works on the subjects of landscapes and self-portraits has interchangeably produced two very different types of work. One was an autobiographical kind that reflected events in her daily life such as a series of diary-like photographs that recorded changes she experienced through her emigration to France, the process of her marriage through to divorce, or the infertility treatment she went through. The other one was work that made reference to art history with compositions and subjects which were based on the pictures by historical artist figures like Friedrich or Cézanne. Hence, she continues to take a multi-facet approach to create her work. Also, her work continuously dealt with the issue of relationships, for instance, those between humans and landscapes, or artists and models. Presently, she is developing a series of works that reconsider Fluxus' event scores or instructions written for performance art that were produced from the 1950s to 1970s. The artist has already had solo shows held in prominent art museums in Europe: *Règle du jeu: Carte Blanche PMU* at the Musée National d'Art Moderne at Centre Georges Pompidou in France (2017); *Playground* at Serlachius Museums in Finland (2018); and various others. Her artwork is present in the collections of sixty-five public collections including: Musée National d'Art Moderne, and Centre National des Arts Plastiques (CNAP) both in France, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Museum Folkwang in Essen, Saatchi Collection in London, and MAXXI in Rome. Her first solo show in Japan was held in 2003 as one of Cassina Art Projects, after which she participated in *Artist File 2008 – The NACT Annual Show of Contemporary Art* held at the National Art Center in Tokyo in 2008. Thus, the present exhibition is going to be her first solo show in Japan in ten years.

The exhibition is going to be the first public presentation of the artist's video work in Japan; it will present her early videos as well as recent ones. What is notable, is that one of them titled *Tango trousers* was created through her multidisciplinary collaboration with Maria Kalaniemi, a representative accordionist of Finland. Elina created a set of eight videos and asked Maria to compose a new musical piece inspired by it. They will be included in the exhibition so as to be shown to the public during Maria's concert tour in Japan that takes place partly through the exhibition period.

On the occasion of the artist's visit to Japan for the show, the gallery will organize a talk between the artist and Chihiro Minato who works in multiple fields as a photographer, writer, and curator. You are most welcome to attend this event.



## ■ Opening Reception

Date: Saturday, February 16, 2019, 18:00-20:00

Venue: Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku

## ■ Special Talk “On Landscape: Between Finland and Japan“

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 19:00-20:00

Venue: Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku

Speakers: Elina Brotherus and Chihiro Minato (photographer / writer)

\*Admission free. Booking required. Seating capacity: 20

\*For booking, send an email with your name, address, and telephone number to [event@ycassociates.co.jp](mailto:event@ycassociates.co.jp)

\*If you do not receive a reply from the gallery, please contact us during gallery’s opening hours.

## ■ Artist Profile

### Elina Brotherus (photographer | video artist)

Born in Helsinki, Finland in 1972. Graduated from the Graduate School of University of Helsinki in 1997, and the Graduate School of University of Art and Design Helsinki (now Aalto University). Since 1997 she started exhibiting photography and moving image internationally. Her work has been alternating between autobiographical and art-historical approaches. Photographs dealing with the human figure and the landscape, the relation of the artist and the model, gave way to images on subjective experiences. Brotherus has received significant awards such as the Carte Blanche PMU, France (2017), Finnish State Prize for Photography (2008), Prix Niépce, France (2005), and Carnegie Art Award’s Prize for Young Artist (2003). She lives and works in Finland and France.

## ■ Guest Speaker Profile

### Chihiro Minato (photographer | writer)

A professor at the Department of Information Design, Tama Art University. He continues to engage in a wide range of professional activities that include research, publications, and exhibitions. He was awarded The Suntory Prize for Social Sciences and Humanities and the Ina Nobuo Award respectively for his book titled *Of Memory: The Strength of Creation and Remembrance* and an exhibition titled *Chromatic Citizen*. He has had many books published including: *Art Recurrence Theory: Images Connect the World*, published by Heibonsha; *Jomon in Your Hand* published by Hatori Shoten; and *The Way of Revolution Making* published by Inscript. His latest book titled *On Landscape: The Changing State of the Earth and the Memory of Japan* was published by Chuokoron-Shinsha. He has also directed and curated international art shows including Aichi Triennale 2016, for which he was the artistic director.

## ■ Collaboration “Tango Trousers”

Maria Kalaniemi is one of Finland’s leading contemporary accordionists. Technically brilliant as a player and adept at improvisation, she is also a very powerful, intuitive and sensitive composer, with pieces that stylistically touch numerous areas but feature her own personality as the driving force. Melody is the meaning and with Maria, listeners are sure to feel her message deeply. Maria Kalaniemi was awarded the State Prize for Music by the National Council for Music of the Arts Promotion Centre Finland in November 2018.

### Japan tour February 13-17, 2019, Maria Kalaniemi solo

Wed Feb 13	19.30 Jazz Flash, Niigata City
Thu Feb 14	19.30 Mokkiriya, Kanazawa City
Fri Feb 15	19.00 Salon Tessera, Tokyo
Sat Feb 16	14.30 Candy, Inage City
Sun Feb 17	13.00 Kashiwa Nardis
Sun Feb 17	19.30 Yokohama Airegin

The Organizing partners: Office Ohsawa, Embassy of Finland in Tokyo, Finnish Institute in Japan  
The Supporters: Ministry of Education and Culture Finland, Arts Promotion Centre Finland

[www.elinabrotherus.com](http://www.elinabrotherus.com) | [www.mariakalaniemi.com](http://www.mariakalaniemi.com) | [www.artprevolution.com](http://www.artprevolution.com)



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

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