



Beat Streuli Living Room

September 3 to October 8, 2014

Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku

Gallery Talk & Opening Reception: Saturday, September 6

(Gallery Talk will be held in HILLSIDE TERRACE café at Daikanyama Hillside Terrace.)

©Beat Streuli, Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates

Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Beat Streuli, 'Living Room', from September 3 to October 8, 2014.

Beat Streuli, a Swiss photographer who started working in the 1980s, has presented his works in cities around the globe. Presently based in Zurich and Brussels, he has been actively working all over Europe and in many other parts of the world. He first received attention for his series from the early 1990s; some of this work was photographed in Rome, Paris, and New York.

Streuli takes photographs of local people in public places, often with a telephoto lens, focusing on them and their ordinary lives. He has begun to work more outside of Europe and the United States, in both Western and non-Western countries. Recently, his work has started to include more non-figurative, almost abstract elements.

At the beginning of his career, Streuli produced and presented his works as small format and black and white photographs, but in the early 1990s, he developed new forms of presentation, working with floor to ceiling, multi-screen slide and video projections. He also started working with large scale images installed on the façades of public buildings in various cities, and with monumental billboard installations.

For the past twenty years, Streuli's work has been frequently exhibited around the world; he has also realized many temporary and permanent projects in public spaces. In 1993, his work was shown as part of the New Photography exhibition series at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. He has also participated in a number of important Biennales, including those of Yokohama, Sydney, Guwangju, and Singapore. In 2002, he realized a large-scale installation for the windows of the lobby of Palais de Tokyo in Paris upon its inauguration. Among his most recent solo museum exhibitions was one held at Ikon Gallery in Birmingham (England) in 2012.

Ten years after his participation in the Yokohama Triennale, Streuli will present his exhibition "Living Room" in Japan. He has created a wallpaper installation for the gallery's walls; framed photographs are displayed in and on this installation. Streuli's works—a fusion of the inside space of art and the outside ordinary world—stimulate our visual experience and present a new perception of the city.

In conjunction with the exhibition, a gallery talk will be held with Beat Streuli and Shino Kuraishi, poet and critic. A research book Kuraishi wrote on Beat Streuli will also be published.

**■ Concept**

For my second exhibition here, I felt like transforming YCA's viewing room into a living room. Especially in Western culture, living rooms or salons are often wallpapered, and I decided to cover two of the space's walls with floor to ceiling murals. Wallpapers show abstract patterns or figurative elements. They are always repetitive, without beginning or end, potentially infinite, lack centers or borders—and yet are still images. Their status as image is considered somehow inferior to a 'real' image, though, in other words to a framed print or a painting; this is expressed by the fact that wallpapers have to live with being partially covered by and used as background for other works of art.

The murals I designed for this exhibition are composed of urban fragments. Figurative art, like my photographs that I have installed on top of this wallpaper, often tells minimal stories. The viewer automatically constructs a possible before and after from the frozen moment that a photograph presents. The wallpaper, meanwhile, does not say much—you could also call it abstract, or "white noise". It is what our eyes have not focused on. I like the simultaneousness of these two types of images. One is constructed, composed, artificial, without meaning; the other pretends to be a reflection of reality, to tell you something about what might have happened. Together, they oscillate between these two semantic ways of visual functioning, and the viewers lose some ground under their feet. Categories begin to melt, and you have to use your own eyes to absorb the environment staged around you. Indeed, you too become a part of this environment. Fast, simplifying interpretations are difficult here.

This installation transfers our urban life—the ways that our bodies, eyes and senses interact with what is around us—to the inside world of the viewing room, or now, "living room". The space of everyday life, of people like you and me. We are surrounded by logos, signs, surfaces, colors, movement, other human beings: glimpses of the material, commercial world in which we live and sometimes lose ourselves.

Beat Streuli
July, 2014

■ Gallery Talk - Beat Streuli (Photographer) & Shino Kuraishi (Poet & Critic)

Saturday, September 6, 2014, 13:30-15:00

Venue: HILLSIDE TERRACE café at Daikanyama Hillside Terrace, Wing F, 18-8 Sarugakucho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0033

Entrance: 500 yen (1 free drink included)

*Booking is required in advance. Email at event@hillside terracephotofair.com with your name, number of people, and contact number. Please include 'Beat x Kuraishi talk show' in the subject line.

■ Opening Reception

Saturday, September 6, 2014, 18:00-20:00

Venue: Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku

■ Related Information

- 1) In conjunction with the exhibition, a research book Shino Kuraishi wrote on Beat Streuli will be published. Details will be available soon.
- 2) Beat Streuli will exhibit his works in HILLSIDE TERRACE Photo Fair from September 4 - 7, 2014, at Daikanyama Hillside Forum, in which 18 galleries and 9 booksellers/publishers will participate.

■ ProfileBeat Streuli

1957 Born in Switzerland

[Solo Shows (Selection from 1998)]

2014 • Yumiko Chiba Associates, Tokyo • La Chambre, Strasbourg

2013 • E.A.C.C., Castellón • Jochen Hempel, Berlin

2012 • Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea, Cinisello-Balsamo/Milan • Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

2011 • Eva Presenhuber, Zurich • Conrads, Düsseldorf

2010 • Erna Hecey, Brussels • Murray Guy, New York • Wilma Tolksdorf, Berlin

2008 • Mac's, Musée des Arts Contemporains, Grand-Hornu • Jordan Festival, Petra

• BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art / The Sage Gateshead, Gateshead

2007 • Eva Presenhuber, Zurich • Museum der bildenden Künste, Leipzig

2006 • Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow • University Gallery, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst

• Erna Hecey, Brussels • Wilma Tolksdorf, Berlin

2003 • Conrads, Düsseldorf

2002 • Palais de Tokyo, Paris • Murray Guy, New York • Meyer Kainer, Vienna • Anne de Villepoix, Paris

2001 • Dogenhaus, Leipzig • Wilma Tolksdorf, Frankfurt • Massimo Minini, Brescia



- 2000 • Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam • Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin
1999 • Yumiko Chiba Associates, Tokyo • Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf • Kunsthalle Zürich, Zurich
• Sprengel Museum Hannover, Hannover • Al-Ma'mal Foundation for Contemporary Art, East Jerusalem
• MCA, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago
1998 • Rencontres d'Arles, Arles • Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum, Yamaguchi
• MACBA, Museu d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona • Jablonka, Cologne

[Group Shows (Selection from 1998)]

- 2013 • Nenn mich nicht Stadt, Lokremise / Kunstmuseum, St. Gallen Le Pont, MAC, Marseille
2012 • I Spy, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC
2011 • Open House, Singapore Biennale 2011, Singapore • The Eye is a Lonely Hunter: Images of Humankind, 4. Fotofestival Mannheim Ludwigshafen Heidelberg, Mannheim
2009 • Les Espaces de l'image, Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal, 11th édition, Montreal
2008 • Fluid street, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki • Objectivités, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris / ARC, Paris
2007 • Swiss Made 2: Präzision und Wahnsinn, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg
• Guggenheim Collection: 1940s to Now, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
2005 • Belonging, 7th Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah • Art Circus, Yokohama 2005, International Triennale of Contemporary Art, Yokohama
2003 • Outlook, International Art Exhibition Athens, Athens • Strangers, The First ICP Triennial of Photography and Video, International Center of Photography, New York
2002 • Open City: Street photography since 1950, Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C. / Museum of Modern Art, Oxford • heute bis jetzt, Zeitgenössische Fotografie aus Düsseldorf, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf
• Wallflowers, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich
2001 • Restaging the Everyday: Recent Work by Beat Streuli and Fischli/Weiss, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
2000 • The Gift of Hope, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo • Le Désert, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris • Szenenwechsel, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt • Quotidiana, Castello di Rivoli, Turin
1998 • every day, 11th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney
• Freie Sicht aufs Mittelmeer, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich / Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt

Shino Kuraishi (Poet, Critic)

Born in 1963, Shino Kuraishi is a professor at Digital Content Studies of the Meiji University Frontier Sciences and Innovation Program. From 1988 to 2007, he has curated exhibitions including "Man Ray", "Robert Frank: Moving Out", "SUGA KISHIO: STANCE", "NAKAHIRA TAKUMA, DEGREE ZERO - YOKOHAMA" and "LEE UFAN, The Art of Margins", as a curator of Yokohama Museum of Art. Kuraishi's main literary works include "Snapshot- Shashin-no Kagayaki" (Taishukan Publishing Co., Ltd., an award-won work for Scholastic Achievement Award of Photographic Society of Japan Awards in 2011), and "Han-shashin-ron" (OSIRIS). From 2010 to 2012, Kuraishi co-worked with Isao Nakazato as a editorial supervisor of "Okinawa Shashin-ka Series <Ryukyu Retsuzo>" (9 volumes, Miraisha). In 2001, Kuraishi participated in establishment of Theater Company ARICA, and was in charge of textual concepts of the company.

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

E-mail: info@ycassociates.co.jp Tel. +81-3-6276-6731

Yumiko Chiba Associates viewing room shinjuku URL: <http://www.ycassociates.co.jp>

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)