

12 SEPTEMBER – 5 OCTOBER 2024

# MASAYOSHI NOJO

## REST IN SILVER

JD MALAT  
GALLERY

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JD Malat Gallery is delighted to announce their second solo exhibition *Rest in Silver* featuring the works of renowned Japanese artist Masayoshi Nojo. The exhibition will be the artist's first London show from September 12th to October 5th, 2024.

Born in 1989 in Kanagawa, Japan, Masayoshi Nojo completed his MA in Japanese Paintings in 2015 at the Kyoto University of Art and Design. Nojo's innovative and complex techniques blend contemporary visual languages with traditional Japanese aesthetics, deeply exploring themes of memory and the passage of time. Rooted in Japanese art history, Nojo's work prominently features silver – a medium that evokes the ethereal and shimmering qualities reminiscent of Ogata Kōrin's celebrated works from the Edo Period. Kōrin's marbled silver rivers, often depicted on byōbu folding screens, symbolized the flow of time through the changing color of the metal due to oxidation.

This motif, embraced by artists worldwide such as Gustav Klimt, is a cornerstone of the Rinpa school ("school of Kōrin"). In his latest series, *Mirage*, Nojo conjures a sense of déjà vu, evoking memories that feel tantalizingly close yet just out of reach. Nojo's creative process is meticulous and layered. He begins by preparing the canvas with a marbled layer of acrylic paint, reminiscent of Kōrin's *Red and White Plum Blossoms*. Following this, he photographs and adjusts each image before transferring it to the canvas via silk screening, allowing the marbled layer beneath to shine through and create a contemporary twist. Finally, he applies layers of aluminum and silver foil, symbolically recreating a sense of intangible distant memories.

Masayoshi Nojo's work is deeply influenced by natural phenomena and the incorporation of uncontrollable elements. Drawing inspiration from Japan's rich natural landscapes, such as the serene Meiji Shrine in Tokyo, Nojo's art is a reflection on how humans should live in harmony with nature. His pieces often feature intricate details and complex structures, making the experience of viewing them in person particularly significant. In *Rest in Silver*, viewers will encounter forest landscapes

that, while recognizable, remain abstract in their specific locations. Nojo's innovative use of silver, combined with aluminium powder and black paint, creates concentric rings resembling the annual growth rings of a tree. These intricate details are intended to provide a layered visual experience, encouraging viewers to move back and forth in front of the artworks, much like approaching a mirage.

Nojo's *Flicker* series, part of the upcoming exhibition, will focus on the shifting color tones of landscapes. The process mirrors that of the *Mirage* series, but the images become three-dimensional when mounted, creating folds that conceal the foil and emphasize the background colors. These works depict the changing tones from morning to night, symbolizing the passage of time from left to right. JD Malat Gallery invites visitors to immerse themselves in the ethereal and reflective world of Masayoshi Nojo. The *Rest in Silver* exhibition promises a captivating exploration of memory, time, and nature through the lens of traditional Japanese art infused with contemporary techniques.

Join us for this unique opportunity to experience the mesmerizing works of Masayoshi Nojo, where traditional Japanese art meets contemporary innovation.





**Flicker** | 2023

Acrylic board on panel, transparent film, acrylic paint, aluminum foil  
50 3/8 x 23 1/4 x 6 3/4 in  
128 x 59.1 x 17 cm (each panel)



**Mirage #97** | 2024

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #98** | 2024

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #99** | 2024

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #100 | 2024**

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #101 | 2024**

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #102** | 2024

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
66 7/8 x 59 in  
170 x 150 cm



**Mirage #103 | 2024**

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminum foil  
43 1/4 x 90 1/2 x 2 3/8 in  
110 x 230 x 6 cm



**Mirage #104** | 2024

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
43 1/4 x 59 x 2 in  
110 x 150 x 5 cm



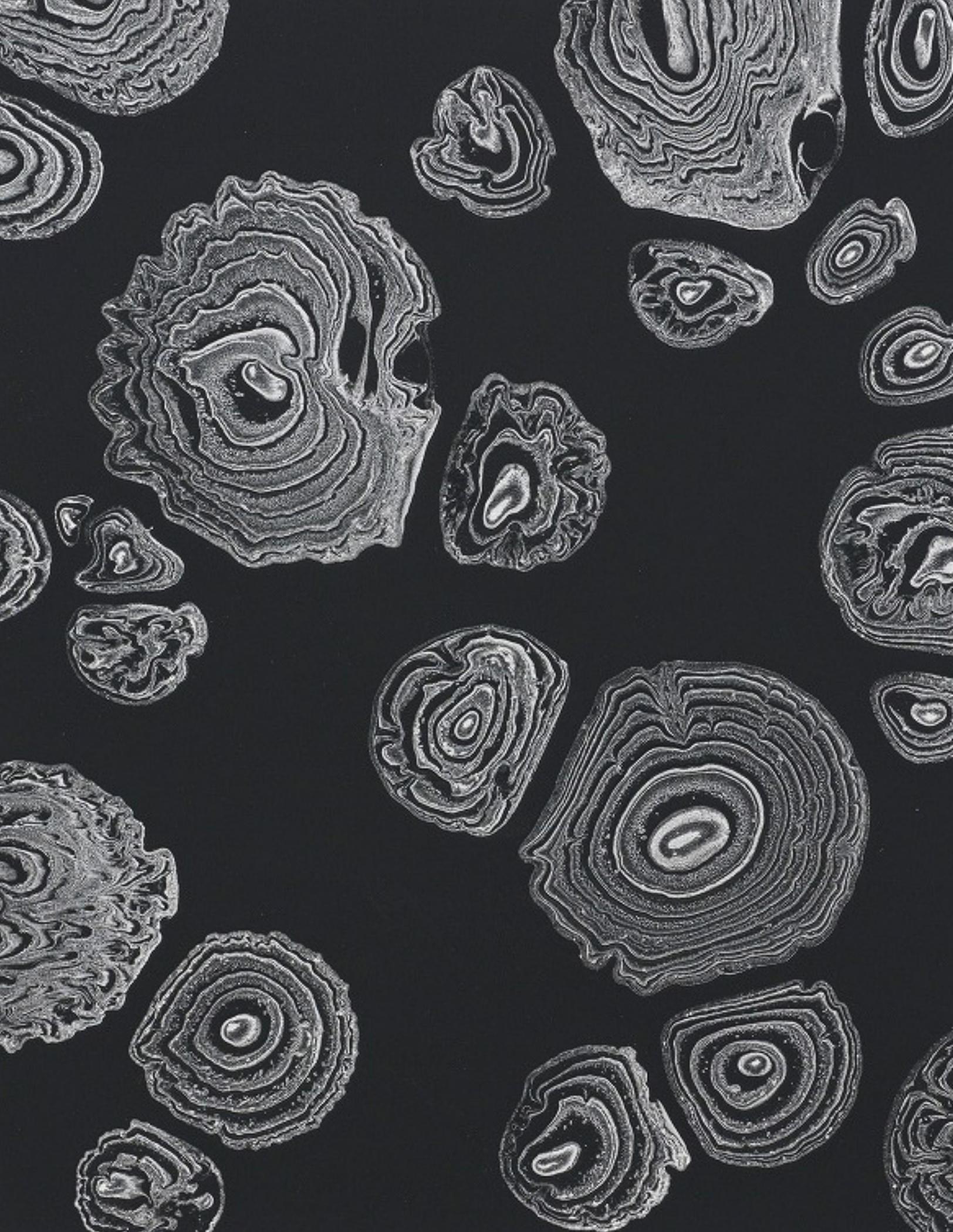
**Mirage #105 | 2024**

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
39 3/8 x 31 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
100 x 80 x 3 cm



**Mirage #106 | 2024**

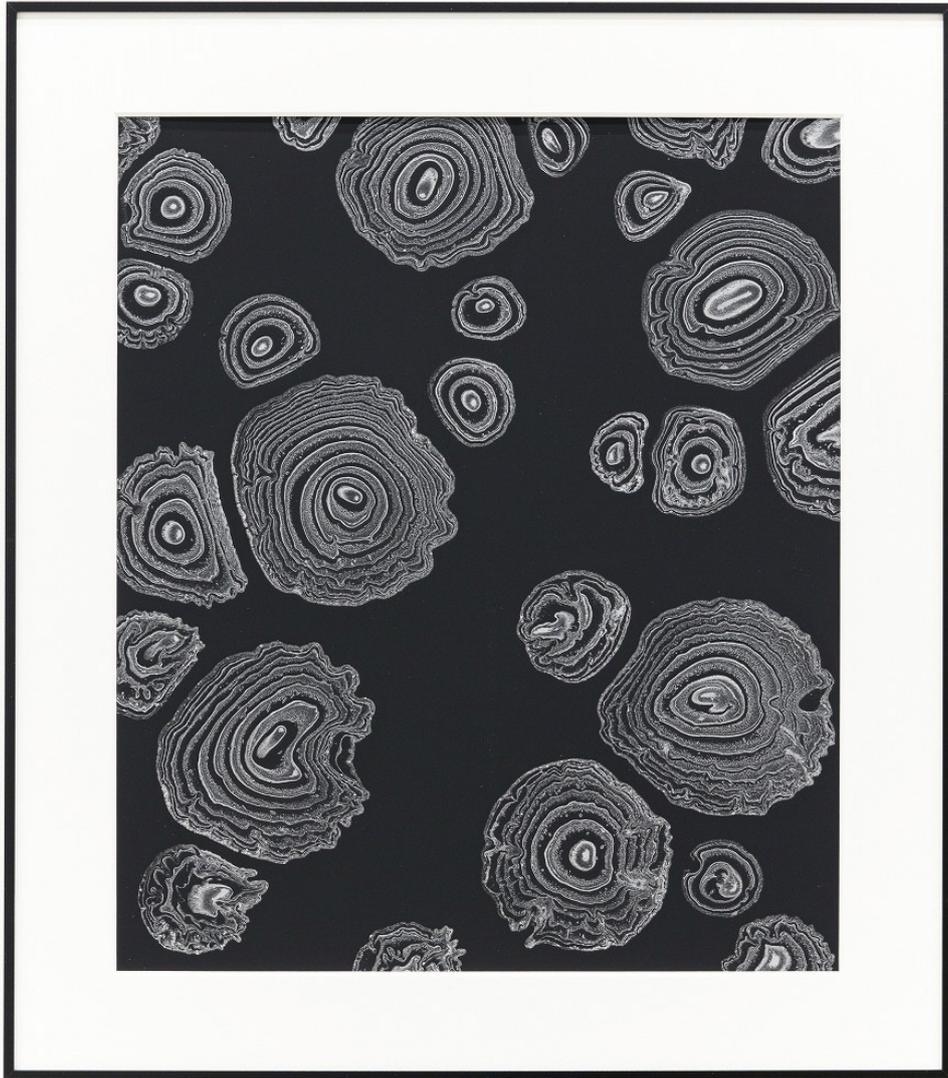
Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver foil, aluminium foil  
39 3/8 x 31 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
100 x 80 x 3 cm





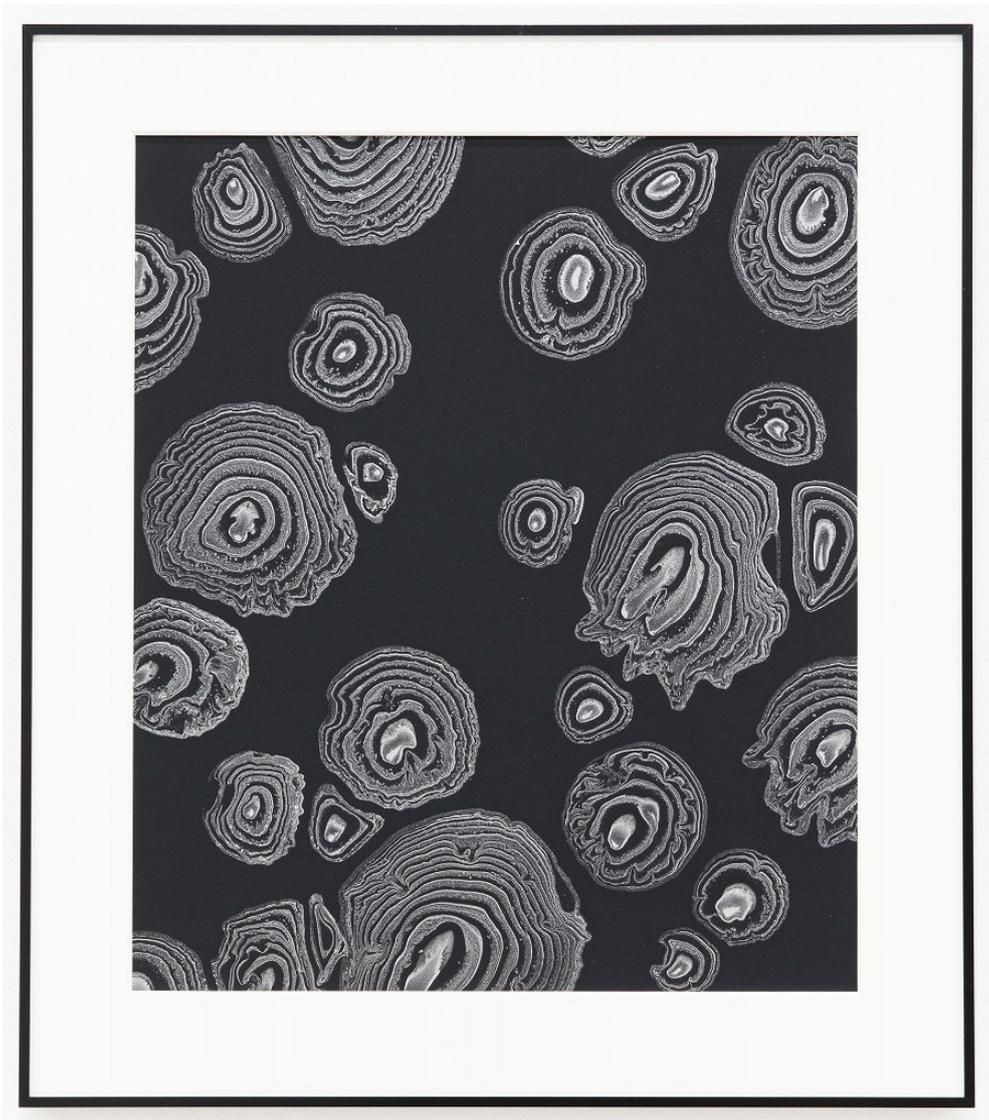
Link #3 | 2023

Acrylic board, acrylic, aluminium powder with frame  
23 3/8 x 20 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
59.5 x 52 x 3 cm



Link #4 | 2023

Acrylic board, acrylic, aluminium powder with frame  
23 3/8 x 20 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
59.5 x 52 x 3 cm



Link #5 | 2023

Acrylic board, acrylic, aluminium powder with frame  
23 3/8 x 20 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
59.5 x 52 x 3 cm



Link #6 | 2023

Acrylic board, acrylic, aluminium powder with frame  
23 3/8 x 20 1/2 x 1 1/8 in  
59.5 x 52 x 3 cm

# MASAYOSHI NOJO: CV

b. 1989 – Kanagawa, Japan.

## Education

MA Japanese Painting from Kyoto University of Art and Design

## Selected Exhibitions

- 2023 Summer Exhibition, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 Immerse yourself in the transitory nature, Open Creation of Art Project, What Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 Masayoshi Nojo Exhibition, Mitsukoshi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 ACTIVATE KOGEI + ART GINZA2022, Matsuya Ginza, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 Group Exhibition, Hotel Metropolitan KAWASAKI, Kawasaki, Japan
- 2022 Foreshadowing, Eslite Gallery, Taipei
- 2022 Kuriwada Eichi special award 10th Anniversary Exhibition, Sagawa Art Museum, Shiga, Japan
- 2021 Summer Exhibition, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2021 Stillness, YUKIKO MIZUTANI, Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 Abstraction & The Natural World, group exhibition, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 The Contemporary Human Condition, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 Under the Moonlight, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 Summer Exhibition 2019, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 Mirage, Tokyo Arts Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 Mirage, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 Stars Popped out of Chaos - Next generation of artists - Kyoto University of Art and Design, SPIRAL, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 Brilliant Corners, Tokyo Arts Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 Kuriwada Eichi Special Award Ceremony, Sagawa Art Museum, Shiga, Japan
- 2015 Art Award Tokyo Marunouchi 2015, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 Postgraduate Exhibition, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan
- 2014 When the Attitude Becomes a Form, ARTZONE, Kyoto, Japan
- 2014 Stories Reconsidered by Materials, T-Art Complex, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 Gashinten, The Sato Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 This Is Where I Learnt Nihonga, Galerie Aube, Kyoto, Japan
- 2013 TOKYO WONDER SEED 2013, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 2013 Kyoto University of Art and Design Graduation Exhibition, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan
- 2012 Gen the 3rd, ex Rissei Elementary School, Kyoto, Japan
- 2012 Art Festival, Iwami the Blue 2012, Shimane, Japan
- 2012 The 8th World Painting Grand Prize Exhibition, Sekaido Shinjuku, Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 Mebae 2012, Galerie Aube, Kyoto, Japan
- 2012 INNOVATE, 3 Japanese Painters, Gallery Kato, Kyoto, Japan
- 2012 Gashinten, Muromachi Art Court, Kyoto, Japan
- 2011 Art Auction – STORY vol. 3, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan
- 2011 Gashinten, Muromachi Art Court, Kyoto, Japan

## Art Fairs

- 2024 ART FAIR TOKYO 2024, Tokyo International forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 MEET YOUR ART FESTIVAL 2022 New Soil, Yebisu Garden Place, Tokyo, Japan
- 2021 ART FAIR TOKYO 2021, Tokyo International forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 Contemporary Istanbul, JD Malat Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2019 ZONA MACO, JD Malat Gallery, CDMX, Mexico
- 2019 Contemporary Istanbul, JD Malat Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2018 Art Fair Tokyo, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan

- 2018 VOLTA NY, Gallery Art Composition Tokyo, PIER 90 NY, USA
- 2017 Art Fair Tokyo, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 Art Jakarta, Gallery Art Composition Tokyo, The Ritz - Carlton Pacific Place, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2016 Art Fair Tokyo, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 Art Osaka, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo, Hotel Granvia, Osaka, Japan

## Awards

- 2014 Kyoto University of Art and Design Graduate Diploma Exhibition
- 2014 Sagawa Art Museum Eiichi Kuriwada Special Award
- 2013 Academic Prize, Kyoto University of Art and Design Graduation Exhibition
- 2013 Grand Prize, Art Bar
- 2013 Creation of Kyoto Albion Award
- 2013 Grand Prize Turner Award
- 2013 Tokyo Wonder Seed
- 2012 The 6th Seison Maeda Prize
- 2012 The 8th World Painting Grand Prize
- 2009 Grand Prize, Tadasu no Mori Dessin Contest

## Public Collections

HOTEL MYSTAYS PREMIER Group, Japan Sagawa Art Museum, Shiga  
Universal Music LLC Japan, Tokyo  
OCA TOKYO, Tokyo  
UESHIMA COLLECTION





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