

Masayoshi Nojo

Masayoshi Nojo (b. 1989, Japan) completed his MA in Japanese Paintings in 2015 from the Kyoto University of Art and Design. With his unique and complex techniques he creates a contemporary visual language in tune with established Japanese aesthetics to explore themes of memory and the passage of time.



This investigation into time and memory is achieved through Nojo's meticulous execution of a variety of techniques with mixed media. Firstly, Nojo prepares the foundation of his canvas with a marbled layer of acrylic paint, reminiscent of the river in the seminal work *Red and White Plum Blossoms* by Ogata Kōrin, the celebrated Japanese 17th-century Edo period artist. Nojo then photographs, selects, and carefully adjusts each image before transferring the image to the canvas via silk screening, allowing the marbled layer beneath to shine through. This adds an abstracted, contemporary edge to his works. Finally, layers of aluminium and silver foil are applied to the canvas.

Nojo's work is rooted in a traditional Japanese visual language. Nojo's use of silver – ethereal and shimmering – is particularly reminiscent of Kōrin's marbled silver rivers often painted upon *byōbu* folding screens. These were symbolic of time's flow due to the changing colour of the metal through oxidation. This depiction of time has since been adopted as a motif by artists worldwide, such as Gustav Klimt, and has become a cornerstone of a form of Japanese art known today as *Rinpa* (literally meaning "school of Kōrin").

In Nojo's most recent series, entitled *Rest in Silver*, he plays on this art historical timeline to conjure a sense of déjà-vu for the viewer: he evokes a memory tantalisingly close yet just out of reach precisely through his familiar but visionary artistic practice that coalesces traditional Japanese and contemporary art.

Nojo Masayoshi CV

b. 1989 - Kanagawa, Japan

Lives and works in Tokyo, Japan

Education

MA Japanese Painting from Kyoto University of Art and Design

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Optical Scenery*, Eslite Gallery, Taipei City, Taiwan
- 2024 *Rest in Silver*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 *Constant mutation*, Mitsukoshi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 *Immerse yourself in the transitory nature, Open Creation of Art Project*, What Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 *The Wheel of Time*, Nihombashi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo, Japan.
- 2021 *Stillness*, Yukiko Mizutani, Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 *Masayoshi Nojo: Under the Moonlight*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 *Mirage*, Tokyo Arts Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 *Mirage*, Gallery Art Composition, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2025 *Serenity*, JD Malat Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2025 *Matters of Materiality*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

- 2025 *Carte Blanche*, JD Malat Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2024 *Observation*, Yukikomizutani, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2022 *ACTIVATE KOGEI + ART GINZA2022*, Matsuya Ginza, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 *Group Exhibition*, Hotel Metropolitan KAWASAKI, Kawasaki, Japan
- 2022 *Foreshadowing*, Eslite Gallery, Taipei
- 2022 *Summer Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 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
- 2019 *Summer Exhibition 2019*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 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

- 2025 *Abu Dhabi Art*, JD Malat Gallery, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2025 *Art Fair Tokyo*, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 *Art Fair Tokyo*, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 *Tokyo International Forum*, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 *Tobi Art Fair*, Tokyo Art Club, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 *Art Fair Asia Fukuoka*, Fukuoka, Japan
- 2023 *Art Fair Tokyo*, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 *Seoul Kiaf PLUS*, Seoul, South Korea
- 2022 *art stage OSAKA*, Osaka, Japan
- 2022 *Art Fair Tokyo*, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan

- 2022 *MEET YOUR ART FESTIVAL 2022 New Soil*, Yebisu Garden Place, Tokyo, Japan
- 2021 *Art Fair Tokyo*, 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

Sagawa Art Museum, Shiga, Japan

Ueshima Museum Collection, Tokyo, Japan

The Prince Gallery, Marriott Hotels, Tokyo, Japan

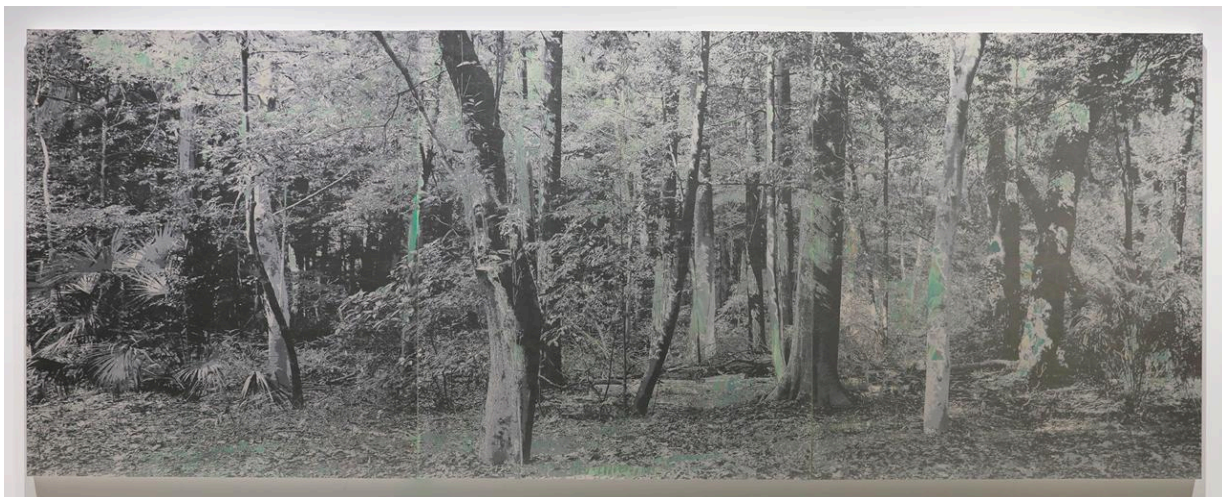
Hotel Mystays Premier Group, Japan

Universal Music LLC, Tokyo, Japan

OCA TOKYO, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Works

JD Malat Gallery
30 Davies St, Mayfair,
London W1K 4NB
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Masayoshi Nojo

Mirage #117, 2025

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver
foil, aluminium foil

66 7/8 x 177 1/8 in

170 x 450 cm



Masayoshi Nojo

Mirage #38, 2019

Cotton on panel, acrylic, silver
foil, aluminium foil

78 3/4 x 63 in

200 x 160 cm