



Main Title : いきる(Ikiru) / Being

Subtitle : 巡・瞬・知・伝 (EN:Circulation, Moment, Wisdom, Transmission)
Artist Collective : Polyphony
Exhibiting Artists : Yui Koshiyama / Sohei Yamaguchi
Akiyo Ochiai / Ayano Todaka
Exhibition Dates : Thu, August 27 – Mon, August 31, 2026
Gallery Hours : 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM (Closes at 3:00 PM on the final day)
Live paint : Sat, August 29, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Opening Reception : Sat, August 29, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Venue : Gallery 60 NYC | 208 E 60th St, New York, NY 10022
(347) 601-4323
Gallery Website : <https://www.gallery60nyc.com/>
Admission : Free
Organizing Partner : Be-On Co., Ltd.

【Media & General Inquiries】

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Questioning "Being" in New York in the Age of AI A Group Exhibition by Four Emerging Japanese Artists at Gallery 60 NYC

In an era where AI continuously and rapidly transforms society, this exhibition establishes a philosophical sanctuary in New York to re-examine the core of "Being"—what it truly means to exist and live as a human. Driven by the fundamental question, "What does it mean to live?", the artists engage in dialogue with people from diverse backgrounds to contemplate our collective future.

By unearthing the emotions and imagination born from genuine human connection, this exhibition seeks to spark new perspectives. Set against the backdrop of New York—a multinational metropolis where diverse cultures and thoughts intersect—the exhibition embraces this multi-layered complexity as a source of creation, exploring ways for humans to truly live as humans, transcending nationalities and borders.

Exhibition Highlights

1. The Trajectory of "Being" Traced by Four Melodies — Subtitle: "巡 Meguru, 瞬 Shun, 知 Chi, 伝 Den"

(Calligraphy for Title & Subtitle by Ayano Todaka)

Named after the musical term for multi-voiced harmony, the artist collective "Polyphony" features four artists from distinct backgrounds who bring their philosophical visions into resonance. Centered on the shared theme of "Being," the exhibition orchestrates their unique creative styles into a narrative arc of Kisho-tenketsu (the traditional four-part storytelling structure).

The journey begins with Koshiyama, whose work revolves around the "circulation" (Meguru) of life. It moves to Yamaguchi, who captures the fleeting "Moment" (Shun) of existence. Next is Ochiai, who presents the "wisdom and knowledge" (Chi) essential to living. The circle is completed by Todaka, whose practice focuses on "transmitting" (Den) and preserving the enduring techniques and culture cultivated by humanity. While each melody exists independently, they harmonize within the same space, unveiling the profound depth of the grand theme of "Being." The exhibition will feature approximately 85 artworks of various sizes, utilizing diverse techniques such as Japanese painting (Nihonga), calligraphy, pastels, acrylics, and mixed media.

2. Monumental Masterpieces: Expressions on a Shared Medium of "Non-Woven Fabric"

The exhibition showcases large-scale two-dimensional works measuring 13 in × 138 in, each created on a shared medium of non-woven fabric based on the artists' respective subtitles. Stretching horizontally, this format offers an unprecedented visual form. Evoking the experience of tracing a story through a traditional Japanese handscroll (Emakimono) or gazing at a sweeping panoramic landscape, it promises a viewing experience unique to this exhibition.

3. A Live Paint of Resonating Melodies and the Gift of Circulating Life

During the exhibition, the four artists will conduct a live paint on the gallery floor, layering their respective expressions onto circular paper coasters arranged in a ring. Koshiyama (Meguru) lays down the colors of the four seasons. Ochiai (Wisdom), utilizing the traditional technique of Kirikane (gold leaf decoration)—developed by ancestors as a wisdom to reflect dim candlelight and illuminate spaces—connects paper-craft butterflies (created by Yamaguchi as symbols of transformation and rebirth) with fine gold threads and places them in the circle. Yamaguchi (Shun) then unleashes a "spark of life" across the space through dripping techniques. Finally, Todaka (Den) connects the message of "Being" (Ikiru) to the next generation through live calligraphy.

Furthermore, visitors are invited to write their own reflections on the question, "What does living mean to you?" onto the butterflies (or coasters). These independent thoughts and visitor voices will resonate together within the circle, beautifully completing a singular, unified cycle as a true "Polyphony."

Upon completion, the installation will be moved to the gallery windows during the opening reception, and individual pieces will be gifted to visitors (limited quantity). Handed out alongside tea grown by Koshiyama (packaged in the exhibition's original artwork), these "fragments of life" will be carried back into the daily lives of the audience, taking flight to weave the next chapter of their stories in new lands.

Gallery 60 NYC

Gallery 60 NYC is a meticulously redesigned gallery space dedicated to showcasing a diverse range of works by contemporary artists across a wide spectrum of genres. Located in the heart of New York City, it is the ultimate destination for art enthusiasts seeking to experience the cutting-edge expressions of today's most compelling artists.

With a deep passion for nurturing fresh talent, the gallery serves as a dynamic platform that fosters artistic exploration, cultural dialogue, and innovative approaches within the art industry. Gallery 60 NYC stands as a sanctuary for contemporary art—a vibrant and intriguing world that functions as a premier launching pad for emerging creative voices.



Artist Collective : Polyphony

"Polyphony" refers to a style of multi-voiced music in which multiple independent melodies weave together, resonating with one another to create a beautiful harmony. Grounded in this philosophy—where each voice echoes on equal terms—we explore artistic expression through a diversity of techniques and visual languages. Centered around the universal theme of "Being" (living), we strive to foster spaces for international exchange and co-creation. When differing cultures and perspectives dissolve and resonate together, new possibilities for art gracefully unfold.





Yui Koshiyama



Instagram

Introductory Video



yui_koshiyama



After studying Japanese painting (Nihonga) and working as a textile dyeing artisan, Koshiyama chose the path of an artist to capture the very essence of existence. Currently balancing agricultural work with her artistic practice in Kagoshima, she has carved out a unique and multifaceted path. The vibrant vitality that overflows from her stems directly from the "core" of her essential being. As she beautifully puts it, "Agriculture is not merely about producing food; it is an act of expressing the preciousness of life as tangible crops and delivering them to someone's heart (the dining table)." In her daily life, she physically senses the profound circulation of life, treating her crops with an artistic devotion. Connecting the dots and lines of her past and present forms the axis of her current creation—a trajectory that never fails to strike a chord in viewers, powerfully reminding them of what it means to be alive.

Biography & Education

- 1989 Born in Aichi, Japan
- 2012 B.F.A. in Japanese Painting, Nagoya Zokei University of Art & Design
- 2012-2014 Trained in traditional dyeing techniques in Kyoto
- 2025-Present Started activities as a member of the artist group "Polyphony"

Selected Exhibitions

- 2024 CROSS OVER Vol.49 in Taiwan (Hsin Art Gallery, Taiwan)
- 2024 In Pursuit of Nihonga Excellence: Artists Leading the Future of Tokai (Hirano Museum of Art, Shizuoka)
- 2022 Solo Exhs.: Nomikomareru Umi – The Swallowed Sea (5/R Hall & Gallery, Aichi)
- 2021 KAKEHASHI (Nagoya Mitsukoshi, Aichi)
- 2020 Solo Exhs.: Kawaridane (5/R Hall & Gallery, Aichi)
- 2017 Selected for the 43rd Spring Sogaten Exhibition (Kyoto City Museum of Art, Kyoto)



Souhei Yamaguchi



Instagram

Introductory Video



esa_neko



"Drawing has been second nature to me since childhood," says Yamaguchi, who instinctively creates the moment a pen or scissors touch his hands. For him, physical action and deep thought are completely intertwined, a mindset beautifully reflected in his words: "I am constantly fishing inside my mind, searching for a glimmer of light within the darkness of my brain."

By conjuring up memories to paint scenes and emotions like a visual diary, his works possess a strikingly futuristic quality despite being rooted in the past. As he steps onto New York soil for the first time, one cannot help but watch with anticipation to see how this experience will evolve his expression. Alongside supporting his family business, Yamaguchi deeply values his connection with society, a commitment demonstrated by his six years of dedicated portrait volunteering at a pediatric clinic.

Biography & Education

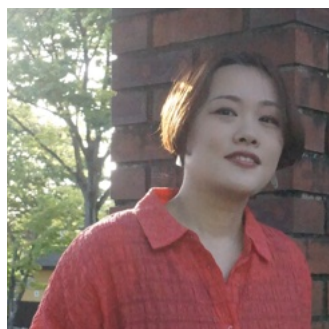
- 1990 Born in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
- 2015 M.F.A. in Contemporary Representation, Nagoya University of Arts
- 2025-Present Started activities as a member of the artist group "Polyphony"

Selected Exhibitions & Awards

- 2025 Appointed member of The Shinseisaku Kyoukai
- 2024 New Artist Award, The 87th Shinseisaku Tokyo Exhs. (National Art Center, Tokyo)
- 2022 Group Exh.: Dainagoya Art Festa (Dainagoya Building, Nagoya)
- 2020 Solo Exh.: -Sōen- (5/R Hall & Gallery, Aichi)
- 2014, '15, '18 Solo Exhs.: -Sōju- (5/R Hall & Gallery, Aichi)
- 2014 Group Exh.: Public Group Best Selection Exhs. (Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo)
- 2014 Chubu Shinseisaku Award, Chubu Shinseisaku Exhs. (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art Gallery, Aichi)
- 2013 New Artist Award, The 77th Shinseisaku Tokyo Exhs. (National Art Center, Tokyo)
- 2013 5/R Award, Chubu Shinseisaku Exhs. (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art Gallery, Aichi)
- 2013 Honorable Mention, The 10th Koiso Ryohei Grand Prize Exhs. (Koiso Memorial Museum, Kobe)
- 2009 Open Call Exh.: The 73rd Shinseisaku Tokyo Exhs. (National Art Center, Tokyo)
- 2006 Open Call Exh.: Chubu Shinseisaku Exhs. (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art Gallery, Aichi)



Akiyo Ochiai



Who has been involved in planning and operating art and music projects for many years while simultaneously working as an art instructor and artist, possesses a multi-layered perspective in her expression. Drawing from her past experience with classical music and ballet, she has explored the affinity between performing arts, translating tones into colors and rhythms into compositions.

She believes that the fundamental aesthetic as a Japanese artist, which she felt while engaging with Western and Eastern cultures, lies in the "yohaku" (blank space) cultivated through her practice of Japanese calligraphy (mainly kana calligraphy) since childhood. For her, the blank space within the canvas is "a place of belonging and a resting area for the viewer," providing a time to face one's own welling emotions. The "yohaku" unleashed on New York soil will build a place of rest and a true sense of being alive within the hearts of the viewers.

Instagram



akiyo_ochiai

artsy



Introductory Video



Biography & Education

2008 M.F.A. in Japanese Painting, Graduate School of Nagoya University of Arts
2025-Present Started activities as a member of the artist group "Polyphony"

Selected Exhibitions & Awards

2026	BEYOND BORDERS NY	(GALERIA AZUR, New York)
2025	Solo Exh.: People Live in the Waves	(GALLERY MARQUISE, Aichi)
2025	Art Fair: West Bund Art & Design, Exhibited by A Lighthouse called Kanata	(Shanghai)
2024	Stepping into a world IV	(Gallery Max New York, New York)
2022	Paris étoiles #1	(Espace Sorbonne 4, Paris)
2015, '23	Artist in Residence: Cité internationale des arts	(Paris)
2014, '19, '23	Solo Exhs.: Light and Wind... etc.	(Gallery Imagine, Gifu)
2014	Collaboration Concert: "Hane" artwork series	(Toyohashi City Cultural Hall, Aichi)
2013	Solo Exh.: Meditation Corridor 38th Special Exhibition: Self Healing IV	(Tetsugaku Taikenmura Mugaen, Aichi)
2011, '16, '20	Solo Exhs.: Self Healing III ...etc.	(5/R Hall & Gallery, Nagoya)
2007-'15	Nagakute Art Festival ['07, '08, '09, '11, '12, '15]	(Nagakute, Aichi)
2006, '07	Selected for Nisshun-ten Exhibition	(Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum / Matsuzakaya Art Museum)
2005, '06	Selected for Nitten Exhibition	(Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum / Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art Gallery)

Ayano Todaka



Photography by : Rodolphe Felix

With her roots in Japanese spirituality and traditional techniques, Todaka is both a Japanese painter (Nihonga artist) and a restorer. Her solid experience gained through Buddhist statue restoration and calligraphy imparts meticulous precision and powerful vitality into her contemporary paintings.

Using traditional Japanese art materials, she explores the realms that lie deep within the inner landscape. While honoring tradition, she finds modern expression through the motif of the origami crane. Notably, in stark contrast to her gentle personality, her energetic calligraphy commands a powerful presence. Transcending the boundaries of mere characters, it strongly draws viewers in and portrays the inner strength of human beings striving to overcome adversity. Intersecting delicacy with powerful brushstrokes, her artwork ignites a certain strength for tomorrow within the hearts of the audience.

Instagram



todakayano

Introductory Video



Biography & Education

2016 A.A. in Early Childhood Education, Okazaki Women's Junior College
2022 B.F.A. in Japanese Painting, Nagoya Zokei University
2025-Present Started activities as a member of the artist group "Polyphony"

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2025	Yesterday Lived with Someone	(Gallery Marquise, Aichi)
2023	A Bouquet for You	(Nagoya Mitsukoshi ARTECASA, Aichi)
2022	The Artist's Story	(5/R Hall & Gallery, Aichi)

Selected Group Exhibitions & Awards

2024	In Pursuit of Nihonga: Emerging Artists of the Tokai Region	(Hirano Museum of Art, Shizuoka)
2022	Traditional Craftsmanship & Innovation	(Shin-Yamaguchi Station Exchange Center, Yamaguchi)
2021	KENZAN 2021	(Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Tokyo)
2021	KAKEHASHI: Bridging Tradition	(Nagoya Mitsukoshi, Aichi)
2020	The 15th CBC Habatake! Memories of Twenty	(Aichi Arts Center, Aichi)