

MOT Collection:

Seven Beauties in the Bamboo Forest

Special feature NOMURA Kazuhiro

Eye to Eye

Saturday, 3 August – Sunday, 11 November 2024



The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo houses over 5800 works of art from modern to contemporary, with a particular emphasis on post-war art. The MOT Collection exhibitions present works from that collection, adopting a different approach on each occasion to advertise the diverse attractions of contemporary art.

In a display dubbed “Seven Beauties in the Bamboo Forest” and dominated by recent acquisitions, the first floor will focus on seven female artists. The title “Seven Beauties in the Bamboo Forest” comes from that of a work by KONO Michisei held by the museum. In Kono’s painting, the ancient Chinese “Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove,” spurning worldly concerns to congregate in a bamboo grove and engage in philosophical chat are transformed into women in vibrantly-hued garb. Inspired by the sight of these seven women of different cultures and eras mingling harmoniously among the flowers and birds of a light-filled bamboo forest, for this exhibition we decided to illuminate the work of some female artists whom the museum has hitherto had few opportunities to showcase. The character 妍 (*ken*) of the title, meaning beauty, generally refers to a certain grace or refinement in appearance, but here refers to how each of the seven artists has engaged with the idea of beauty, and

produced art accordingly. Offerings from MADOKORO (AKUTAGAWA) Saori and TAKAGI Toshiko, both born exactly a century ago, URUSHIBARA Hideko, KOBAYASHI Donge, and MAEMOTO Shoko will comprise mainly new additions, while the works of FUKUSHIMA Hideko and ASAKURA Setsu, already in the collection, will be grouped together. To coincide with this display of work by the seven women, the first floor will also play host to a special exhibit by NOMURA Kazuhiro, an artist with a career characterized by the exploration of the creative act via conceptual works.

The third-floor exhibition, titled “Eye to Eye,” turns its attention to different types of gaze. Kicking off with gaze as painted by the likes of Alex KATZ, NAKAMURA Hiroshi, and NAKAZONO Koji, “Eye to Eye” goes on to include a diverse array of works, including sculptures in reflective materials by TADA Minami and Monir Shahroudy FARMANFARMAIAN; the works of Georges ROUSSE, who creates illusory installations in derelict buildings and photographs them; and an installation by KAIHATSU Yoshiaki, who brings a playfulness to the space between the visible and invisible. There will also be a special exhibition of work by HASEGAWA Shigeru, a painter consistently dedicated to interrogating the status of paintings as “things to be seen.”

*This exhibition is a continuation of the previous term, with some of the exhibits replaced.

*Please be informed that the contents of the exhibit may be subject to change.

Artists

ASAKURA Setsu, URUSHIBARA Hideko, KAIHATSU Yoshiaki, KONO Michisei, KOBAYASHI Donge, TAKAGI Toshiko, TADA Minami, NAKAZONO Koji, NAKAMURA Hiroshi, NARA Yoshitomo, NOMURA Kazuhiro, HASEGAWA Shigeru, FUKUSHIMA Hideko, MAEMOTO Shoko, MADOKORO(AKUTAGAWA)Saori, MIYAWAKI Aiko, John BALDESSARI, Monir Shahroudy FARMANFARMAIAN, Alex KATZ, Roy LICHTENSTEIN, Gerhard RICHTER, Georges ROUSSE, Andy WARHOL and more

Information

Exhibition Period:	Saturday, 3 August – Sunday, 10 November, 2024
Closed:	Mondays (except 12 Aug., 16 Sep., 23 Sep., 14 Oct.) 13 Aug., 17 Sep., 24 Sep., 15 Oct., 5 Nov.
Opening Hours:	10 AM - 6 PM (Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing.) *Open until 9 PM on Fridays in August
Admission:	Adults – 500 yen / University & College Students – 400 yen / High School Students, Over 65 – 250 yen / Free for under Junior High School Students & Temporary Exhibition tickets holders
Venue:	Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Collection Gallery
Organized by	Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo operated by Tokyo
Curated by	Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture

Also on view

A Personal View of Japanese Contemporary Art: Takahashi Ryutaro Collection

Yoshiaki Kaihatsu: ART IS LIVE—Welcome to One Person Democracy

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Seven Beauties in the Bamboo Forest

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1. KONO Michisei, *Seven Beauties in the Bamboo Forest*, 1923



2. URUSHIBARA Hideko, *The Snow Man*, 1956



3. MAEMOTO Shoko, *Deep Sea Anemone - Eat Up the Heaven!*, 1992

Photo: SUEMASA Mareo courtesy: GALLERY KOBAYASHI



4. KOBAYASHI Donge, *From Edgar Allan Poe: Morella*, c.1970



5. TAKAGI Toshiko, *Flower*, 1981



6. NOMURA Kazuhiro, *Altar of Laughter*, 2014/2019 photo: Haruyuki Shirai



7. NOMURA Kazuhiro, *untitled (grapes)*, 2007 photo: Ichiro Otani

Eye to Eye



8. NAKAMURA Hiroshi, *Eye from Chiaroscuro*, 2015-16



9. TADA Minami, *Frequency 37306505*, 1965 photo: Masaru Yanagiba



10. KAIHATSU Yoshiaki, *ON THE TABLE*, 2010
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11. NAKAZONO Koji, *Post Human*, 2007



13. HASEGAWA Shigeru, *happy white macaron-chan*, 1997



12. HASEGAWA Shigeru, [no title], 2007