



Chie Koda

“Life Becoming Paintings and That Light”

2024.4.19 [Fri] - 2024.5.18 [Sat]

11:00-18:00 [Tue-Sat]

Closed: Sun, Mon, National holidays [Excluding holidays on 5/3 and 5/4]

Opening Reception : April 19th [Fri] 17:30-19:30

LOKO GALLERY will present painter CHIE KODA' s solo exhibition

“Life Becoming Paintings and That Light” from April 19th through May 18th.

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Chie Koda

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Artist Statement

Life Becoming Paintings and That Light

It was during my artist residency at Tsunagi Town, Kumamoto in 2016, that I came up with the phrase “Life becoming Paintings.”

It spontaneously aroused from my solid sense that my own way of living (or life) is the very thing that connects to discovery of paintings.

From that moment on, life becoming paintings carries on no matter where I go.

For a while after giving birth to my son in 2019, I cried every night to a feeling I have never felt before. I could hardly describe this feeling through words, but still, I felt the urge to remember this as it seemed to be something easily forgotten.

Maybe I could remember it through imagery – I decided to retain the vague feeling through painting rather than words. As I nervously drew an image, trying to be true to my feelings as much as possible, it came out to be a painting that used colors almost monochrome with a white light source illuminating inside it, which seemed like a view from a dark window inside a spaceship. I had no idea what the light was, but anyway, I became sad to realize that I was already detached from it and could not return to that light I saw from the window anymore. Although I was not confident if I depicted it right, that image lingered inside my head since then. Time flew, and now I live in a life becoming paintings with my son.

As I started farming after childbirth, I was impressed by how everything on earth connects and influence each other, and how my son grew like a seed with programmed speed and ways/manners without educating, being introduced to a new perspective on life.

As I appreciate the change of my heart and body along to the seasons that come and go, I am gaining courage from the fleeting present and the presentiment toward next encompassed within it.

Through this repetitive process, some things I could not help but to reach out and capture, to keep and share to others, became paintings.

The house window I see every day.

The farming field I go with my son.

The strange feeling when I woke up from a nap at my mother’s house to see my son asleep beside me.

The various sparkles of interaction that occurred just when people happened to be present at my live painting at LOKO GALLERY.

Apart from these paintings drawn from my recent life, there is one painting that I have been working on even before my son’s birth – though I have stopped working on this many times, I continued to pursue a certain image despite the complete change of the composition and motif.

Initially it was a drawing of an evening light at the city, then it transformed into a light of the farm field at dusk.

And indeed, it was that light. I found the light – something I thought was distant and could not touch anymore – at the farm field. As I realized this during the drawing process, I discovered that the light was always present in each painting brought from my life. It is the reflection of that light in the form of a landscape. A message left behind the colors. And now, even in the presence of my son who is closest to me, I can feel the warmth of that light.

Chie KODA

Chie KODA

1983 Born in Tokyo, Bred in Nagasaki

2007 Tama Art University Department of Painting BA

Awards

2017 VOCA Exhibitions 2017 / VOCA prize

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2022 One Window and Eleven Paintings LOKO GALLERY / Tokyo, Japan

2018 Light of Detour LOKO GALLERY / Tokyo, Japan

2017 Chie KODA Exhibition Kobayashi Gallery / Tokyo, Japan

2008 Shut up! Fantasia Gallery Yoyogi / Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 Anew, Being Born – The Daily Creativity of Artists Raising Children / Tokyo, Japan

2023 VOCA 30 YEARS STORY / KOBE / Kobe, Japan

2023 TOKOROZAWA: ARTS FOR OUR FUTURE / Saitama, Japan

2020 The 70th Anniversary Memorial Project of Tokorozawa City [TOKOROZAWA: PAST AND PRESENT IN ART]

TOKOROZAWA CIVIC CULTURAL CENTRE MUSE / Saitama, Japan

2020 MEMORY OF PLACE: ANAMNESIS Arts Maebashi / Gunma, Japan

2020 TSUNAGI Dayo! Zenin Shugo TSUNAGI ART MUSEUM / Kumamoto, Japan

2020 TOKYO☆VOCA / Dai-Ichi Life Group/ Tokyo, Japan

2017 VOCA Exhibition 2017 / The Ueno Royal Museum / Tokyo, Japan

2015 Art and City in Yokohama BankART NYK / Kanagawa, Japan

2015 Mixed Bathing Spa World 2015 Wakuwaku Mixed Bathing Department / Oita, Japan

2014 Isobe-Yu Utilization Project Report Exhibition Arts Maebashi / Gunma, Japan

2013 Hagi-ennale 2013 / Tokyo, Japan

2012 Power of a Painting Hiyori Art Center / Miyagi, Japan

2011 Power of a Painting 3331 Arts Chiyoda / Tokyo, Japan

Selected Activities

2023 Let's Meet in front of the Painting Now [Open Atelier] LOKO GALLERY / Tokyo, Japan

2022 Sky and Racecourse at Fuchu Art Museum / Tokyo, Japan

2021 River to River river side art festival / Gunma, Japan

2021 OKUYAMATO MIND TRAIL Museum in your mind / Nara, Japan

2017 Roppongi Art Night 2017 / Tokyo, Japan

2016 Artist in Residence Tsunagi 2016 Tsunagi Museum / Kumamoto, Japan

2015 ARKO2015 [Artist in Residence] Ohara Museum / Okayama, Japan

2014 Art Festival of Kofu Town / Yamanashi

2014 Emitting Smoke in the Place Where Wrong isn't / Haisyakukei / Ibaraki, Japan

2013 Arts Maebashi Isobe-Yu Utilization Project / Gunma, Japan

2013 Art Festival of Kofu Town 2013 / Yamanashi, Japan

2013 Tsuchi-yu Arafudo Art Annual 2013 / Fukushima, Japan

2013 Ishinomaki 4 Dimensions Bystreet Hiyori Art Center / Miyagi, Japan

2013 Focusing on everything / Let's meet in front of Painting BankART NYK / Kanagawa, Japan

2012 Parade of Walking Painting in Kotobuki-Cho / Kanagawa, Japan

2012 Parade of Walking Painting in Ishinomaki / Miyagi, Japan

2012 BankART Tsumari / Niigata, Japan

2012 Taipei International Art Village / Taipei, Taiwan

2011 BankART Studio NYK [Residence Program] / Kanagawa, Japan

2011 KASHIMA2010 / Oita, Japan

2010 KOTOBUKI CREATIVE ACTION KOTOBUKI CAMP Autumn / Kanagawa, Japan

2010 Eyes and Curiosity Vol. 6 MIZUMA ACTION/ Tokyo, Japan

2010 Waku Waku Kyoto / Kanagawa, Japan

2009 KOSHIKI ART PROJECT / Kagoshima, Japan

2009 Mixedbathingworld Waku-Waku Spa Tour / Oita, Japan

2009 Eyes and Curiosity Soka art center / Taipei, Taiwan

