

Shinya Azuma

“Teleportation: Zanarkand↔Restroom”

2023.6.11(sun) — 8.13(sun)



「Backstab」2023
oil on canvas

rin art association is pleased to announce the exhibition “Teleportation: Zanarkand↔Restroom” by Shinya Azuma. Azuma has attracted attention as an up-and-coming artist since his school days and has been active through various events and media. While his works, which depict images mixed of actual experiences, surroundings, and information with a bold touch, represent his identity as an artist, they also have the mysterious power to remind us of our memories, surrounded by a vast amount of uncertain and anonymous information, and even dreams we had in the past. In this exhibition, we present seven new works that evoke various sources of imagery.

“I often select subjects out of images that have been stored in my mind and originate from different contexts (e.g., images of war on TV, masters’ works I saw in museums, video game screens, my slatternly body reflected in a mirror, etc.). The act of summoning these images into the painting is similar to the association game of rhyme and wordplay in hip-hop, in which I redefine the contours of the world I am seeing and give it new meaning by using objects that belong to a different context. (Although I personally don’t listen to hip-hop very much)

The title “Teleportation: Zanarkand↔Restroom” came to me when I was trying to find a right word to describe such feature of my works. Zanarkand is the name of the other world that appears in the video game “Final Fantasy X”. Meanwhile, restroom is a very personal space where one excretes waste from one’s body. The way I move back and forth within the distance between these two words is what I believe painting is to me.”

Shinya Azuma

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Born in Osaka in 1994. Completed a Master degree at Kyoto University of the Arts in 2020. His major exhibitions in recent years include “young okazaki vol.1” at MtK Contemporary, “Throw a knuckle ball from the jungle” at EUKARYOTE (2021), and “Human. Human? Human!” at COHJU contemporary art (2020).

Open 11:00 - 19:00 Closed on Monday and Tuesday

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