

# Kae Masuda

## 「Empty House」

2024.7.13(sat) — 8.4(sun)

AM10:00-PM 6:00



「Ghosts by the window」 2024 oil on canvas

The paintings by Kae Masuda intertwines natural phenomena with human experiences, transforming them into intricate visual narratives. They capture both the serene and chaotic elements of the world around us, through their dynamic interplay of color, texture, and form. This exhibition offers a profound exploration of nature, memory, and the passage of time through her expressive brushwork and evocative imagery.

Masuda's latest series, "Empty House," is inspired by her contemplations on the act of seeing and the stories contained within landscapes and structures. Gazing at the mountains from her window, Masuda reflects on the interplay of "ridgelines, volume, and light". Her attention shifts from the broader landscape to individual trees and the life within them, sparking an imaginative journey that culminates in her creating art.

This series features the ephemeral nature of human memory by capturing the quiet presence of plants and structures, suggesting the life that once existed there and the inevitability of its transition into a landscape of the past. Masuda's paintings skillfully fuse abstract and figurative imagery through contemplative use of different textures, rhythmic composition, and fluid brushwork.

### Empty House

While looking at the mountain scenery from my window, I pondered what it means to "see". Initially, the ridge line, the sense of volume, and the light enter my eyes. Then, my gaze moves to the trees growing on the mountain, one by one. As I look deeper into the trees, I begin to imagine the life cycles of the inhabitants, forming a vivid picture in my mind. When I look down from the mountain, I see Shikagatani-dori running at its foot. Every day, as I ride my bicycle along Shikagatani-dori, I notice a few vacant houses scattered along the road. These houses may blend into the scenery, but I imagine how people once lived there. It prompts thoughts about the present, which will one day become a part of the past scenery.

In this exhibition, I depicted several existing vacant houses. Vacant houses stand like ghosts, silently enclosing any sign of life. Sometimes, they negatively impact the town; other times, they await their next residents, and occasionally, they are suddenly demolished, disappearing from the world. They are as uncertain as human memory. When viewed side by side, the paintings of these houses stand in a row, as if painted over the memories of others. I hope these paintings will connect with your scenery in Takasaki, far away from Shikagatani-dori.

Kae Masuda

### Kae Masuda

Yoshie Masuda paints landscapes, ground surfaces, architecture, and plants using a variety of brushstrokes. Her paintings fluctuate from concrete to abstract images. For example, when the light changes from morning to night, what was clearly visible becomes dim in the middle. This process is included in the painting as a lot of time, and it gives the impression that the viewer is diving into the painting.

10 : 00 - 18 : 00 Open throughout the exhibition period

contact

Gatofesta Harada Headquarters Gallery

1207 Shinmachi Takasaki GUNMA 3701301

t : 0274-40-3622 e : info-espoir@gf-harada.co.jp w : <https://www.gateaufesta-harada.com/>

planning

ria art association