

Daisuke Ohba

(Shizuoka, Japan, 1981)



Daisuke Ohba is a contemporary Japanese artist whose practice is grounded in a sustained investigation of light as a material and perceptual phenomenon. He graduated from Kyoto University of Art and Design in 2005, where he studied mixed media, and completed a master's degree in Oil Painting at the Tokyo University of the Arts in 2007. His academic formation situates him at the intersection of traditional painting and experimental approaches to materiality.

From his early works onward, Ohba has incorporated polarized pearl, gold, and holographic pigments into his paintings, producing surfaces that emit and refract light rather than merely depicting it. His work engages with long-standing debates in the history of painting concerning the relationship between color systems (CMYK) and light systems (RGB), while resonating with broader inquiries found in Impressionism and Optical Art. At the same time, Ohba draws conceptually and technically from Japanese artistic traditions, such as gold leaf and raden (mother-of-pearl inlay) which historically introduced actual light into artistic expression.

Ohba's work has been widely exhibited in Japan and internationally, including Parallel Histories: The Several Currents of Contemporary Art 2020, (Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art) and the VOCA Exhibition – The Vision of Contemporary Art 2011, (The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo). His works are held in notable public and private collections, among them the JAL Sakura Lounge at Haneda Airport, the Long Museum in Shanghai, and the Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art. He currently serves as Associate Professor at Kyoto University of Art, contributing to the education of a new generation of artists.

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2021 Contactee/Tied Light, Kyoto TSUTAYA Books, Kyoto, Japan
Painting—Phenomena in Degrees of Depth, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan

2019 Daisuke Ohba Solo Exhibition, GATEU FESTA HARADA, Takasaki, Gunma, Japan

2017 Daisuke Ohba Solo Exhibition, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan

2012 Daisuke Ohba Solo Exhibition, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan

2011 The Light Field, Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, London, UK

2009 The Light Field, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan
The Light Field, magical, ARTROOM, Tokyo, Japan

2006 LABYRINTH, magical, ARTROOM, Tokyo; ART ZONE, Kyoto, Japan

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2026 Paintings of the 2000's: From Artists Connected to Shizuoka, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

2024 FLARE, Tiger Gallery, London, UK

2023 Sense of Wonder, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

2022 The Unicorn and the Lion, Kyoto International Conference Center, Kyoto, Japan

2020 Parallel Histories – The Several Currents of Contemporary Art, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan
SCAI 30th Anniversary Exhibition Earthlight—Intrigue of Sci-fi Abstraction, Komagome SOKO, Tokyo, Japan

2019 Pop arts genealogy, Shizuoka Prefecture Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan
Island with ONI, WAITING ROOM, Tokyo, Japan
Globe as a Palette; Contemporary Art from The Taguchi Art Collection, Hokkaido Obihiro Museum of Art; Kushiro Art

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Museum; Hakodate Museum of Art; Sapporo Art Museum, Hokkaido, Japan

beyond the reasons Komagome SOKO, Tokyo, Japan

Anish Kapoor / Toshikatsu Endo / Daisuke Ohba / Vajiko Chachkiani, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan

INTERPRETATIONS, TOKYO, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan

Mysterious Art, SHIZUOKA Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

The Ubiquity of Borders: Japanese Contemporary, Gallery Baton, Seoul, South Korea

Ordinary Children of the 20th Century, Galerie Aube, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan

2017 Kakegawa Cha-ennale, Kakegawa City Ninomaru Museum, Shizuoka, Japan

2016 THE ECHO, Takasaki city gallery, Gunma, Japan

New Collection Exhibition, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

2015 White power of expression, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

Taguchi Hiroshi Art Collection - A Walk around the Contemporary Art World after Paradigm Shift, Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu, Japan

2014 TAG-TEN (Taguchi Art Collection), Matsumoto City Museum of Art, Nagano, Japan

Visions of Proximity, SCAI THE BATHHOUSE, Tokyo, Japan

2013 The Islands of the Day Before, Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts (KdMoFA), Taipei, Taiwan

Trick Dimension, TOLOT, Tokyo, Japan

2012 Hyperarchipelago, EYE OF GYRE, Tokyo, Japan

2011 Ecosophia: Art and Architecture, Dojima River Biennale 2011, Osaka, Japan

2010 Toki-no-Yuenchi, Nagoya/Boston Museum of Fine Arts (N/BMFA), Aichi, Japan

data and vision, AKI GALLERY, Taipei, Taiwan

VOCA, the vision of contemporary Art 2010, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, Japan

NEW WORLD, island, Chiba, Japan

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2009 WAR & ART -Terror and Simulacrum of Beauty-, Galerie Aube, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan

2008 BEAMING ARTS #001, INTERNATIONAL GALLERY BEAMS, Tokyo, Japan
Fukei no naka no FUKEI, Mr. Mackenzie's residence, Shizuoka, Japan
THE ECHO, ZAIM, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan
Japan now, Inter alia Art Company, Seoul, South Korea
Vivid Material, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan

2007 Imaginary Museum of the O-collection, Tokyo Wonder Site Hongo, Tokyo, Japan
Stars Popping from Chaos 2007, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Something as if we do, Cafe Parlwr, Aichi, Japan
Paradise of illusion, MA2 Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
ART AWARD TOKYO, Gyoko Underground Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

2005 Stars Popping from Chaos 2005, Galerie Aube, Kyoto; Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan

2004 INDEX#1 MAKING WORLDS, ART ZONE, Kyoto; HIROMI YOSHII, Tokyo, Japan
KOBE ART ANNUAL 2004, Kobe Art Village Center, Hyogo, Japan
Common Sense ~ from Self to Others ~, Gallery Fleur, Kyoto Seika University, Kyoto, Japan
Kyoto ART ANNUAL 2004, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan
Art Exhibition as Online Dating Site, Osaka Contemporary Art Center, Osaka, Japan



COLLECTIONS

BEAMS, Tokyo, Japan

DIOR Hawaii Waikiki, Hawaii, USA

DIOR House of Dior Ginza, Tokyo

DMG MORI, Tokyo

DRIES VAN NOTEN, Tokyo, Japan

JAPAN AIRLINES, Japan

LONG MUSEUM, Shanghai, China

Louis Vuitton, Tokyo, Japan

OCA TOKYO, Tokyo, Japan

SHIZUOKA Prefectural Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan

Taguchi Art Collection, Japan

TAKAHASHI Art Collection, Japan

The Pigozzi Collection, New York, USA

Tokai Tokyo Securities Co., Ltd., Orque d'or, Salon TOKYO, Japan

Tokiwabahi Tower, Tokyo, Japan

Tranomon Station Hills, Tokyo, Japan

URABANDAI KO-GEN HOTEL, Fukushima, Japan