

SEIZAN GALLERY

TOKYO NEW YORK

JUNYA TSUBOTA





JUNYA TSUBOTA (b. 1974, Saitama, Japan)

Junya Tsubota is a contemporary Nihonga painter whose work reimagines traditional Japanese painting through vibrant color, abstraction, and a deep engagement with the natural world. Drawing on centuries-old materials and techniques—including mineral pigments, metal leaf, animal-glue binders, and washi paper—he creates luminous compositions inspired by seasonal change and elemental phenomena such as water, sky, light, and atmosphere. While rooted in the history of Nihonga, Tsubota's paintings depart from convention through their bold chromatic intensity and dynamic visual rhythms, expanding the possibilities of the tradition for contemporary audiences.

Central to Tsubota's practice is an exploration of harmony, movement, and perception. Recurring motifs such as rippling water become vehicles for investigating the relationship between permanence and transience, order and improvisation. Influenced by decorative traditions including gold-leaf screen painting and the abstracted landscapes of Japanese dry gardens, his works occupy a space between representation and abstraction, evoking both natural forms and emotional states. Through these immersive surfaces, Tsubota seeks to create environments that resonate with the rhythms of nature while fostering moments of contemplation and visual balance.

CURRICULUM VITAE

JUNYA TSUBOTA

EDUCATION

2001 MFA, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan
1999 BFA in Nihonga, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan

SOLO EXHIBITION (By selection)

2023 Junya Tsubota nihonga: Suimen ni Kirameku, Ikebukuro Tobu, Tokyo, Japan
2022 Junya Tsubota: Rhythm, SEIZAN Gallery, New York
2021 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten: Water and Universe, Fukuya Hachobori, Hiroshima, Japan
2021 Junya Tsubota: Water and Universe, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2020 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, Abeno Harukas, Osaka, Japan
2019 Junya Tsubota-ten, Art Space Rashinban, Tokyo, Japan
2018 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, Abeno Harukas, Osaka, Japan
2018 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, Funabashi Tobu, Chiba, Japan
2018 Junya Tsubota-ten, Gallery A BIENTOT, Tokyo, Japan
2016 Junya Tsubota-ten, Gallery A BIENTOT, Tokyo, Japan
2016 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, Niigata Mitsukoshi, Niigata, Japan
2016 Junya Tsubota: Nihonga-ten, Tokyu Kichijoji, Tokyo, Japan
2014 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2013 Junya Tsubota Nihonga-ten, Shinsaibashi Daimaru, Osaka, Japan
2010 Junya Tsubota-ten, Gallery A BIENTOT, Tokyo, Japan
2009 Junya Tsubota-ten, Shinseido gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2008 Junya Tsubota-ten, Art Space Rashinban, Tokyo, Japan

GROUP EXHIBITION (By selection)

2023 Summer Group Show, SEIZAN Gallery, New York
2023 Art Taipei 2022, Taipei World Trade Center, SEIZAN Gallery Booth, Taiwan
2022 Utsuroiyuku Tayousei, Park Hotel Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
2022 Art in Japan, Ginza Mitsukoshi, Tokyo, Japan
2022 SM toiu Neko, Gallery Seek, Tokyo, Japan
2021 Art no Mikata, Ginza Mitsukoshi, Tokyo, Japan
2021 Yoh no Kai-ten, Yoh Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

2020 The Red, Iwataya Mitsukoshi, Fukuoka, Japan
2020 Keiro Fudeiro, Souei Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2019 SUMMER EXHIBITION 2019, SEIZAN Gallery, New York
2018 Nihonga: Contemporary Art of Japan, SEIZAN Gallery, New York
2018 Something Precious, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2016 20th Anniversary Tokubetsu kikaku-ten, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2014 KALEIDOSCOPE, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2013 SENSU-ten, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2012 Korekara, Hiroshima Mitsukoshi, Hiroshima, Japan
2011 CAF Nebula, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama, Saitama, Japan
2008 ART SALAD, MasuiiRDR, Saitama, Japan, KWANHOOON gallery, Seoul, Korea

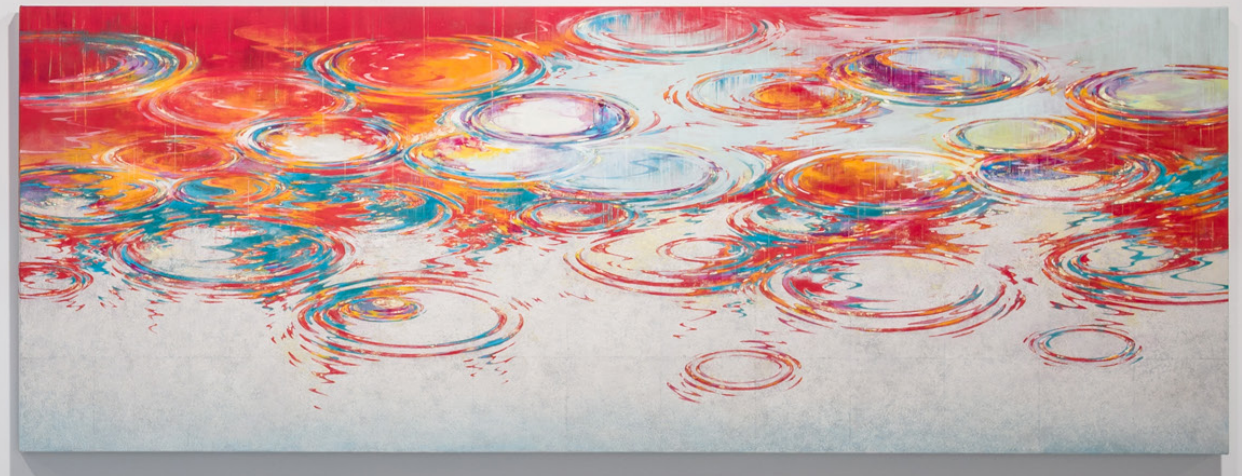
AWARDS

200 Honorable Mention, Aogaki 2001 Nihonga-ten
1997 Ataka Award, Tokyo University of the Arts





INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *RYTHM*
NOVEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 23, 2022



INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *RYTHM*
NOVEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 23, 2022



Junya Tsubota
Stratums of Time, 2022
Natural mineral pigment, mineral pigment, suihi, mica, gold leaf on Japanese paper
(Kumohadamashi)
31.6 x 31.6 x 1.4 in (80.3 x 80.3 x 3.5 cm)



DETAIL OFF:
Junya Tsubota
Stratums of Time, 2022
Natural mineral pigment, mineral pigment, suihi, mica, gold leaf on Japanese paper
(Kumohadamashi)
31.6 x 31.6 x 1.4 in (80.3 x 80.3 x 3.5 cm)



Junya Tsubota

Music for a Dance, 2022

Natural mineral pigment, mineral pigment, suihi, mica, gold leaf on Japanese paper
(Kumohadamashi)

45.9 x 45.9 x 1.2 in (116.6 x 116.6 x 3 cm)



DETAIL OFF:
Junya Tsubota
Music for a Dance, 2022
Natural mineral pigment, mineral pigment, suihi, mica, gold leaf on Japanese paper
(Kumohadamashi)
45.9 x 45.9 x 1.2 in (116.6 x 116.6 x 3 cm)

For inquiries
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