

TAKASHI SETO



BIOGRAPHY



TAKASHI SETO (b. 1974, Saitama, Japan)

Takashi Seto is an artist, craftsman, and independent researcher whose practice reanimates historical Japanese textile techniques through contemporary art. Drawing on centuries-old Yuzen dyeing methods and long-forgotten processes discovered in early dyers' manuals, Seto works with silk, silver leaf, gold leaf, natural lacquer, and plant-based pigments to create intricate compositions that bridge craft, history, and personal expression. His painstaking process combines resist dyeing, hand-drawn patterning, and traditional Shippaku metal-leaf techniques, transforming fragile materials into luminous works that honor inherited knowledge while extending it into the present.

Central to Seto's work is an exploration of time—not only as subject matter, but as a material force. By using traditional materials that gradually oxidize, patinate, and change in response to their surroundings, he creates artworks that continue to evolve long after they leave the studio. Animals, plants, architectural motifs, and everyday symbols appear as layered metaphors for cultural memory, transformation, and the accumulation of lived experience. Through the revival of endangered craft traditions and an ongoing dialogue between permanence and impermanence, Seto's work invites contemplation of how histories are preserved, altered, and carried forward across generations.

CURRICULUM VITAE

TAKASHI SETO

EDUCATION

2006 Research Student, in Textile at Department of Crafts, Tokyo University of the Arts,
Tokyo, Japan

2005 MFA in Conservation Science Laboratory Graduate School of Conservation,
Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan

SOLO EXHIBITION (By selection)

2024 Tomioka Silk Mill Celebrates 10th Anniversary of World Heritage Listing
Takashi Seto: Layer of time – Ima ni tsuzuku Edo no gihou.
Tomioka Silk Mill, Gunma, Japan

2018 Takashi Seto: Dyeing and Textiles, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

GROUP EXHIBITION (By selection)

2024 SQUARE Textile 10, FEI ART MUSEUM YOKOHAMA, Yokohama, Japan

2023 SQUARE Textile 9, Gallery Hinoki, Tokyo, Japan

2022 Art Market Hamptons, SEIZAN Gallery booth, New York

2022 HAKU: The Art of Gold and Silver Leafing, SEIZAN Gallery, New York

2021 International Kogei Award in Toyama 2020: Habataku Kogei no mirai ten,
Toyama Prefectural Museum of Art and Design, Toyama, Japan

2021 The 75th Sinsho Kogei-ten, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo,
Kyoto City Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan

2020 TOBU FUKUDA & TAKASHI SETO: PURE POETRY, SEIZAN Gallery, New York

2019 Art Fair Tokyo, Tokyo International Forum, SEIZAN Gallery booth, Tokyo

2017 Kaku no Kai, SEIZAN Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

2014 Kaku no Kai, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

2012 Art Wave Exhibition vol.9, Souzou no Innovation-ten, RECTO VERSO Gallery, Tokyo

2010 The 150th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Portugal

2009 Wakaki Takumi no Tewaza-ten, Saitama Craft Center, Saitama, Japan

2008 Japan Design Exhibition, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France

2006 Japan - Morocco Bunka Kouyu-ten, Morocco

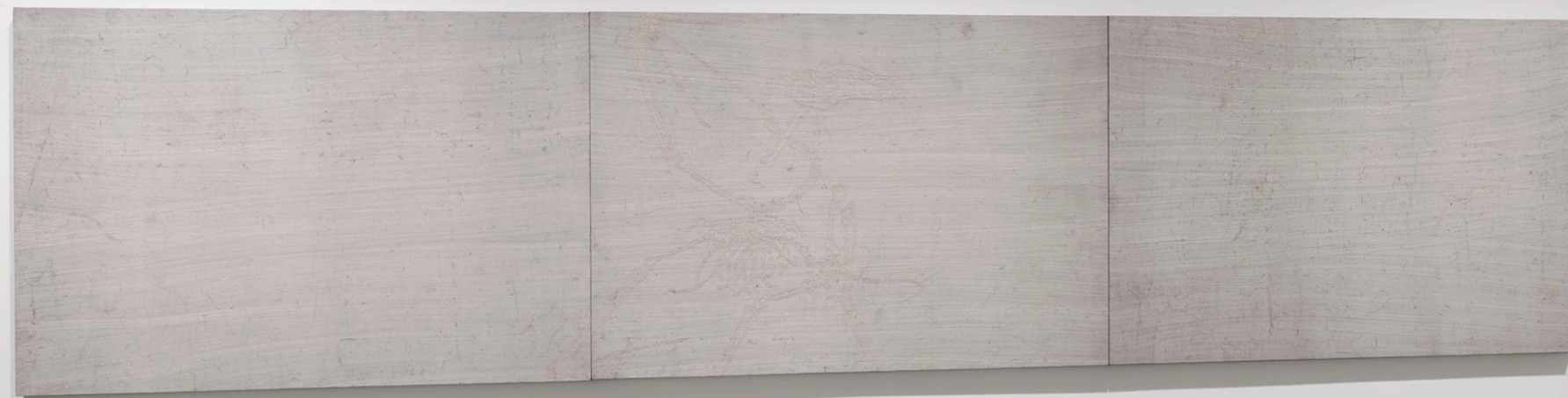
PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Bunka Gakuen Costume Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Starbucks Coffee Japan, Saitama, Japan

Hoshikawa Produce “Conscience”, Saitama, Japan

Garage. U. W, Saitama, Japan



INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *MOMENTS OF ARRIVAL*
MARCH 6 - MAY 3, 2025



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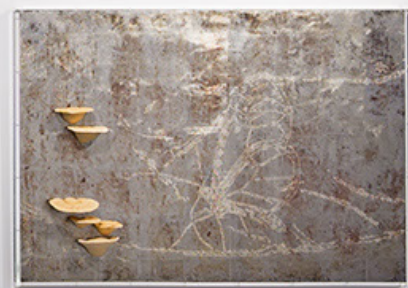
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INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *MOMENTS OF ARRIVAL*
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INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *HAKU: THE ART OF GOLD AND SILVER LEAFING*
MARCH 3 - APRIL 30, 2022





INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *PURE POETRY*
NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 23, 2020



INSTALLATION VIEW OFF: *PURE POETRY*
NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 23, 2020

November 5 - December 23
PURE POETRY
Toru Fukuda, Takashi Seto

Maximum 4 visitors at a time.
Please email info@seisan-gallery.com
by appointment
Sunday through Wednesday
11am - 6pm
Tuesday, Friday, Saturday
Gallery Hours:



Takashi Seto
Moments of Arrival #5 Starting Point, 2024
Lacquer, silver leaf, artificial dye on silk mounted on wood panel
23.6 x 23.6 x 1.6 in (60 x 60 x 4 cm)



DETAIL OFF:
Takashi Seto
Moments of Arrival #5 Starting Point, 2024
Lacquer, silver leaf, artificial dye on silk mounted on wood panel
23.6 x 23.6 x 1.6 in (60 x 60 x 4 cm)



Takashi Seto
Unseen, 2023
Lacquer, silver leaf, artificial dye on silk mounted on wood panel
39.4 x 55.1 x 1.2 in (100 x 140 x 3 cm)



DETAIL OFF:
Takashi Seto
Unseen, 2023
Lacquer, silver leaf, artificial dye on silk mounted on wood panel
39.4 x 55.1 x 1.2 in (100 x 140 x 3 cm)

For inquiries
director@seizan-gallery.com