

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHATA Shintaro

*Resonate*

30 June - 12 August 2018

Opening reception: Saturday, 30 June 2018, 4pm - 7pm



Mizuma Gallery is pleased to announce *Resonate*, a solo exhibition by Japanese artist, Ohata Shintaro.

Recognized for his body of works that seamlessly blends sculpture and canvas to produce playful and dreamy three-dimensional paintings, Ohata depicts life-like scenarios of the simplest experiences in everyday life. With the sculpture placed in front of the canvas, colours and textures merge flawlessly to form a single painting. On the surface of the sculpture, each little piece of traditional Japanese paper of various colours is adhered meticulously, creating a harmonious coherence that reverberates with the rest of the scenery. What sets him apart is his distinct style of controlling colours, shade, and light, causing one to quickly assume that some kind of intense light source is present within his paintings. Through the use of similar tones to render the overall illumination, he not only creates an atmospheric effect, but also furthers the illusion of light in his paintings. This sense of dynamism and movement elevates the paintings to bring out an almost life-like quality.

When Ohata turned 40 a few years ago, he felt the need to reaffirm himself as an artist. Instead of focusing on his struggle to create great works that would make his art more convincing and powerful, he chose to capture these beautiful moments of everyday life and rebirth them as something fundamental and eternal by painting them. Through his works, he hopes to pass on those splendid moments to the viewers. The feeling of reminiscence is predominately captured in Ohata's paintings. Through his eyes, we witness the dazzling and enfolding light of sunset, city roads on a rainy day, and the gleaming fluorescence of convenient stores at night. Amidst the rapid speed of life, Ohata urges audience to pause for a moment and take a breather.

For his first solo exhibition in Singapore, Ohata showcases a recent painting *Deep Breath*, that was drawn from his interest in Singapore's Gardens by the Bay. To him, nature has been a fundamental part of this world since the beginning of time and it will never change regardless of human's existence. In Gardens by the Bay, nature and contemporary architecture seem to blend seamlessly. It was this fusion of old and new elements that he was interested in and wanted to incorporate into his painting.





#### About the Artist

OHATA Shintaro (b. 1975, Hiroshima, Japan) is a painter known to create artworks that depict little things in everyday life. The artist is renowned for his style of placing sculptures in front of paintings, combining both the 2D and 3D worlds. "By doing so, I believe that the viewers could feel the atmosphere of my works more lively and dynamically. I had been seeking for a way to give more realistic feel to my piece without changing my painting style, and then I got inspired by the painting in the backgrounds of film and theatre." This became one of the most significant turning points in his career. Some of Ohata's selected solo exhibitions include the recent *Resonate* at Mizuma Gallery, Singapore (2018), *Everyday Life* at YUKARI ART CONTEMPORARY, Tokyo, Japan (2011), and *Luminous* at gallery4walls, Seoul, South Korea (2010). He has also participated in numerous group exhibitions in United States, Singapore, South Korea, and Japan. Ohata was shortlisted for the category of Installation & Sculpture at the Celeste Prize (2009), and at the GEISAI #10 (2006), he received the WWD Japan award, DENTSU award, GIANT ROBOT award, and yukari-art, Inc. award. Ohata's artworks can be found on the publication cover of *Tokyo Soundtrack* (Italian edition) by novelist Hideo Furukawa (2018), and on the CD jacket of *Daylight* and *Suiyoubi no Wine* by Rika Shinohara (2001). His artwork is in the public collection of the Takahashi Collection (Japan). Ohata Shintaro lives and works in Kanagawa, Japan.

## About the Gallery

Mizuma Gallery was established in 1994 in Tokyo, and since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, it aims for the promotion of Japanese artists in the region as well as the introduction of new and promising young talents from Southeast Asia to the international art scene. The gallery creates a new vector of dialogue within Asia, by exchanging art projects between East Asia and Southeast Asia.

## About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in September 2012. Gillman Barracks' vision is to be Asia's destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art. Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is a focal point of Singapore's arts landscape, and anchors the development of visual art in the region and beyond. For more information: [www.gillmanbarracks.com](http://www.gillmanbarracks.com)

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Gallery hours:  
Tue-Sat: 11am-7pm  
Sun: 11am-6pm  
Closed on Mondays &  
Public Holidays

[www.mizuma.sg](http://www.mizuma.sg)  
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OHATA Shintaro  
*Deep Breath* (detail) (2018)  
mixed media  
162 x 130.3 cm (painting)  
146 x 55 x 60 cm (sculpture)  
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courtesy of the artist, Mizuma Gallery, and  
YUKARI ART

OHATA Shintaro  
*sayonara wo nokoshite* (2018)  
acrylic on canvas  
89.4 x 145.5 cm  
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OHATA Shintaro  
*Deep Breath* (2018)  
mixed media  
162 x 130.3 cm (painting)  
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OHATA Shintaro  
*A light* (2017)  
acrylic on canvas  
100 cm x 65.2 cm  
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OHATA Shintaro  
*Blowin in the wind* (2017)  
acrylic on canvas  
112 x 145.5 cm  
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