

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*With Gratitude*Solo exhibition by Okuda Yuta
14 January – 20 February 2022

Mizuma Gallery is pleased to announce *With Gratitude*, a solo exhibition by Japanese artist Okuda Yuta.

Okuda Yuta worked as a designer for the fashion brand TAKEO KIKUCHI prior to deciding to begin his art practice in 2016. Since then, has been actively participating in solo and group exhibitions in Japan. *With Gratitude* will be Okuda's first solo exhibition in Mizuma Gallery Singapore.

In his earlier works, Okuda used to draw with fine details consisting of meticulously calculated lines. His new "flower" series marked a shift in his work process to embrace chance and serendipity. The flowers expressed in various colours remind us of works by Pop artists, but upon closer look, we notice that each individual petal is delicately drawn.

The motifs are said to be based on the memories of childhood that Okuda arrived at as he was "salvaging himself". In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, Okuda realized that the things he had taken for granted were extraordinary all along, and from then, he began to draw works of flowers in the theme of "with gratitude".

With Gratitude, a solo exhibition by Okuda Yuta, will run from 14 January till 20 February 2022.

Part of



Okuda Yuta, *Abstract Flowers (Triple Gradation × Yellow Green)*, 2021, pigment ink, acrylic on canvas, 72.7 × 91 cm
© Okuda Yuta, courtesy of the artist and Mizuma Gallery.



Okuda Yuta, *Abstract Flowers (Gray x Blue)*, 2021, pigment ink, acrylic on canvas, 50 × 72.7 cm
© Okuda Yuta, courtesy of the artist and Mizuma Gallery.

About the Artist



Okuda Yuta (b. 1987, Aichi, Japan) graduated in 2010 with MA in Fashion Design from Instituto Marangoni, London, UK. After working as a designer for the fashion brand "TAKEO KIKUCHI" (2012-2016), he began his art practice in 2016. Developing from early ink drawings of miniature paintings, his practice in the last year encompasses to larger-scale acrylic paintings – all throughout an unconscious self-projection of his own experiences that come naturally to him. Flowers and living things, their beauty and ugliness, life and death, are often seen his motifs depicted. Okuda's exhibition includes *With Gratitude* at Mizuma & Kips, New York, United States and Elephant Studio, Tokyo, Japan (both 2021); *Black to Colourful* at Gallery ISHIKAWA, Tokyo, Japan (2020).

About Mizuma Gallery

Executive Director Sueo Mizuma established Mizuma Art Gallery in Tokyo in 1994. Since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, the gallery aims for the promotion of East Asian artists in the region as well as the introduction of Southeast Asian artists to the international art scene. From 2014 to 2019, the artist residency space "Rumah Kijang Mizuma" opened in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to create a new platform for dialogue by supporting exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia. Later in 2018, "Mizuma & Kips" in New York, USA, as a shared collaboration between Mizuma Gallery from Tokyo and Singapore and Kips Gallery from New York.

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

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

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COVID-19 update: In accordance with the current advisory from the Singapore Government, we require all visitors to check-in using TraceTogether and to wear their masks during the duration of their visit. For more information, please visit: www.mizuma.sg/news/notice-to-visitor