



L'Atlas invites

# Nao Masaki (Nagoya)

For the exhibition

Press pack  
May 2024

4, cour de l'Île Louviers  
75004 Paris

Free entrance from Tuesday  
to Saturday, 12 to 7 pm  
and by appointment  
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## *ALIVE : GUTAI, Postwar avant- garde art movement and modern punk SHODO*

06.06.24—20.07.24

with

Sadaharu Horio and Lintalow Hashiguchi

Opening Thursday June 6 from 6 to 9pm



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L'Atlas is pleased to invite the Japanese gallery Nao Masaki for the exhibition **ALIVE : GUTAI**, Postwar avant-garde art movement and modern punk **SHODO**. This exhibition features the works of Sadaharu Horio, a member of the Gutai Art Association, and Lintalow Hashiguchi, one of the most prominent contemporary calligraphers today.

In 2016, Horio used wall scraps from event venues to improvise one thousand different-sized paintings in six days. On the other hand, Hashiguchi, influenced by punk rock and inspired by the words of modern calligrapher Yuichi Inoue, *Calligraphy is art for everyone*, began his artistic journey by abandoning expensive brushes. Instead, he uses towels and his entire body to create large-scale works.

Both Hashiguchi and 46 years his senior, Horio, recorded their daily thoughts and inspirations extensively in their journals. These two unique artists from different generations never met, but they share many things in common. Their artworks as traces of life continue to speak to our hearts in modern days.



SADAHARU HORIO, *Untitled / A Tale of 1000 GO 1000 Pictures*, 04.09.2016, wooden panel and mix media, 900 x 900 x 27 mm

#### About:

Strongly aware of social disparities and gender issues, Nao Masaki became involved in socio-political activities at a young age, before realizing that a transformation of the social system was only possible on the condition that individual sensitivities evolve.

In 2005, she inaugurated Gallery Feel Art Zero, whose concept is to confront ourselves to art to feel the work in its raw state, without judgment through knowledge. The gallery was renamed Nao Masaki Gallery in 2018, a year which also marked her first participation in national and international contemporary art fairs.

Today, Nao Masaki continues to question and experiment with the essence of art as a gallery owner and artistic director, through the organization of public artistic events. Lately, her interest has been focused on the relationships between art and society.

## II *ALIVE : GUTAI, Postwar avant-garde art movement and modern punk SHODO*

Since the mid-1960s, as a member of the Gutai Art Association, Sadaharu Horio began to seek the meaning of art within everyday life's ordinary routines. His most well-known piece, *Ironuri, [Paint Placements]* involves selecting one color from acrylic paints each day and layering it onto works hung throughout his studio, with a note of each piece's start and end days. Horio's two-dimensional *One-Minute Method* series entailed Horio making 30 works within one minute each morning.

*Untitled / A Tale of 1000 GO 1000 Pictures*, exhibited today, originates from his inspiration to paint pictures of a « thousand-pieces », which he believed was possible to achieve if he used a size, a thousand « go », a Japanese format equivalent to the size of a postcard). Based on this idea, Horio used wall scraps from event venues to improvise one thousand different-sized paintings with his friends in Nara city in 2016. The energy of the artist and his deep contemplation on daily activities are felt from this work, breathing a new life into waste materials, and leaving a profound impression on the viewer. These series were featured in the catalogue raisonné published by the Sadaharu Horio Memorial Foundation in 2023.

Lintalow Hashiguchi was born in Nagasaki in 1985, around the same time when Horio began to affirm his artistic style. Under the influence of punk rock, Lintalow began to create art using calligraphy, which he used to do as a child, expressing unarticulated daily emotions with unique symbols. Inspired by the words of modern calligrapher Yuichi Inoue, *Calligraphy is art for everyone*, he began his artistic journey by abandoning expensive brushes. Instead, he uses towels and his entire body to create large-scale works.

Lintalow Hashiguchi's artworks, influenced by post-war avant-garde, mingle with artworks by Sadaharu Horio, who continued his artistic work as an avant-garde activist. In the chaos of the modern world, the presence of these two artists leaves a profound impression on the viewer. They are artists who do not avert their eyes from their struggles with the purpose of seeking truth. Their art comes as a choc and an awakening to us ; it feels as if our innate wildness is being called forth.

## Sadaharu Horio

Born in 1939 in Kobe (Japan)  
Died in 2018 in Kobe

Sadaharu Horio was born in a working-class neighborhood in Kobe, where he lived and worked for the rest of his life. He became a part of the Gutai movement in Japan from the 1950s to the early 1970s and continued his work as an artist until his death in 2018.

A dare made with his art teacher Tokumitsu Kioka sparked Horio's interest in art at the age of six. In 1955, Horio started working at a shipyard in Kobe where he joined the company's Western-painting club. Two years later, he met Jiro Yoshihara, leader of the Gutai Art Association, and later became a member of the group until its dissolution in 1972.

Sadaharu Horio participated in many group and solo shows including the 15<sup>th</sup> Gutai Art Exhibition and exhibitions at the Shinanobashi Gallery in Osaka, at the Kyoto Kita-Shirakawa

Art Village, and monthly exhibitions at a bar called Bonkura in Kobe. In 1979, he opened the Higashimon Gallery on the second floor of a noodle shop.

His work is characterized by a strong connection with everyday life and a rejection of boundaries between high and low art. Indeed, Horio used unconventional mediums in his works such as scrap materials collected at the shipyard, string, pieces of wood, boxes and rocks.

His influences were multiple and diverse. A conversation with the leader of a religious group inspired Horio's interest in visualizing « air ». His own country also had a profound influence on Horio's work, both in terms of its artistic traditions and its cultural values, such as Japanese calligraphy, harmony, balance, and Japanese philosophy that values the beauty of imperfection and impermanence.



SADAHARU HORIO, *Untitled / A Tale of 1000 GO 1000 Pictures*  
04.10.2016  
Wooden panel and mix media  
900 x 913 x 30 mm



© Courtesy of the gallery



## Lintalow Hashiguchi

Born in 1985 in Nagasaki  
Lives and works in Nagasaki

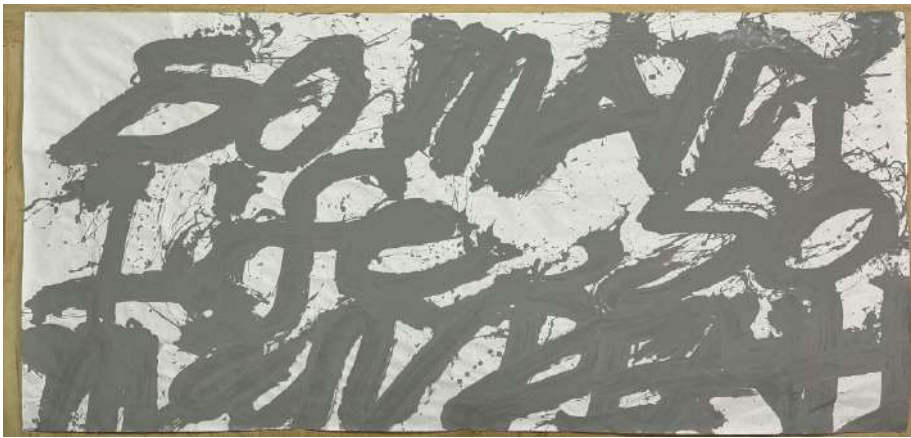
In 2004, Lintalow Hashiguchi entered Fukuoka University of Education, where he studied traditional calligraphy and its aesthetics.

Influenced by the entanglement of aggressive sounds and emotional lyrics in punk rock, by 1960's Butô (experimental dance), Gutai art, as well as by avant-garde art, Hashiguchi uses his whole body when creating his works, letting the words that come to mind flow onto the medium used. He is especially inspired by Yuichi Inoue, an avant-garde calligrapher, and his belief that calligraphy arises from our everyday lives, giving people the energy to keep going.

Indeed, Hashiguchi believes that letters and words have a soul that radiates life, « bubbling out and vibrating in the air like a living creature ». Using an unexpensive

towel as a writing tool, he writes in a single boundless burst of speed, giving his work an unusual presence in our current world where words are mere symbols typed and printed or shown on a screen. He draws inspiration from Japan's cultural heritage of wordplay, such as « Haiku », short poems of three to five lines.

In 2008, he held his first solo exhibition at the IAF Shop in Fukuoka (that has since been held annually). In 2015, he was selected as one of the members of Tensakukai, a group exhibition paying homage to Yuichi Inoue. In 2018 and 2019, he was picked as one of the artists in ART SHODO TOKYO, and won the grand prize at LUMINE meets ART AWARD 2018-2019. He has since participated in many solo and group shows in Japan and abroad.



LINTALOW HASHIGUCHI, *SO MANY LIFE, SO MANY DEATH*  
2024  
Oil on Japanese paper  
3060 x 1600 mm



© Syun Nagata

# IV

# L'Atlas

Created and supported by Emerige, L'Atlas, galerie des mondes invites international galleries, foundations, or institutions to exhibit one or more artists from contemporary scenes that are underrepresented in France. In partnership with these major stakeholders in the world of contemporary art abroad, L'Atlas proposes an original and innovative model : a joint curation of the 5 annual exhibitions by Emerige's art projects Director Paula Aisemberg and the invited partner. These exhibitions come with a cultural programme (conferences, meetings,

readings, screenings, or concerts) and educational visits or workshops aimed at a wide audience. L'Atlas allows its partners to set up a branch in the heart of the Parisian capital for two months, in line with the calendar of major artistic events (fairs, biennials, etc.). L'Atlas is an open door to the world, a showcase for the most dynamic private or public actors and a meeting place for artists, professionals, and the general public

# V

# The Emerige group

As a patron of culture and a passionate defender of contemporary creation year after year, Emerige supports events in France and abroad that promote the French art scene. Through its grant "Bourse Révélation Emerige" created in 2014, it offered the young generation of visual artists the opportunity to make a name for themselves and to join leading galleries. Convinced that art can change everyday life, Emerige encourages the bringing together of culture with all audiences, especially the youngest. It supports artistic and cultural education programs such as « Une journée de vacances à Versailles », the Collège de France Foundation, the

« Festival d'Automne » and Gérard and Elizabeth Garouste's association « La Source Garouste ». As first signatory of the charter « 1 immeuble, 1 oeuvre », Emerige contributes to the rise of art in the city by installing a work in each building it builds. Nowadays, this is more than 60 works installed and more than 100 000 residents who have access to art daily.

# V

# Event

Performance / Gathering

On the occasion of the opening of the exhibition, the artist Lintalow Hashiguchi will create an original art work.

With Lintalow Hashiguchi

More information will be available on our website soon.

Thursday June 6<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm

# VI

# Upcoming exhibition

Meessen  
Brussels, Belgium  
50°49'N / 4°0'W

Meessen is a contemporary art gallery that brings a group of strong, international artists. The gallery occupies three floors in a house built in 1911, including a «Wunderkammer», offering a particular look on the theatre of the world. The gallery also publishes catalogues and editions in close collaboration with the represented artists, in order to promote and distribute their work.

05.09.24 — 26.10.24

<https://www.meessen.be/>





# VII

# Practical information and Contacts

## Contacts

Paula Aisemberg, Director of artistic projects of Emerige  
Joséphine Dupuy Chavanat, Manager of artistic projects of Emerige  
Juliette Martineau, Gallery Manager  
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## Adress

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Photo : Aurélien Mole