

Lee Kit & Masaya Chiba *to sweat* 流汗

11 July – 22 August 2026



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Dear Lee Kit,

It has been a long time.

I am very happy to have the possibility of holding a two-person exhibition with you through a request from ShugoArts. You feel important to me, both as an artist and as a person.

About ten years ago, at a bar in Hong Kong, Teng Chao-Ming was there, and so were Jun Yang, Leung Chi Wo, and others.*2 What we talked about when we drank together that night gave me a very positive message, and it is something I still cherish today.

I also had a special impression of your recent solo exhibition in Tokyo.*3 Perhaps I feel this way because I have changed more than your work has. The elections that determine the direction of politics in this country, the many unreasonable news stories we encounter, and the feeling of being slowly suffocated by them may be some of the reasons why I have come to sympathize with your work even more.

The image that sometimes comes into my mind of my son going to a battlefield is very frightening. And so is the fact that this is something happening throughout the world.

In addition to actual battles, I feel that your way of creating a space in which one can quietly observe the small sounds and voices inside one's head is very important.

(continued)

*1. This exhibition began with this email, sent on 18 March 2026, written by Masaya Chiba. With the support of ShugoArts director Minako Ishii, and through several exchanges of emails as well as direct conversations in Taipei, the exhibition gradually took shape.

*2. The group exhibition "Discordant Harmony", jointly curated by curators from China, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan, toured Hiroshima, Taipei, and Seoul in 2015–2016. After one of the receptions, the artists and people involved went to a bar and talked late into the night.

*3. Lee Kit's solo exhibition "Some broken days and broken fingers", held at ShugoArts in December 2025.



LEE Kit, *Some broken days and broken fingers*, 2025, ShugoArts



LEE Kit, *He came here to sweat*, 2026, spray paint on stainless steel, looped projection, painting: 120x95cm, projection: 123.6x98.6cm (Left)

LEE Kit, *Dementia*, 2026, spray paint on stainless steel, looped projection, painting: 120x95cm, projection: 116x94cm (Right)

ShugoArts is pleased to present a two-person exhibition by Lee Kit and Masaya Chiba. Belonging to the same generation, the two artists have continued to make work in their respective places since their twenties. In the more than ten years since they first met, the environments surrounding them have changed, and the world itself has also changed greatly.

Through painting and the spaces around it, the two artists create an “observing / self-reflecting space” within a world that is increasingly difficult to live in. It is also a space where “one may be as astonished as one wishes” in the face of all kinds of phenomena that cannot be explained.

This exhibition takes shape through an exchange of letters and a visit to Lee Kit's studio in Taiwan. Through the artists' candid exchanges of words, images, and sounds, the exhibition gradually takes form. From the renewed dialogue between the two artists, whose paths cross again after the passage of time, a space gradually emerges. We warmly invite you to experience the exhibition.

ShugoArts, June 2026



Masaya CHIBA, *Painting and iPS-derived cardiac muscle sheet*, 2025, ShugoArts



Masaya CHIBA, *Theatre of Silent Objects, Episode 1: Beyond the Tunnel*, 2025, Paper, etching, acrylic, inkjet print on paper, video, 45

x 27 cm

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Venue: ShugoArts (complex665 2F, 6-5-24, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo)

Dates: 11 July – 22 August 2026

Hours: 11am - 6pm, Closed on Sun, Mon and Public Holidays

Summer holidays: 9 – 17 August

Opening reception: 11 July, 5pm – 7pm *The artists will be present.

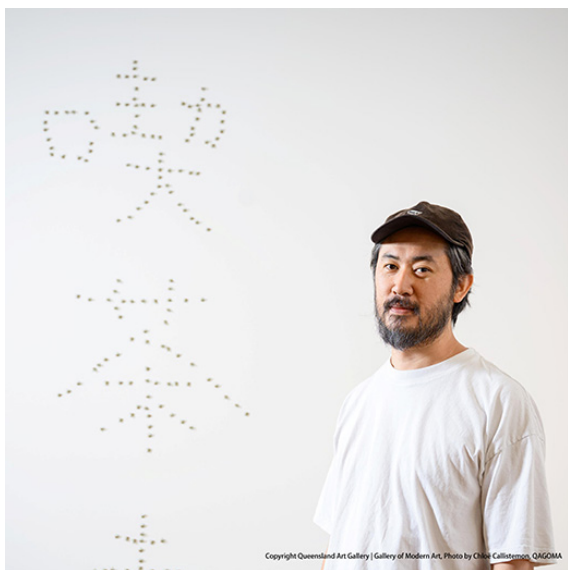
LEE Kit Biography



Born in Hong Kong in 1978. Currently based in Taipei, Lee has taken part in exhibitions internationally, including the US, Europe and Asia. In his art practice, Lee utilizes various media such as projector light, videos, sounds, words and found objects, and his artworks represent the artist's desire to continuously blaze a trail for new expressions of painting. Having been born and raised in Hong Kong, a city that has been susceptible to political turbulence, Lee has been conscious of the current socio-political climate. He incorporates intricate expressions to provide an opportunity for the viewers to reconsider their relationships with society and others, and the nature of his artwork is what makes his exhibition spaces site-specific, reflecting the ambience and emotions of each location.

Selected solo exhibitions: His gaze has turned in to disdain for those who are well-intentioned yet incapable. (A quiet day), Fridericianum, Kassel, 2025; A blank stare like a gasp, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2023; Lovers on the Beach, West Den Haag, Den Haag, 2021-2022; (Screenshot), ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2020; Resonance of a sad smile, Art Sonje Center, Seoul, 2019; 'We used to be more sensitive.', Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, 2018; I didn't know that I was dead, OCAT, Shenzhen, China, 2018; Not untitled, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2017; A small sound in your head, S.M.A.K, Ghent, 2016; Hold your breath, dance slowly, The Walker Art Centre, Minneapolis, USA, 2016; The voice behind me, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, 2015; 'You (you).', the 55th Venice Biennale, 2013.

Masaya CHIBA Biography



Born in Kanagawa, Japan, in 1980. Currently lives and works in Tokyo. Chiba's paintings are created through a process in which the artist actively engages with the objects of his choice as much as necessary; he extracts images from his surroundings and previous life events and reconstructs them on canvas while utilizing his handmade motifs. With his sophisticated skill set, Chiba can differentiate textures of various motifs in his paintings where he establishes a complex world combining pseudo-reality, pure artificiality and reality. While sincerely imprinting copious achievements of paintings of all times and places on his mind, the artist boldly disturbs the existing structure of contemporary art with his preferred medium, painting.

Selected exhibitions: Painting and iPS-derived cardiac muscle sheet, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2025; The 11th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Queensland, 2024-2025; Sideward Exhibition, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2023; Masaya Chiba Exhibition, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, 2021; Assebridge NAGOYA, Former Minato Dormitory of Nagoya customs, Nagoya, 2019; Painting and ..., Gallery αM, Tokyo, 2018; Perry Rhodan and my life, Art Center Ongoing, Tokyo, 2018; MAM Collection 006: Materials and Boundaries – Handiurman Saputra + Chiba Masaya, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 2017; What to Do With Memories by Utilizing Things Such as Indirect Lighting in Light Box Style, Yatsuzaki Halo, Feeling of Wanting to Kiss, Family Story, Sagamihara Stone Burger, Forget Medusa, and Element 50m Ahead, ShugoArts, Tokyo, 2017; Discordant Harmony, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, 2015 (Travelled to Seoul and Taipei); Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 2013.

For further information, please contact: info@shugoarts.com

Press: Saya Fujita

complex665 2F, 6-5-24, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 / +81 3 6447 2234

website: <https://shugoarts.com/en>