

Kazuaki Yamane / after "the riverrun the"  
2015.1.25 - 2015.2.22 14:00 - 19:00  
\*Closed on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
At XYZ collective  
2-30-20 Tsurumaki, Setagaya, Tokyo, JAPAN 154-0016

XYZ collective is pleased to announce *after "the riverrun the"* by Kazuaki Yamane. Running from January 25th through February 22nd, this will be Yamane's first solo exhibition, having previously participated in group exhibitions and residency programs both locally and abroad. Over the past few years, he has also featured in a number of exhibitions and fairs with XYZ collective, including "Man & Play: XYZ collective at Brennan & Griffin" and NADA Miami Beach (2013 and 2014).

With a background in painting, Yamane has expanded his practice to incorporate elegant and conceptually driven sculpture, installation and flat works. Amongst such works, "Reform" (2013) was a reconstructed replica of a bicycle that the artist received from his father as a child and was too large for him to ride at the time. The sculpture is a poignant attempt to deal with an act of failure that remains in his family history. In contrast to referencing events of the past, "Swap" (2013) appears to embody a sense of denial with regards to what lies ahead. Employing the methods of cubism and Duchamp's ready-mades, Yamane deconstructs visual language and context to expose the shortcomings of history's disconnections and subsequent reconnections.

Yamane's also utilizes methods of conceptualism and institutional critique to acknowledge the countless deceptions within society that alternatively function as self-evident truths. "Untitled (The Grand Lie)," centered on an unrealized plan for a large billboard bearing the phrase "*THE GRAND LIE*," while "Thought We'd Agreed" (2014), consisted of a fishing lure with the word "*tasty*" painted on the wall above. By alluding to the history of modern and contemporary art, the artist reconstructs social narratives, often reinventing them with a touch of irony. Through this practice he gives new meaning to everyday scenarios through the transformation of common objects and events.

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#### A hit song and Beckett (in lieu of an exhibition statement)

A vintage record player was playing music in my room. Just before the song came to an end, the record skipped and went back to the beginning. I guess that there must have been some dust or a scratch on the vinyl. Even when I reset the record, the problem repeatedly occurred – the end was immediately followed by the beginning, over and over again. The song was "Till the End of Time" by Perry Como, a million-seller hit in the USA in 1945; the year the war came to an end. As the song continuously failed to finish, I was reminded of "Finnegans Wake": the tale with no end. I felt a touch of *deja vu* as I have a reoccurring dream where I get caught in an infinite loop, making mistakes over and over again. In that dream, Samuel Beckett appears and says, "Try Again. Fail again. Fail better." I always pondered what *better* failure actually meant.

#### \*Finnegans Wake

The first novel written by James Augustine Aloysius Joyce (1882-1941). The title of this exhibition is a reference to the cyclic nature of the book whereby the last sentence finishes abruptly with "the," before linking back to the beginning, which starts with "riverrun."

Kazuaki Yamane

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Walking aimlessly. Without thinking, without restrictions.

Let's draw a line. It will separate here and there. People will start to see meanings in the separation. "There" and "that" are no longer "here" and "this." A single line can create separation and result in innumerable conflicts. It isn't easy to walk when you have complete freedom and so people repeatedly draw lines in their lives – restricting themselves whilst simultaneously dreaming of their escape.

When I was born, the world was filled with lines. I had no idea what it meant to walk aimlessly, without thought or constraint. I simply can't imagine the world without lines. Like those before me, I too draw lines. While a world filled with lines may sound intolerable, it is actually not so bad. The world is fucked, but at the same time, the world is wonderful.

I can find love in the world and as a human being that is not uncommon behavior. However, I also have to think about a new beginning. Maybe I can jump over the lines; maybe I can slice the lines and connect them differently. I can do anything. Anything.

We haven't given up on our imagination. After all, it is strange enough to yearn for freedom when we've filled our world with our own restrictions. Ok, I'm being melodramatic. I should stop now.

Kazuaki Yamane

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List of works

1.  
Go into mourning for a mediator  
2015  
Dimensions variable  
Inkjet print , **ink**  
Edition of 15 + AP 3
  
2.  
Time of a project No.2  
2015  
59.0 x 34.5cm  
**Magazine cutouts mounted on glass and acrylic**  
Unique edition
  
3.  
Death comes everyday  
2014  
Dimensions variable  
Balloon, **artist's breath**  
Unique edition
  
4.  
**An Operator**

2015  
110 x 95 x 17cm  
Glass, inkjet print, tape  
Unique edition

5.  
Time of a project No.1  
2015  
31.0 x 27.0cm  
Magazine cutouts mounted on glass and acrylic  
Unique edition

6.  
How can I finish getting away a problem?  
2015  
Dimensions variable  
Stone, pencil on eggshells  
Unique edition

7.  
This great fucking world  
2014  
26.5 x 21.5cm  
Found print  
Unique edition

8.  
reform  
2013  
Dimensions variable  
Bicycle  
Unique edition

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CV

1982 Born in Hiroshima

2008 BA from Tokyo Zokei University

2010 MA from Tokyo Zokei University

Group Exhibitions

2014  
*Men & Play*, Brennan & Griffin, New York, USA

2012  
*Angelika Open*, (会場?), London, UK

2010  
*UK ECKA*, Savremena Galerija, Beograd, Serbia

2009

*Outrange*, Bumpodo GALLERY, Tokyo  
*ASIAF Seoul*, (会場?), Seoul, South Korea

2008

*TACTILE*, Littlish, TOKYO  
*TRANSIT International Exchange Exhibition*, Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University,  
Pittsburgh, USA  
*Continue Art Project 2008*, (会場?), Niigata, Japan  
*Outrange Kita*, PRAHA project, Hokkaido, Japan  
*N2Y et,et,et- Nakamura Taichi, Nozawa Yutaka, Yamane Kazuaki*,  
Tokyo Zokei University ZOKEI GALLERY, Tokyo

2007

*Shell Contemporary Art Award Exhibition*, Daikanyama Hillside Forum, Tokyo  
*THE SIX*, Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse, Yokohama, Japan

2006

*Outrange Kita*, PRAHA project, Hokkaido, Japan

#### Awards & Scholarships

2011

The 26th HOLBEIN Scholarship

#### Art Fairs

2014

With XYZ collective, NADA Miami Beach, Miami Beach, USA

2013

With XYZ collective, NADA Miami Beach, Miami Beach, USA