

Emi Mizukami*And so it goes*

Larder is pleased to present the solo exhibition *And so it goes* by Tokyo-based, Japanese artist Emi Mizukami. The exhibition features a new series of paintings and drawings by the artist. At once allegorical and abstruse, the series develops a dense visual and material language, engaging with ancient and contemporary modes of representation. Various symbols, motifs and references emerge repeatedly across the work. These include ancient mythological images such as snakes, swords and angels, disembodied and enlarged hands and feet, the nineteenth-century board game, Reversi and Kurt Vonnegut's 1969 science-fiction novel, *Slaughterhouse-Five*.

Building up the painting's surface through numerous layers of imagery and sand paste-thickened paint, these recurring depictions become simultaneously concretized and obscured as they emerge or submerge. Although earlier images now lie hidden underneath the surface, Mizukami does not distinguish any hierarchy between these visible and invisible layers. Instead, the hidden and exposed - described by the artist as the "disappearing" and "remaining" images - are seen as mutually developing the painting's pictorial, temporal and structural plane.

These sealed, under-layers resurface on the backs of the paintings as loosely drawn and painted fragments from the artist's memory. In this way, the work's representational structure and allegorical timeline is further complicated as supposed origin images and initial sketches are reconstituted as final marks and remembered traces.

Emi Mizukami (b. 1992, Tokyo, JP) lives and works in Tokyo, JP. Mizukami holds a BFA in Oil Painting from Tama Art University in Tokyo, JP (2017). Previous solo exhibitions include *So it goes* at 4649, Tokyo, JP (2022); *「Catharsis Bed」* at CADAN YURAKUCHO, Tokyo, JP (2022) and *Dear sentiment* at TOKAS Hongo, Tokyo, JP (2021). Previous two-person and group exhibitions include *Letters, Lights, Travels on the Streets* curated by Jeffrey Rosen at NowHere, New York, NY (2022); Art Collaboration Kyoto with 4649 and King's Leap, Kyoto, JP (2022); *To be Umbrella for the World* at Talion Gallery, Tokyo, JP (2022); VOCA at Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, JP (2022); *COPE* at No Gallery, New York, NY (2022); 4649 at Pina, Vienna, AT (2020); *Feelings for a Spider* at 4649, Tokyo, JP (2019) and *always good, always funny, always heavy, always casual* at LOOPHOLE, Tokyo, JP (2018).

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