

MASANORI TOMITA

LAMELLA

08.06 – 22.07.2023

It slipped and was caught
It appeared because it came off
Connected, then interrupted
Hidden or exchanged
Sometimes not bitten while drinking
Sometimes drinking without biting
Becomes the prey for the eyes
Serves as a supplement for the stomach

There is a place where whispers are heard comfortably
The absence of commotion in front leaves something behind

Something rich passes through the throat and suddenly disappears
Something light transforms into a part of heaviness
Overlap and become softer
Sometimes, when swaying, it becomes rigid
There is too much difference, and balance is maintained
Ideas when adjustments cannot be made
When something is caught, something is released
It is an act of moving a little
It cannot remain still.

"Lamella, I slipped through the cracks and came here."

The phrase "ラメラ" (Lamella) in the original Japanese expression doesn't have a clear subject and can be interpreted as a word that represents the act of slipping through the cracks and coming here, rather than something or someone doing it.

However, when translating, the addition of the pronoun "I" in English ("I slipped through the cracks and came here, Lamella") doesn't feel completely out of place.

"Moving back and forth, distorting and changing form, a scenery that moves by repeating and vibrating extensively—I swam through all of that, all of it, all of it..."

Conveniently or inconveniently surrounded by interruptions and connections,
Bouncing back and responding, while soaking in it,
The choices seem to increase as you notice,
Only to disappear at times,
And go somewhere else.

- Masanori Tomita

Masanori Tomita's immersive paintings encapsulate the essence of everyday experiences with remarkable precision and empathetic attention. His artworks can be seen as fragmented expressions, atomized and delicately crafted to capture the nuances of quotidian life. Through his artistic process, Tomita amalgamates layers upon layers of visual elements, creating a living cosmos of accumulated imagery, perpetual regurgitation, and intentional construction. If there is a discernable path from perception to expression, then there is no doubt Tomita is an artist fated to explore it thoroughly, obsessively mapping a detailed topography of the terrain between that which we optically sense and that which we emotionally feel. His creative practice encompasses various mediums, including producing notes, sketches, manga, and painting. These diverse outlets allow him to transmute what he describes as "scraps of things from the clutter" into captivating and dramatic scenic routes that narrate lived experiences.

Masanori Tomita was born on 1989 in Kumamoto, Japan, he lives and works in Saitama, Japan. Recent solo exhibitions include: Kayokoyuki, Tokyo; Turner Gallery, Tokyo. Recent group exhibitions include: High Art Arles; Parliament, Paris; SHOP Taka Ishii Gallery, Hong Kong; Satoshi Ohno Studio, Yamanashi; Shibuya Hikarie, Tokyo; Space Wunderkammer, Tokyo.