

Ritsuki Fujisaki Gallery

Exhibition Press Release

“Spirit Heart Soul Flesh Body” by Maggie Dunlap and Taka Kono 21st of October – 12th of November, 2023

Exhibition Title: Spirit Heart Soul Flesh Body

Date: October 21 - November 12, 2023

Venue: [Ritsuki Fujisaki Gallery](#)

Artists: [Taka Kono](#), [Maggie Dunlap](#)

Web:

<https://ritsukifujisakigallery.com/en/2023/10/14/spirit-heart-soul-flesh-body-by-maggie-dunlap-and-taka-kono-from-20231021-to-20231112/>

Exhibition Text:

The Post-mortem Condition

Give the public free access to the memory and data banks (Lyotard, Jean-Francois. *The Postmodern Condition*. Manchester University Press, 1984.)

The excesses of contemporary society, characterized by war, sexual violence, and heinous crimes, are amplified by technological advancements, creating a feedback loop between event and representation. Social media platforms like TikTok serve as a stage for these episodic, sometimes startling, human experiences.

Death is an intensely personal event, yet the body enters a realm of anonymity post-mortem. There exist liminal spaces, moments neither alive nor dead—akin to crossing the River Styx or approaching the Pearly Gates.

In medical terms, death is typically confirmed through cardiopulmonary arrest. Thirty minutes post-mortem, livor mortis sets in. Blood descends due to gravity and pools in the body's lower extremities, causing a dark purple discoloration of the skin. This downward flow of blood is evocative of hair being caught in a drain, both signifying an irreversible process directed by natural forces.

An hour after death, rigor mortis commences. Aerobic respiration ceases, depleting the oxygen needed for the synthesis of adenosine triphosphate (ATP). As ATP levels drop, the body stiffens into a fixed pose, as if frozen in time—much like how a crime scene is immortalized in a photograph.

Rather than witnessing a consolidation of Spirit, Heart, Soul, Flesh, and Body, it is the transitions among these elements—

across the physical and metaphysical, the personal and social, the analog and digital—that captivate us, drawing us into the mysteries of life and death.

Text by Ritsuki Fujisaki

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12pm- 7pm, Sun, Mon, Fri, Sat

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