

PARCEL

parcel

DDD hotel 1F,
2-2-1
Nihonbashi-Bakurocho,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo

Maruka bldg 2F,
2-2-14
Nihonbashi-Bakurocho,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo

[PRESS RELEASE]



化石としての風／復興としての土／
祈りとしての風土

Prayers in the Wind and Soil

加茂 昂 | Akira KAMO

Nov 11 – Dec 24, 2023

Opening reception Nov 10, 2023 18:00-21:00

At PARCEL

1F DDD HOTEL, 2-2-1 Nihonbashi Bakurocho,
Chuoku, Tokyo, JAPAN

Closed : Mon, Tue, National Holidays

https://parceltokyo.jp/exhibition/akira_kamo/

Press images <https://xfs.jp/hQuGps>

PARCEL is pleased to present "Prayers in the Wind and Soil" a solo exhibition by Akira Kamo starting November 11, Saturday. At first glance, Kamo's works are beautifully painted landscapes with a distinctive emphasis on the matière, but at the root of them, memories of the post-disaster period, which are beginning to fade away, are deeply involved. Wind and soil are the symbolic motifs of the works, and the exhibition will allow visitors to feel the present location of the "wind and soil" that each region is losing, not only due to the earthquake but also other factors as well.

Since the Tohoku earthquake, Kamo has conducted fieldwork and research mainly in areas that are difficult to return to or restricted to return. The works in this exhibition are based on these records and sketches. In the process, Kamo began to draw fences, billboards, and other boundaries as symbols to visualize the effects of radioactive contamination. The wind is a symbolic motif that recurrently appears in Kamo's work. While the artist records the landscape in front of the fences and billboards, which have been set up according to standards set by human beings themselves and whose movement is restricted, the wind effortlessly passes by the man-made borders of the restricted area and envelops the artist.

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For further information on the artist or the exhibition please contact us at : contact@parceltokyo.jp ATTN: Tanaka / Sato

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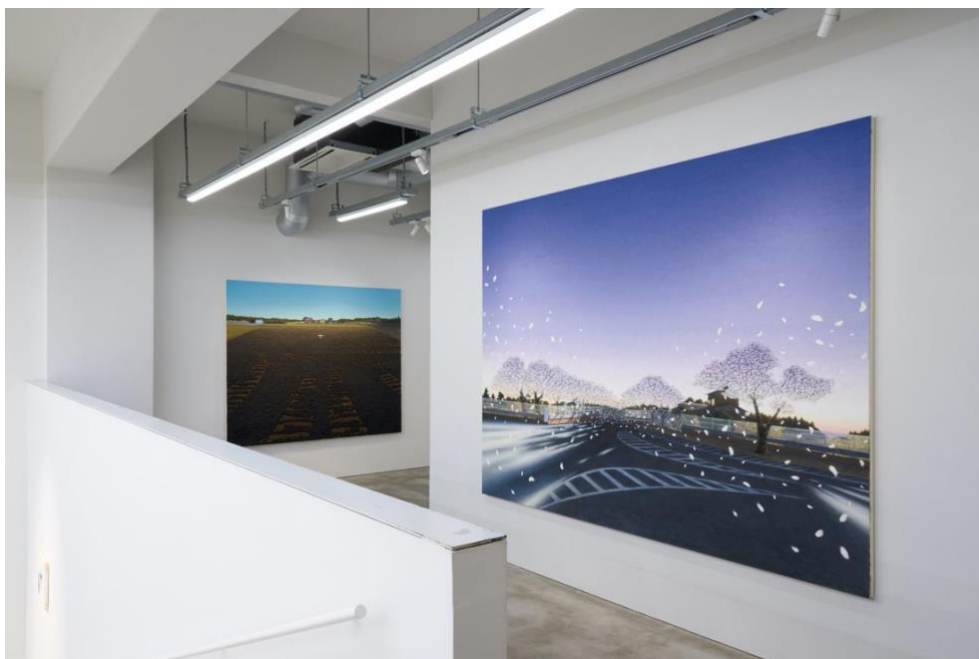


Installation view of "Prayers in the Wind and Soil" at PARCEL, by Osamu Sakamoto

The title "Prayers in the Wind and Soil" also focuses on the challenges of decontaminated soil in difficult-to-return areas. While decontamination of the fields has lowered radiation levels in the areas where decontamination has progressed and entry is gradually beginning to be permitted, the fertile topsoil essential to the vitality of the land and the fields has been stripped away, posing a long-term challenge for true reconstruction. Kamo has also produced a series that examines the deep relationship between soil and poetry, focusing on the silence of the soil and the irreversible loss of memory associated with cultivated land.

So what has been lost in the areas in need of reconstruction, specifically Fukushima, where Kamo has repeatedly conducted fieldwork? What has been lost is the wind-driven soil. “風土 <Fu-do> is soil that encompasses the wind. It is a living and dying landscape that comes into existence when a person tills the earth with a hoe or plow and, at that moment, allows the soil to embrace the wind blowing on their body through their hands. Within this soil lies prayer.” Kamo says.

With modernization and globalization, the concept of "wind and soil" has been lost, not only in the region that is the subject of Kamo's exhibition. Please come and see Kamo's attempt to bring the stories contained in the wind and soil to life on the canvas through fieldwork.



Installation view of “Prayers in the Wind and Soil” at PARCEL, by Osamu Sakamoto

加茂 昂 | Akira Kamo

1982 Born in Tokyo, JAPAN. B.F.A.,Painting,Tokyo National University of Fine Arts.

After the Tohoku earthquake in 2011, Kamo began to approach “painting” as a synonym of “survival”, as well as perceiving himself- “I” and “society” as relative to each other by interweaving mental images and events to his work.

Selected Recent Exhibitions

- 2021 “Artists and the Disaster Imagining in the 10th Year” ART TOWER MITO, Ibaraki, JAPAN (Group)
- 2020 “Drawings”, LOKO GALLERY, Tokyo, Japan (Group)
- 2019 “Wind Blowing Through Boundary” LOKO GALLERY, Tokyo, Japan (Solo)
- 2018 “Vicarious Scene” Maruki Art Museum, Saitama, JAPAN (Solo)
- 2017 “Portait of the Scene” Tsunagi Art Museum, Kumamoto, JAPAN (Solo)
“Vicarious Painting” Hiroshima Art Center, Hiroshima, JAPAN (Solo)
- 2016 “Death grows in the soil” Tachibana Gallery, Tokyo, JAPAN (Solo)
“Anti-Sanctuary” Tachibana Gallery, Tokyo, JAPAN (Solo)



Installation view of “Prayers in the Wind and Soil” at PARCEL, by Osamu Sakamoto

About the gallery : www.parceltokyo.jp

PARCEL opened its doors in June 2019 in the East side of Tokyo Japan. In its distinctive space, a former parking lot in a hotel, PARCEL aims to create a program that transcends various cultures with its focus centered on contemporary art, introducing a wide range of artists from both Japan and abroad. Taku Sato, who has been in the gallery business in Tokyo for many years, is the current gallery director, alongside with Sakie Takasu, a member of the art collective SIDE CORE, as the program advisor. In February 2022, “parcel” opened as an annex on the second floor of a gallery complex located behind PARCEL. Through both spaces, PARCEL/parcel aims to send out multifaceted messages which rise in such an era, while creating a list of exhibitions and events which portray the characteristics of the gallery. A combination of a commercial gallery and a project space.