

NOBUYA HITSUDA



October 28 – December 3, 2023

Cooperation: Hiroshi Sugito

ART WEEK TOKYO 2023: November 2 - 5, 2023 10am - 6pm (<https://www.artweektokyo.com/>)

Garden, 1996, oil on canvas, 96.7 x 162.3 cm

Nobuya Hitsuda was born in 1941 in Oota ward, Tokyo, Japan and currently lives and works in Aichi prefecture. After completing the graduate course at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1966, he worked as a lecturer at the said university, and later as a designer in the art department at NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation. In 1975 he began teaching at the Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts, and from 2001 to 2009 taught as a professor at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music.

He has received the Award for Artist in Nagoya City (1984), the 28th Yasui Grand Prize (1985), and the Seiji Togo Memorial Sompo Japan Museum of Art Grand Prix (2011). His work has been included in several public collections such as The National Museum of Modern Art, The Tokyo; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; the Agency for Cultural Affairs; The Toyota Municipal Museum of Art (Aichi); the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music; the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art; The Nagoya City Art Museum (Aichi); The Toyohashi City Museum Art and History (Aichi); the Aichi Prefectural Art University; The Tochigi prefectural Art Museum; The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu; The Hamamatsu Municipal Museum of Art (Shizuoka); The Miyakonojo City Museum of Art (Miyazaki); The Kariya City Art Museum (Aichi) and The Suwa City Museum (Nagano).

In 2009, In the little playground: Hitsuda Nobuya and his surrounding students, a set of dual exhibitions at the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art and the Nagoya City Art Museum, introduced the works of painter and teacher Nobuya Hitsuda, along with his 19 students including Yoshitomo Nara, Hiroshi Sugito and Shin Morikita.

At KAYOKOYUKI, we are pleased to announce the solo exhibition of Nobuya Hitsuda titled '○△□'. In this exhibition, we will showcase paintings and drawings created since the 1990s, along with newly crafted pieces that use workboards that were used and passed on from the Aichi Prefectural University of the Arts to Tokyo University of the Arts' laboratory rooms. Also during the first half of the exhibition (Nov 2-5), buses from ART WEEK TOKYO 2023 will be conducting tours, so please take this chance to participate.

Hitsuda reconstructs familiar landscapes—mountains, ponds, vacant parking lots, brick walls, wire fences, crushed cans, and flowers—employing geometric forms like oblique and straight lines, circles, triangles, and rectangles, complemented by vibrant and deep colors. This unique approach compresses distant and close-up views, forming a distinctive spatial experience. He's motifs are often everyday landscapes, yet the composition offers a mysteriously intriguing realm where past and present intersect and flow continuously.

Born in 1941 in Ota Ward, Tokyo, Hitsuda spent his formative years in post-war Tokyo, where the ground of the streets were still exposed. Often climbing up the banks of Tama River, he gazed at the views of the rivers shifting attitude, shaped by typhoons and floods, and Tokyo's changing landscape during the economical boom¹ which remains to be the reoccurring scenery of Hitsuda Nobuya's paintings. His keen observations of various artworks across eras, along with exposure to movies, theater, and architecture, became the foundation for constructing rich sceneries through the accumulation of visual experiences in the city.

The exhibition's title, "○△□" might bring to mind zenga paintings by Sengai. However, the emphasis here seems to lean more toward the direct morphological meaning of ○△□ than its religious or symbolic connotations. The circular imagery that frequents in the exhibition portrays landscapes in flux, such as ponds, puddles, or vacant parking lots undergoing construction. Compositions featuring geometric forms lack a vanishing point, and the interplay of oblique and straight lines introduces fluctuations in the image. One's perspective remains unfixed, and one's gaze meanders diagonally, vertically, and horizontally from the center, causing the reflected landscape itself to oscillate.

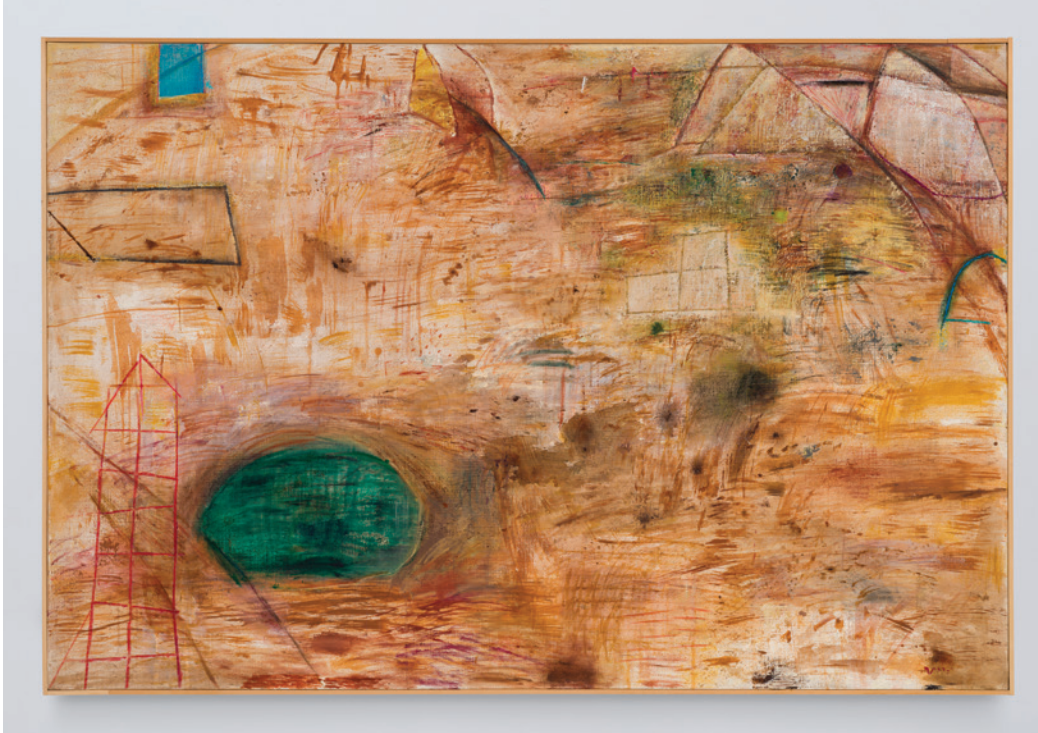
A landscape that emerges by gathering fragments of scenery from here and there, "changing its form like a creature while calmly being there"² in both the past and present. It is not only Nobuya Hitsuda's *Scenes Passed by* but also, perhaps, the idea that it is one's own *Scenes Passed by*.

¹ Konishi Nobuyuki, "Nobuya Hitsuda: Leading Straight to the Landscape" ('In the Little Playground, Hitsuda Nobuya and his surrounding students,' Aichi Triennale Executive Committee, 2009)

² Nobuya Hitsuda, "Seens Passed by" ('Nobuya Hitsuda: Seens Passed by,' Tokyo University of the Arts Publishing, 2008)



Mountains, 2007, pencil and colored pencil on paper 73.7 x 103.7 cm (each)



Wetland, 1996, oil on canvas, 130.2 x 194 cm



Scenes Passed By, 1993, oil on canvas, 130.7 x 161.7 cm



Scenes Passed By, 2000, oil on canvas, 111.7 x 161.7 cm



Raft (Boat), 2015, oil on canvas, 96.7 x 130.5 cm

NOBUYA HITSUDA

- 1941 Born in Tokyo
- 1960 B.F.A Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music,
Faculty of Fine Arts Department of Oil Painting
- 1966 M.F.A Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music,
Faculty of Fine Arts Department of Oil Painting, worked as an assistant until 1969
- 1970 Worked as a designer of art department at NHK, Japan Broadcasting Corporation until 1971
- 1972 Becomes a member of Shinseisaku Association until 2008
- 1975 Taught at Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts and Music until 2001 / 1996- as Professor
- 1979 Stayed in Paris, Fellowship from the Agency of Cultural Affairs until 1980
- 1990 Stayed in New York and Paris, Fellowship from the Ministry of Education
- 2001 Professor of Tokyo National University of Fine Arts And Music until 2009
- Lives and works in Aichi.

Selected solo exhibitions

- 2023 "○△□" (KAYOKOYUKI / Tokyo)
- 2022 Nagoya Gallery / Aichi
- 2019 "Nobuya Hitsuda: blame not on reasons" (KAYOKOYUKI / Tokyo)
- 2011 "Nobuya Hitsuda -Scenes Passed By-" (Sompo Japan Seiji Togo Museum of Art/ Tokyo)
- 2008 "Nobuya Hitsuda : Scenes Passed By"
(Tokyo National University of Fine Arts And Music, The University Museum / Tokyo)
- 2004 "Nobuya Hitsuda Scenes Passed By" (Suwa City Museum of Art / Nagano)
Gallery APA / Aichi
- 2001 Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts and Music / Aichi
- 1998 Sokei Academy of Fine Art & Design Gallery / Tokyo
- 1997 "Tokyo International Art Festival '97" (Galerie Humanité, Tokyo Art Forum / Tokyo)
- 1994 Seibu Art Forum / Tokyo
- 1992 Umeda Modern Art Museum / Osaka
Promenade Gallery / Nagoya
- 1991 "Exhibition of Nagoya Award for Artist Winners" (Nagoya Citizen's Gallery / Nagoya)
- 1990 Humphrey Fine Art / New York
- 1987 Suzukawa Gallery / Hiroshima ('90, '93)
Galerie Humanité / Tokyo ('90, '97, '04)
- 1985 "Nagoya City Museum Commemoration Exhibition for the Award for Artist from Nagoya City:
Playback 1960-80" Nagoya City Museum / Aichi
- 1978 Galerie Humanité / Aichi ('83, '87, '90, '93)
- 1977 Nishimura Gallery / Tokyo ('79, '82, '86)

1975 Osaka Petit Formes Gallery / Osaka ('78)

1974 Gallery Kinokuniya / Tokyo

1973 Shirota Gallery / Tokyo

Umeda Gallery / Osaka

1969 Tamura Gallery / Tokyo

Gallery Watari / Tokyo

Selected group exhibitions ""

2023 "Frame and Wave" (Toyota Municipal Museum of Art / Aichi)

"Nagakute Art Festival 2023" (Cultural Center 2F / Aichi)

2021 "In their shoes 2" (KAYOKOYUKI / Tokyo)

2016 "Domani: The Art of Tomorrow PLUS - Drawing Lessons in 3331"

(3331 Arts Chiyoda, 1F Gallery B / Tokyo)

"The Exhibition from the Collection of Seiji Togo Memorial Sampo Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art"

(Seiji Togo Memorial Sampo Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art / Tokyo)

2015 "MOT Collection Painting Survey, 1970-2015" (Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo / Tokyo)

2012 "MOT Collection, Art from the 1960's-80's" (Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo / Tokyo)

2010 "Wonder Senior 30" (Yokosuka Museum of Art / Kanagawa)

"*Toki no Yuenchū*" (Nagoya/Boston Museum of Fine Arts / Aichi)

2008 "Drawing – *Kangaerute*" (Nagoya Citizens' Gallery Yada / Aichi)

"Views of IKAI"

(Tokyo National University of Fine Arts And Music, The University Museum / Tokyo)

"*Kaiga no Chikara – Enogu no Majyutsu*" (Musashino Art University Museum & Library / Tokyo)

"In the Little Playground Hitsuda Nobuya and his surrounding students"

(Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya City Art Museum / Aichi)

2007 "IMA-Painting Today" (Mitsukoshi Museum of Art / Tokyo)

"The 40th Anniversary of the Japanese Government Overseas Study Program for Artists provided by the Agency for Cultural Affairs: Journey - Encounters and Dialogues with Foreign Cultures"

(The National Art Center Tokyo / Tokyo)

2006 "Art of NAGOYA" (Nagoya City Art Museum / Aichi)

"Participate & Enjoy: Let's Experience Extraordinary Art"

(Hachioji Yume Art Museum and Kurashiki art Museum, etc. / Tokyo, Okayama, etc.)

"Selected Painting From The Collection of Toyohashi City Museum"

(Toyohashi City Museum Art and History / Aichi)

2005 "Land and space: Painting and Sculpture" Yuichi Yonebayashi & Nobuya Hitsuda Exhibition,

(Court Gallery / Tokyo)

"A Second Talk: Contemporary Art from Korea and Japan" (Fukuoka Asian Art Museum / Fukuoka)

- 2003 "PresentA '03" (Akademie of Art Munich, The CHINRETSUKAN Gallery of Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music / Munich, Tokyo)
- 2002 "Domani: Tomorrow Exhibition" (Seiji Togo Memorial Sompō Japan Museum of Art / Tokyo)
- 2000 "The painting considers" (The Museum of Fine Arts / Gifu)
 "Art Forefront 25 years" (Ikeda Museum of 20th Century Art / Shizuoka)
 "Explore it by Art: to the world of a picture" (Kariya City Art Museum / Aichi)
- 1998 "Modernization of Landscape" (Kosugi Hoan Museum of Art, Tochigi)
- 1995 "Japanese Culture: The Fifty Postwar Year" (Meguro Museum of Art and Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, etc. / Tokyo)
- 1994 "17th Japanese Masterpiece Exhibition" (Takashimaya / Tokyo and Osaka) ('00, '01, '02)
 "Space Conception"
 (The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama and Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art / Saitama / Aichi)
 "Modernism – a historical overview"
 (Takashimaya and Umeda Modern Art Museum / Tokyo and Osaka) ('96)
- 1993 "20th century: Fine Art in Aichi" (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi)
 "Contemporary Eyesight '93" (Yurakucho Art Forum / Tokyo)
 "JAM: The Japanese Government Overseas Study Program for Artists"
 (Ikeda Museum of 20th Century Art / Shizuoka)
- 1992 ALPHIRST Gallery / New York
 "Perspective of East and West"
 (Mitsukoshi and Toyohashi City Museum, etc. / Tokyo and Aichi, etc.)
 "Artist of the East" (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art / Nagoya)
- 1990 "BYOBU-E" (Bildschaft Museum / Düsseldorf)
- 1989 "Japan-Australia Contemporary Art Exhibition: Art Exciting '89 - Beyond Today"
 (The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama and Queensland Art Gallery / Saitama and Queensland)
- 1988 "Way, Road, Path, Street, Course, Route, Pass, Lain" (Miyagi Museum of Art / Miyagi)
- 1985 "Japan Contemporary Paintings - 83 artists"
 (New Delhi National Museum of Modern Art and Sogo Art Museum / New Delhi and Tokyo) (until '86)
 "2nd Asia Art Exhibition" (Fukuoka Art Museum / Fukuoka)
 "Yasui Prize Exhibition," (Sezon Museum of Modern Art / Tokyo)
 "Japanese Masterpiece Exhibition" (Takashimaya / Tokyo and Osaka) (until '86)
 "The Contemporary Figurative Painting Biennale" (The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura and Mie Prefectural Art Museum, etc. / Kanagawa and Mie) (until '87)
- 1983 "An Encounter with the Sights around Us" (Miyagi Museum of Art / Miyagi)
- 1981 "Mori no kai" (Umeda Modern Art Museum / Osaka)
- 1979 "Today's image - Adventurer of Art" (Yamagata Museum of Art / Yamagata)
 "Figurative Art toward Tomorrow" (Takashimaya / Tokyo) (exhibited every year until '84)
 "Toshio Arimoto & Nobuya Hitsuda Exhibition: Four Seasons" (Galerie Humanité Nagoya / Aichi)

1977 "Contemporary Figurative Exhibition"

(Matsuzakaya / Tokyo and Nagoya) (exhibited every year until 1986)

1973 "Selected Japanese Contemporary Art" (Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts / Tochigi)

1965 "Shinseisaku Association Exhibition, New Artist Prizes awarded"

(Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum / Tokyo) (1965,1966,1967,1968 Prizes awarded consecutively)

Public collections

Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, Agency of Cultural Affairs, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Tochigi Prefectural Art Museum, The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya City Art Museum, Aichi Prefectural Art University, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Hamamatsu Municipal Museum of Art, Miyakonojyo City Museum of Art, Toyohashi City Museum Art and History, Kariya City Art Museum, Suwa City Museum of Art

Prize

2009 Received 32nd Seiji Togo Memorial Sompo Japan Museum of Art Grand Prix Award

1985 Received the 28th Yasui Grand Prize

1984 Received The Award for Artist from Nagoya City

1965 Shinseisaku Association Exhibition, New Artist Prizes awarded

('65, '66, '67, '68 Prizes awarded consecutively)