

Shimon Minamikawa "GHOST, NEW PAINTINGS, TOKYO, etc."

2011.1.16 Sun - 2.20 Sun

Opening reception : 1.16 Sun - SUNDAY BRUNCH 13:00 - 16:00

(Following the reception the gallery will remain open until 17:00)

MISAKO & ROSEN is pleased to announce our third solo exhibition with artist Shimon Minamikawa. Minamikawa was born (1972) and presently lives and works in Tokyo, Japan. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions including, most recently, a solo presentation at the Roppongi Hills Art + Design Store in the Mori Art Tower, the exhibition celebrating the release of his debut artist book *The ABC Book* (published by Hikotaro Kanehira, 2010). In 2009, MISAKO & ROSEN presented *Yokomichi Yonosuke*, a series of 293 paintings created for Minamikawa's collaboration with noted author Shuichi Yoshida. The pair's project (Yoshida's text generated in tandem with Minamikawa's paintings) was published serially in the *Mainichi Shinbun* from April 2008 - March 2009.

GHOST, NEW PAINTINGS, TOKYO, etc is representative of Minamikawa's ongoing consideration of painting in relation to a lack of meaning-generation. More explicitly so than in past bodies of work, with the *GHOST* series, Minamikawa utilizes recent painterly tropes in a process of erasure equal to that of, say, a Rauschenberg to De Kooning - only in reverse. An additive, or representative process is contradictorily adopted to eliminate specific, particularly abstract painterly, significance. Referred to by Mori Art Museum Chief curator Mami Kataoka as spectra, Minamikawa's paintings indeed do evoke through and as absence of anything but impression as history as painting; in the case of the *Ghost* paintings, Minamikawa's focus is on a particularly present moment in painterly practice. Humor, generated from the naturally disjoint yet nonetheless linked -via serialized installation- canvases serves to temper the absence; yet, it humor

born of nothing and this sobering thought lends Minamikawa's new paintings a peculiar kind of weight.