

# HAGIWARA PROJECTS

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Nana Yokoi *Water in Spring*

2026. 3.7 sat - 4.4 sat

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*Tulip* 2026, oil on canvas  
27.3 x 22 cm

## Water in Spring

About six months ago, I decided to rent a small room to use as a studio. It's near a large pond and a river that flows out from it.

When I finish working late at night and open the door to go home, I can hear the sound of the water moving.

In one of my favorite novels, there's a line about how a girl sees the world when she takes off her glasses. It says that she can't see anything ugly, and that everyone's faces look gentle and beautifully smiling.

When I first read that part, it stayed with me. I even asked people I knew who had poor eyesight whether things really looked that way to them. (Everyone said no.)

Nearly twenty years have passed, and my own eyesight has gotten much worse. But I've never been able to see the kind of world the girl described, where harsh or unpleasant things are softly hidden. (I think it's because I have astigmatism.)

In the dark, the outlines of lights spread and blur, so in the night sky it looks as if there are several moons overlapping and shining at once.

Living with the sound of moving water and with lights that no longer hold a fixed shape, I'm reminded that nothing stays entirely solid, that everything is in motion. Somehow, that feeling is connected to a sense of calm.

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Yokoi graduated in 2006 from the Department of Painting (Oil Painting), Tama Art University. Selected exhibitions include *Border / Distance* (2023, Nagano); *Super Open Studio, LUCKY HAPPY STUDIO* (2022, Kanagawa, solo exhibition); *Crumble, HAGIWARA PROJECTS* (2021, Tokyo, solo exhibition); *small good things, HAGIWARA PROJECTS* (2018, Tokyo); *Powder, Wako Works of Art* (2012, Tokyo, solo exhibition); *Incidental Affairs: The Aesthetics of Transient Everyday Life, Suntory Museum, Tempozan* (2009, Osaka); *from/to #4, Wako Works of Art* (2008, Tokyo); and *Naïve Art VIII, Pepper's Loft Gallery* (2004, Tokyo), among others.