

Tomio Koyama Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of works by Varda Caivano marking the artist's fourth solo presentation with the gallery since her most recent showing three years ago for Tomio Koyama Gallery in 2016. This new exhibition, her second at the gallery's Roppongi gallery space, features nine major new paintings and a selection of framed works on paper that are both drawn, painted and collaged on paper.

Varda Caivano's paintings consist of multiple layers of diverse colors, lines, and brushstrokes, in a manner intentionally kept unfinished – suggested by its unpainted areas – which creates a richness that arouses the viewer's imagination while also conveying a potentially unlimited sense of space.

The colors she uses have shifted from the brighter ones employed in her earlier work, to a more subdued predominantly grey, blue, and brown tonality as reflected in her 'Grey Paintings' series presented in her previous solo exhibition in Japan in 2016. In these latest works, Caivano once again returns to a vivid palette of reds, yellows, and greens.

The pencil lines embedded within the paintings, as well as the fixed charcoal overdrawing are also a unique characteristic of her work. Such lines function in creating further frames within the contours of the canvas, giving the impression of several works being present in the details of a single painting.

Continuing to engage in various observation, contemplation, discovery, decision-making, experimentation and planning, Caivano uses colors, lines, materials, brushstrokes, and unpainted areas in her work to convey both depth and density. As a result, the traces of her thinking come to overlap with the voices and dialogues of the works, and it is after this relationship has developed over a certain period of time, that the works meet their completion. The multiple layers of colors, lines, and brushstrokes in the works seem to represent the passage of time incurred.

Although this process is at the core of Caivano's artistic practice, her works also form connections with her past oeuvre, as well as pieces she is simultaneously working on. While at once being aware of the surface effects on the picture plane, her paintings attempt to establish contact points between time and space. They embrace both materiality and illusion, and indeed could be regarded as earnestly pursuing the possibilities as well as the limitations of abstract painting.

Varda Caivano, born Buenos Aires (1971), graduated from her masters at the Royal College of Art (London) in 2004, having previously been educated to degree level in sciences (Biology), and humanities (Art History), the latter taken at the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina. On

moving to the United Kingdom in the early 2000s to complete a graduate diploma at Goldsmiths University in Fine Art, she followed this with her RCA MA, where Caivano is now Faculty Lecturer in painting, alongside her commitment as artist ‘supervisor’ of the independent studio programme at De Ateliers in Amsterdam, Holland.

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