

PODIUM



Date: 13 June—29 August 2026

Opening: 13 June 2026, 2-7 PM

Artist: [Shimon Kamada](#)

Please visit the link [HERE](#) to download all media-related materials.



SHIMON KAMADA. *Before the Car Light Came*, 2026. Acrylic and oil on canvas, 65 x 80 cm | 25.6 x 31.5 in.
© Shimon Kamada (2026). Courtesy of the artist and PODIUM, Hong Kong.

PODIUM is proud to present “Phantom('s) Presence”, Rotterdam-based Japanese artist **Shimon Kamada**’s first solo presentation with the gallery and in his career. In this new body of work, Kamada draws from his photo archives that span his childhood and teenage years in his hometown in Japan, conjuring realms where these images drift, overlap, and intertwine like fragmented memories. From hometown streets and domestic settings to scenes of natural sublimity and surreal dreamscapes; the artist bathes each composition in skewed light, melancholic shadows, and psychological tension to render a series of enigmatic narratives, revealing the fragile and elusive nature of remembrance. The exhibition opens on 13 June (Saturday) from 2 to 7 PM and is on view until 29 August (Saturday).

The exhibition title unfolds along a dual register. On one hand, memories return as spectral traces, resurfacing as phantoms that linger within the present. On the other hand, it references the phenomenon of the phantom limb, where absence is paradoxically experienced as presence, blurring

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the boundary between reality and fantasy. Together, these ideas probe the unstable and illusionary nature of memory as something both fleeting and insistently felt. Additionally, to underscore the plasticity and influx nature of memories, the exhibition will not remain a static presentation, instead it will be restructured mid-way during its exhibition period.

Notes to editors

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For further information, please contact **Cusson Cheng**, *Co-founder and Curatorial Director*, at cusson@podiumgallery.com, or call +852 3165 1452.

About Shimon Kamada

Shimon Kamada (b. 1997, Japan; lives and works in Rotterdam) channels personal memory and subconscious reveries into his evocative oil paintings. Drawing from his sentimental photo archives, Kamada constructs layered compositions that fuse figuration with abstraction, exploring the fragility of time, the inevitability of loss, and the elusiveness of memory. His canvases, marked by skewed light, uncanny shadows, and dystopian atmospheres, evoke a haunting suspension that unsettles viewers and surfaces latent trauma. Through complex narrative stratifications, Kamada invites multiple, often ambiguous interpretations, transforming intimate recollections into universal meditations on nostalgia, alienation, and the porous boundary between reality and dream. His practice extends to woodcut prints and the reworking of secondhand canvases, emphasising the process and accumulation of memory’s layers.

Kamada won the Ron Mandos Residency Award (2020) and worked at Brutus Lab in Rotterdam (2021) as an artist-in-residence. His work was featured in group exhibitions including PODIUM, Hong Kong (2025); Van Nelle Fabriek, Rotterdam (2024); Enari Gallery, Amsterdam (2023); ARWE Gallery, Gouda (2022); Wilford X, Temse (2022); Felix Solo Gallery, Nijmegen (2021); Atelier of AVL Mundo, Rotterdam (2021); Het HEM, Zaandam (2020), among others.

About PODIUM

Established in 2024, Hong Kong-based contemporary art gallery PODIUM operates as a robust platform for underrepresented emerging and mid-career artists whose creative practices reflect idiosyncratic aesthetics and resonate with current social discourses. Through dynamic exhibition programmes, publications, and institutional collaborations, the gallery remains steadfast in fostering transnational dialogues and synergic and experimental growth among the international artistic community.

Website: www.podiumgallery.com

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