

KEN MATSUBARA

"HOU-CHOU" *RELEASING BIRDS*



23 APRIL - 28 MAY 2016
OPENING SATURDAY 23 APRIL FROM 5PM

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"HOU-CHOU" RELEASING BIRDS, THE EXHIBITION

KEN MATSUBARA AND COLLECTIVE MEMORIES

KEN MATSUBARA: THE DEEP SYMBOLISM OF WATER

VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE PRESS

GALERIE ERIC MOUCHET, CONTEMPORARY ART
IN THE HEART OF SAINT-GERMAIN-DES-PRÉS

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

KEN MATSUBARA

"HOU-CHOU"

RELEASING BIRDS

23 APRIL - 28 MAY 2016
OPENING SATURDAY 23 APRIL FROM 5PM



Takuhatsu Feet - TV
h27 x w28.5 x d26 cm
SONY SOLID STATE
film, mixed media

Galerie Eric Mouchet is proud to present the exhibition "HOU-CHOU" releasing birds dedicated to the Japanese artist Ken Matsubara, from 23 April until 28 May.

Ken Matsubara creates objects vested with immaterial power, which have an influence on our deep consciousness. The moving images that float on the surface or that are mysteriously enclosed in glass, pertain as much to intimate recollection as to the universal, as anyone can relate to them according to one's own references. The artist considers that human consciousness consists of memories from one's ancient knowledge, built up and shared since the mists of time. By passing on this knowledge through generations and from one person to another, it transcends individuality. Matsubara seeks to raise this shared memory and aspires to erase cultural, social and historical boundaries between people.

His works exude melancholy and poetry, with their simple but meaningful evocations. Thanks to the bareness of his purpose, which resembles a story without words endlessly repeated, every little ghost can find their place in our personal history. The use of video echoes the fluid and fluctuating nature of memory, whereas antique-looking objects are similar to reliquaries sheltering fragile apparitions.

In the Hou-Chou series, recently produced in several countries across South-East Asia, Matsubara studies the bird releasing ceremony that is carried out in Buddhist temples as a vow of virtue. In this practice, as in Buddhism in general, the impermanence of things and humans, the link between them and with the world, are the pillars of a philosophy with universal reach.

KEN MATSUBARA AND COLLECTIVE MEMORIES

Ken Matsubara is well-known in Japan and the U.S. for his work fed by images related to the many faces of both personal and collective memories. The photographs and video clips used in his installations seem to resurface from a recent past or a familiar remembrance, emerging from an old garret full of memories. Ken revitalizes these images in his works, making them an active part in the building of a present time. His installations stand out and never leave us indifferent, because they touch the strings of our collective unconscious.

Mara Sartore
Venice, September 28, 2011

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2016** "CALL AND RESPONSE" Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Oregon.
"Repetition" Galeria del Paseo, Uruguay
- 2015** "Smoke and Mirrors" Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, Florida.
"Venice Meeting Point" Navy Officer's Club, Venice.
"Repetition" 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2014** "Repetition" Blue project Foundation, Barcelona
"Repetition" Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto / Art 45, Montreal / MA2Gallery, Tokyo
- 2012** "The Sleeping Water" MA2Gallery, Tokyo / Jonathan ferrara Gallery, New Orleans, U.S.A.
"The End of Everything/A New Beginning" LARM galleri, Copenhagen.
- 2011** "Winter Dreams" - The Story of Water" Spazio lightbox, Venice, Italy / MA2Gallery, Tokyo
"Night Scented Stock" Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York.
"The Tiger and the Sunflower" Schroder Romero & Shredder Gallery, New York.
- 2010** "Close Encounter" AKI Gallery, Taipei.

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport, California. Maison du Livre de L' image et du Son, La Bibliotheque de Villeurbanne, Lyon. Bayly Art Museum, Virginia. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas. Bell Atlantic Corporation, New York Readers Digest, New York. Goldman Sachs Corporation, New York. Nippon Polaroid "Polaroid Corporation of Japan", Tokyo. International Polaroid Collection, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo. Deutsche Bank Collection / Bulgari Collection, New York.

AWARD

- 1991** "Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum Award"
The 20th Contemporary Art Exhibition of Japan.

KEN MATSUBARA: THE DEEP SYMBOLISM OF WATER



Storm in a Glass, 2014
43 x 38 x 8.5 cm
film, switchboard box, mixed media

The "Storm in a Glass" represents with a simple image all the weight and the significance of a crucial historical moment in the life of the country, which will maybe change the destiny and the course of their lives.

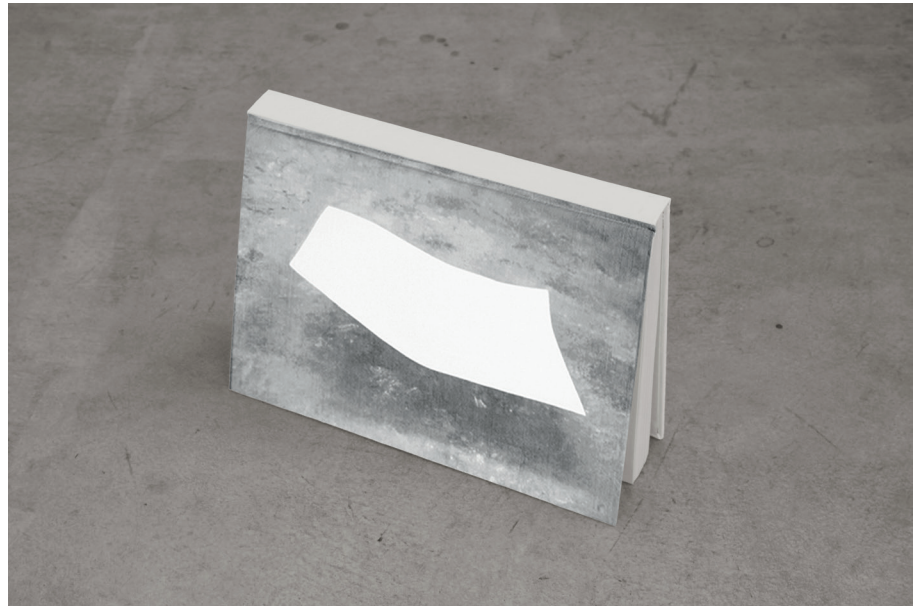
Ken Matsubara works have always had a strong relationship with past and memory. His "Clouds" remind us symbolically of the nuclear presence, "Tide" the strong and unavoidable relationship between men and water. But never, as in the series of his new works - *The Sleeping Water* - *Storm in a Glass* - has the present situation merged so clearly and dramatically.

Japan is experiencing a very difficult moment today not only because of the Fukushima disaster, and the economic crisis in the western world, but mostly because, just after the earthquake, Japanese people stopped believing and trusting their government. This lack of faith in a supreme authority represents a strong shake-up in their souls. In Japan people have grown up believing in the efficiency and the capacity of their government.

Since Fukushima the feelings and emotions of 120 million Japanese people have never stopped swinging between hope and despair, anger and uncertainty. The water in a glass is normally still, but in Matsubara's video it is swinging and fluctuating just like the mood of people in Japan, just like the wave that came and destroyed, leaving death and desolation behind it. The "Storm in a Glass" represents with a simple image all the weight and significance of a crucial historical moment in the life of the country, which will perhaps change the destiny and the course of their lives.

Mara Sartore
Tuesday, 11 October 2011
The story of our encounter

VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE PRESS



Paper in the Wind
w 37.2 × h 30.5 × d 4 cm
film, old japanese book (yamato-koji) , projector



VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE PRESS



Takupatsu Heads - Microphone Stand
h156 x w82 x d34 cm
film, antique microphone stand, projector,
acrylic board, mixed media



Takupatsu Feet - TV
h27 x w28.5 x d26 cm
SONY SOLID STATE
film, mixed media

VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE PRESS



Hou-chou
moe, projector, mixed media



GALERIE ERIC MOUCHET, CONTEMPORARY ART IN THE HEART OF SAINT-GERMAIN-DES-PRÉS



Exhibition view, Pierre Gagnard, 2 Cups Stuffed, 30 January until 5 March 2016



Eric Mouchet, Portrait

Supported by a high level of quality and expertise, Galerie Eric Mouchet displays an eclectic and demanding programme, under the influence of its founder Eric Mouchet, an expert in graphic arts for the Appeal Court of Paris and a specialist of Le Corbusier's drawing work.

Collector of international artists of the 70s-80s and young emergent artists, Eric Mouchet made the jump in 2014 to bring together his passion for contemporary art and his expertise while opening his gallery, 45 rue Jacob, Paris 6th.

Located in the historical cultural centre of Paris, Galerie Eric Mouchet shows real individuality and contributes to the opening up Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

KEN MATSUBARA

"*HOU-CHOU*"

RELEASING BIRDS

23 APRIL - 28 MAY 2016

OPENING SATURDAY 23 APRIL FROM 5PM

CURRENT EXHIBITION

re/ productions by Cyril Zarcone

12 March - 16 April 2016

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

B er enice Lefebvre, Gwendoline Perrigieux & Etain Zver

4 June - 23 July 2016



GEM
GALERIE ERIC MOUCHET

45, rue Jacob

75006 Paris

Tuesday to Saturday

11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm

info@ericmouchet.com



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