

MARIE JOSE GALLERY

16 Victoria Grove, London W8 5RW, +44(0)7476277747 info@mariejosegallery.com,
www.mariejosegallery.com

MINORI OGA

Minori Oga was born in Tokyo in 1982, and graduated from Tokyo University of Art, Lacquer Craft Department with Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2007. Oga's paintings are made up of bold strokes against restrained colour tones. Together with floating objects, these elements construct unique spatial compositions in her works.

Surpassing the simple pursuit of serene compositions, her attentiveness to brush strokes and material (painting surface) results in an illusionary vibration emitted from the drawn subject, which strikes beyond the visual senses. This effect then offers a viewing experience where one can bear witness to the transformation and ebb and flow of rhythm and speed. Oga precisely attempts to capture that split moment whereby the painting is impregnated with a heartbeat, ultimately giving birth to "Traces".

The distinct characteristic of Oga's painting style is that she uses spatulas and brushes that are specific to lacquer work as her painting tools. Her intense observation of the conditions of painting palettes and of the painting itself, as well as her experimental disposition, brings to people's minds her unique relationship with lacquer craft.

Artist Statement:

First, I create a sort of materiality that evokes a sense of organic yet decaying flow, which thereafter gives life to the painting through the formation of slight scratches and stains. I then translate the creative energy that is born from this phenomena into painted lines and surfaces. These drawn elements are by no means intended scribbles, nor do they depict motifs, images, or messages. They are simply the results of the process of me finding equilibrium. And are even moreso, motivation and self-confronting existences.

My paintings are naturally-appearing expressions of time and archiving; they track traces that are derived from my confrontation with the canvas. They are also a converging moment of my senses that have been honed since before and the present now. By visualising the outlines of intuition, I finally see my current position and grasp information about energy emanating from within, even if it is nebulous. I find meaning in this one-of-a-kind methodology that has become a way for me to connect with society through the act of sharing this sensation with others.

(I feel like I am bringing out the cells and dust floating in my brain, which is elusive and scattered, and arranging and rearranging them as elements.)

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Acrylic on tea dyed paper, 2023

54.5H x 42W cm