



For immediate release

Hola Barna Part 2

Arashi M, Cheon Yugyeong, Kazy Chan, MOMO YAMA, Okokume, Paul Hunter Speagle, Shin Hyeong Seok, and Shintaro Inoue

14 December 2023 - 11 January 2024 (By Appointment Only)



This group exhibition continues to celebrate the opening of our first permanent gallery space in Barcelona as well as the launch of our artist residency program by showcasing an exceptional array of works from esteemed international artists, Arashi M (Japan), Cheon Yugyeong (South Korea), Kazy Chan (Hong Kong SAR), MOMO YAMA (Japan), Okokume (Spain), Paul Hunter Speagle (USA), Shin Hyeong Seok (South Korea), and Shintaro Inoue (Japan). We cordially invite you to witness this exhibition's unparalleled artistic expression.

Participating Artists

About Arashi M (b.1983, Japan)

Arashi M is a Japanese artist from Tokyo who worked as an art director for animation before becoming a contemporary artist. Working with a unique colour palette he had cultivated as an art director, Arashi utilises a technique named "Air of the Times". His soft touches of paint on the canvases embody the warmth and ambiguity of the memories he aims to express. Born in the



Shōwa era, he hopes to draw viewers back to a simpler era when electronic entertainment, smartphones and social networks had yet to exist. His depictions of Shōwa girls' everyday life take audiences on a nostalgic journey where they are reminded of a time when humans were not so distant.

About Cheon Yugyeong (South Korea)

Cheon yugyeong paints figures with inherent anxiety. The figures in her paintings are lonely beings with anxious eyes. In some of her works, dogs and cats appear. It seems that anxious humans find solace in animals. What the figures have in common is a serious expression of thoughtfulness, a look of anxiety, and an expressionless, blunt seriousness. I imagine them to be between the ages of 16 and 25, living in Northern Europe. If they had souls, they would be contemplating their existence in a square canvas. Just like our existence as we live and die in the confines of time and space. The figures in the work are composed of very small eyes, blunt noses with contrasting colors, tightly pressed lips, and no eyebrows to express seriousness. The title of the work uses the words garden and forest. The artist seems to be letting the main character rest in the forest he has created. The forest is a representation of the artist's own inner world, and the figure is the artist's self who recognizes his anxiety. The background behind the figure is simple and bold, and the use of light pastel colors draws attention to the figure's expression.

About Kazy Chan (b.1993, Hong Kong)

Kazy Chan is a Hong Kong artist whose delicate and brightly coloured painting style reflects the influence of the Superflat art movement and his love for Japanese manga since childhood. Painting in soft and blurred brushstrokes, his work revolves around young children undergoing the metamorphosis of growth as they explore different sides of their inner story and imagination of the future. His whimsical works featuring unique characters living in brightly coloured imaginary scenes lure viewers into Kazy's fantastical world, where they will uncover the absurdity and sadness hidden within upon deeper examination.

About MOMO YAMA (b.1941, Japan)

Born in Shanghai and raised in Japan, MOMO YAMA presents a unique set of works that fuse multiple cultures such as fashion, fine art, street art and entertainment. MOMO YAMA is known as the "Modern Lautrec" in the art society because his artistic style is full of aesthetic sensibilities in combination with the melancholy of life. He is also a fashion icon admired by the younger generation and called a "Harajuku legend". The melancholic, elegant and somewhat mysterious women within his works take viewers on a trip back to Paris in the 1920s, Morocco and the Aegean Sea, where these women live.

About Okokume (b.1985, Spain)

Okokume's autobiographical works imbued with a bold conceptual edge are a raw and unfiltered representation of the artist's unique universe. Despite its vibrant appearance, these works carry a subtle sense of unease and anguish. Her works of art are not mere ephemeral expressions meant



for fleeting entertainment; instead, Okokume seeks to foster meaningful dialogue and heartfelt connection with every viewer on a soulful level.

About Paul Hunter Speagle (b.1982, United States)

Taking inspiration from life, love and religion, Paul Hunter Speagle creates expressive and colourful works that reflect his passions and beliefs. Speagle's canvases are filled with intense colouration that heightens a pervasion tension—evoking urban and rural environments of the US while experimenting with internal painterly dynamics around light, brushwork and compositions.

About Shin Hyeong Seok (South Korea)

The objects that accompany us every day have their own memories and meanings. By placing objects on the screen with short comments, artist Shin Hyungseok to celebrate the memories and meanings of each object, regardless of their role. From the time an object comes into someone's possession, it is imbued with its own unique meaning and memories. Rather than reminding the viewer of the general function or use of the object, the works rekindle more personal and perhaps forgotten memories or memories.

About Shintaro Inoue (Japan)

Shintaro Inoue is a Japanese painter from Niigata Prefecture, Japan. Shintaro creates works with line composition based on Japanese calligraphy he had cultivated since childhood. By drawing traditional calligraphy lines in a range of vivid colours, Shintaro presents portraits of woman who always symbolises that moment in time. However, the shape and colour of the lines are based on each person's individuality. Shintaro's thoughtful composition of these elements highlights each individual's uniqueness and allows viewers to understand the complexities of human nature.

About JPS Gallery

Established in Hong Kong in 2014 and later in Japan, Paris and Barcelona, JPS Gallery is an independent contemporary art gallery presenting works of emerging and established artists from around the world.

The gallery is founded with a passionate spirit that dedicates to the new digital age and the exploration of the world of fine art and pop culture. We aim to create an innovative environment for a new generation of artists and collectors, fostering a creative space for all. We focus on fun and playful works of the era that spans across different mediums and disciplines, showcasing a discerning selection of works that embody the aesthetics of today.

We are committed to supporting the culture and art scene in Asia and Europe, creating a vibrant local art community. The gallery regularly presents works of emerging artists in our gallery spaces in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Paris as well as international art fairs, giving them a platform to gain global



exposure, supporting young artists to launch their careers. JPS has also been an active contributor to society and the local art scene by sponsoring various charity events and auctions.

Location

Carrer de Llull, 48, 4th Floor - 2nd Door, 08005 Barcelona, Spain

Media Enquiry

For media enquires and press preview, please contact

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