

# Tomoo Gokita

## Biography

Tomoo Gokita was born in 1969 in Tokyo, Japan, where he currently lives and works.

Now a leading Japanese contemporary artist on the international art scene, he started as a designer in the 90s, producing a series of newsprint books, some of which gained cult status, such as *Lingerie Wrestling* (2000). In 2000, he set aside graphic design and dedicated himself entirely to painting.

His work is inspired by 1960s and 70s Japanese and American subcultures as well as vintage magazines, film stills, pornography, and postcards. Combining abstract and expressive brushwork, deformed figures, and lowbrow imagery, Gokita's works are emotionally charged canvases. Although he is widely known for working in greyscale, color has been a recurring feature of his practice since the beginning of his career. Whether working in greyscale or color, Gokita's paintings have long been characterized by their psychologically charged subject matter. The subjects of his paintings are indeed uncanny portraits, disquieting still lifes, and dream-like abstractions.

The artist has had solo exhibitions at galleries and museums including Dallas Contemporary, Dallas, USA (2021); Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, J (2018); Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J (2017; 2012); Mary Boone Gallery, New York, NY, US (2016; 2014); Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US (2015); Kawamura Memorial, Chiba, J (2014); Aliceday Gallery, Brussels, BE (2010); ATM Gallery, New York, NY, US (2006). His group shows include: Taguchi Collection of 21st Century Art: From Andy Warhol to Yoshitomo Nara, Hiratsuka Museum of Art, Kanagawa, J (2018); Third Space/Shift ing Conversations about Contemporary Art, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL, US (2017); Shared Space, Newcomb Art Museum, New Orleans, FL, US (2015); Wonderful my Art, Kawaguchiko Museum of Art, Yamanashi, J (2013); The Unseen Relationship: Form and Abstraction, Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Chiba, J (2012); VOCA 2009: The Vision of Contemporary Art, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, J (2009); Mail Order Monsters, Deitch Projects, New York, NY, US (2007); Mail Order Monsters, Peres Projects, Berlin, DE (2007).

### Solo exhibitions

#### 2021

2021 - Get Down, Dallas Contemporary, Dallas, USA. Catalogue

#### 2020

2020 - Game Over, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I

#### 2019

2019 - Tomoo Gokita, Massimo De Carlo, London, UK

**2018**

2018 - Tomoo Gokita, SHOP Taka Ishii Gallery, Hong Kong, PRC

2018 - Tomoo Gokita, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA

2018 - PEEKABOO, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, J. Catalogue

2018 - HOTEL PARAISO, McNamara Art Projects, Hong Kong, PRC

**2017**

2017 - Beauty, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, USA

2017 - Holy Cow, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J. Catalogue

**2016**

2016 - Out of Sight, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, USA

**2015**

2015 - Bésame Mucho, Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2015 - Damage Control, Bill Brady Gallery, Miami, USA

**2014**

2014 - Variety Show, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J

2014 - Tomoo Gokita, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, USA

2014 - The Great Circus, Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Sakura, J. Catalogue

**2012**

2012 - Secret Life, Bill Brady Gallery, Kansas City, USA

**2010**

2010 - Funland, Aliceday Gallery, Brussels, B

2010 - Wildest Dreams, ATM Gallery, New York, USA

2010 - Tomoo Gokita, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J

**2009**

2009 - Heaven, Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, USA

2009 - Champion Carnival, ATM Gallery, New York, USA

**2008**

2008 - Tomoo Gokita, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J

**2007**

2007 - Vanity Drunko, Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, USA

**2006**

2006 - Drunko, ATM Gallery, New York, USA

**2005**

2005 - Finger Prince, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J

**2004**

2004 - Black Gainers, Kyoto Art Zone, Kyoto, J

**2003**

2003 - Oh! Tengoku, Kirin Plaza Osaka and Nadif Gallery, Tokyo, J

**2002**

2002 - Merrow Master Cuts Vol. 2, Yasu Gallery, Tokyo, J  
2002 - Tomoo Gokita LP Exhibition, Record Shop Los Apson, Tokyo, J

**2000**

2000 - Lingerie Wrestling , Shibuya Parco Gallery, Nagoya Parco Gallery and Fukuoka Atrium, J

**1997**

1997 - Tomoo Gokita, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J

**Group exhibitions****2022**

2022 - Winter Wunderkammer, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace, I  
2022 - The Five story about ART – have always been there, Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Aichi, J

**2021**

2021 - Villa Chiuminatto, Villa Chiuminatto, Torino, I  
2021 - West Bund Art & Design, Shanghai, PRC

**2019**

2019 - MCMXXXIV, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I

**2018**

2018 - Taguchi Collection of 21st Century Art: From Andy Warhol to Yoshitomo Nara, Hiratsuka Museum of Art, Kanagawa, J  
2018 - The Ubiquity of Borders: Japanese Contemporary, Gallery Baton, Seoul, ROK

**2017**

2017 - Third Space / Shifting Conversations about Contemporary Art, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, USA  
2017 - Takahashi Collection Mindfulness 2017, Yamagata Museum of Art, Yagamata, J

**2016**

2016 - Moved, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J  
2016 - The Encyclopedia of Masamichi Katayama: Life is hard... Let's go shopping, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, J

**2015**

2015 - A Shared Space: KAWS, Karl Wirsum and Tomoo Gokita, Newcomb Art Museum, Tulane University, New Orleans, USA

**2014**

2014 - OK, I'll rename it': Tomoo Gokita, Todd James, KWAS, Erik Parker, Bill Brady KC, Kansas City, USA

**2013**

2013 - 20th Anniversary Trax Exhibition, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J  
2013 - Wonderful My Art, Kawaguchiko Museum of Art, Yamanashi, J

**2012**

2012 - The Unseen Relationship: Form and Abstraction, Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Chiba, J

2012 - East West Shift to the Middle Part II, Bill Brady KC, Kansas City, USA

## **2011**

2011 - New York Minute Moscow, Garage Center for Contemporary Art, Moscow, RUS  
2011 - Akatsuka Fujio Manga University Exhibition, Kyoto International Manga Museum, Kyoto, J  
2011 - Black and White, Nanzuka Underground, Tokyo, J  
2011 - Gateway: Japan, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, USA  
2011 - FACEMAKER, Royal/T, Los Angeles , USA  
2011 - Rinus van de Velde / Tomoo Gokita / Hiroki Tsukuda, Nanzuka Underground, Tokyo, J  
2011 - GUMPTION, ZieherSmith, New York, USA

## **2010**

2010 - The Pencil Show, Foxy Production, New York , USA  
2010 - The Osara Show - Plate paintings by Four Artists, Gallery Target, Tokyo , J  
2010 - The Franks-Suss Collection, Saatchi Gallery, London , UK  
2010 - Baker, Braunig, Gokita, Hopkins, Foxy Production, New York , USA  
2010 - It Ain't Fair, OHWOW Gallery, Miami, USA  
2010 - Disorder Disorder - Ulterior Motives in Contemporary Art, Penrith Regional Gallery, New South Wales, AUS

## **2009**

2009 - Gallery Trax Selections'09, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J  
2009 - Collected Visions, Pera Museum, Istanbul, TR  
2009 - Ambivalent Figuration, People at Samson Projects, Boston, USA  
2009 - Defining a Moment: 25 New York Artists, House of Campari Presents, New York, USA  
2009 - New York Minute, MACRO Future Museum, Rome, I  
2009 - Bande Annonce II, Aliceday Gallery, Brussels, B  
2009 - VOCA 2009: The Vision of Contemporary Art, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, J  
2009 - Stage, Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, F  
2009 - Stage, Deitch projects, New York, USA  
2009 - Stage, OHWOW Gallery, Miami, USA

## **2008**

2008 - Sonic Youth etc.: Sensational Fix, Malmö Konsthall, Malmö, SW  
2008 - Sonic Youth etc.: Sensational Fix, Le LiFE, St. Nazaire, F  
2008 - Sonic Youth etc.: Sensational Fix, Museion, Bolzano, I  
2008 - Sonic Youth etc.: Sensational Fix, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, D  
2008 - Sonic Youth etc.: Sensational Fix, CA2M, Madrid, ES

## **2007**

2007 - Cabinet of Curiosities, Journal Gallery, New York, USA  
2007 - Macronauts, Andreas Melas Presents, Athens, GR  
2007 - Mail Order Monsters, Deitch Projects, New York, USA  
2007 - Mail Order Monsters, Andrea Melas Presents, Athens, GR  
2007 - Mail Order Monsters, Peres Projects, Berlin, D  
2007 - Mail Order Monsters, Max Wigram Gallery, London, UK  
2007 - Summer Group Exhibition, Aliceday Gallery, Brussels, B

## **2006**

2006 - Gallery Trax Selections '06, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J

## **2005**

2005 - Remarkable Hands, ATM Gallery, New York, USA  
2005 - Stranger Town, Dinter Fine Art, New York, USA

**2004**

2004 - Psionic Distortion, Super Deluxe, Tokyo, J

**2003**

2003 - Lead Poisoning, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2003 - Jungle LP Show, Gallery Rocket, Tokyo, J

**2002**

2002 - East Meets West, Coningsby Gallery, London, UK

2002 - Tomoo Gokita LP Exhibition??, Los Apson Record Shop, Tokyo, J

**1999**

1999 - Group Exhibition, Speak For Gallery, Tokyo, J

**1997**

1997 - NYORO-TEN, P-House, Tokyo, J

**1990**

1990 - '90 Contemporary Art Festival, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama, J