

Kiyoshi Hamada, *Ebb & Flow*



√K Contemporary is proud to announce the opening of Kiyoshi Hamada's exhibition, *Ebb & Flow*. On view from February 25 (Saturday) through March 25 (Saturday), the upcoming large-scale exhibition will present a large range of works and traverse a great breadth of the artist's career.

Taking place across three floors of the gallery from the basement to the 2nd floor, *Ebb & Flow* will exhibit the artist's earliest works, from his initial career as a silkscreen artist to the Drawings of the 80s, as well as his iconic series of "shaved, carved and layered" works that began in the '90s. Spanning 60 years of his career, *Ebb & Flow* offers viewers the opportunity to experience the great changes and developments in the artist's vast oeuvre.

On the Exhibition

Hamada began his career as a silkscreen artist in the 1960s. Known for his minimalistic mindscapes, his superseding sharp and long, oval-shaped cuts of reds over deep black silkscreens were met with great recognition and acclaim. However, Hamada felt a sense of dissonance due to his inability to produce works independently and, in the 80s, embarked on a new endeavor; to challenge the art of the line by using the most basic of materials, a pencil, and paper. From here on, Hamada would traverse between different systems of production, from the repeated process of etching, scraping, and layering of paints, to the superimposing of wooden blocks.

Through this perpetual revision of production methods, Hamada's works undergo constant transformation. However, in spite of this perennial flux, the artist remains allegiant in his attitudes toward his work. Rather, through his utilization of deeply physical and intimate processes, what each and every single one of the artist's works sublimate is the accumulation of his time, labor, and presence.

Covering 3 floors of gallery space, this comprehensive display of the artist's approximately 60-year-long career will present the silkscreens of his early career to his latest works.



Drawing Floor (2), 1983
Pencil on paper
Installation View from Kiyoshi Hamada, *Strata of Memory -Light and Shadow-* (2020, √K Contemporary)

Ebb & Flow (Japanese: Michihi)

Hamada spent his childhood by the sea, playing and living alongside the ebbs and flows of the tides.

At low tide, he would play on the beach and leave footprints on the sand.

By high tide, these traces would disappear.

This memory would always remain in his mind.

In his endless search for new forms of expression, Hamada preserves the physicality and time of his production and leaves new footprints in the sand.

【Exhibiting Works】

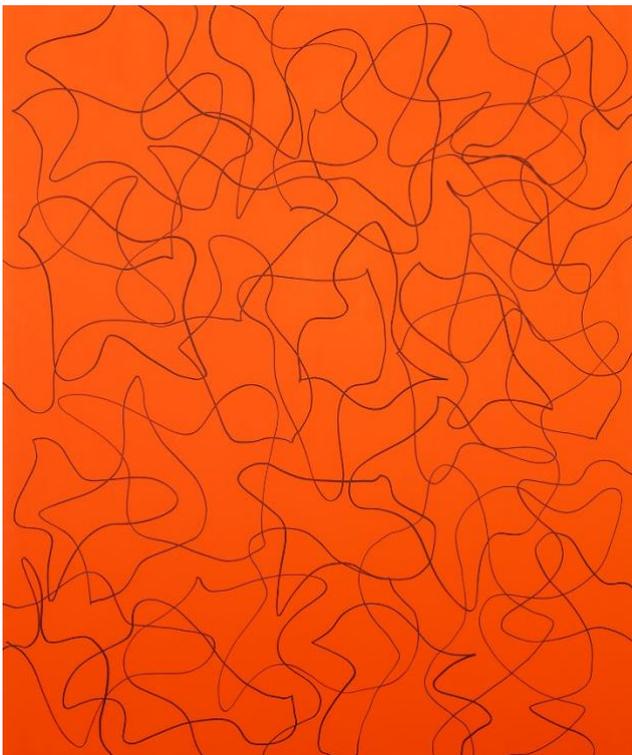
*May be subject to change



17-F-1, 2005
Oil on canvas and paper



4-12-24, 2022
Acrylic on canvas



3-3-30, 2021
Acrylic and marker on canvas



5-2-9, 2023
Acrylic and marker on canvas



Above: 24-6-16, 2012
Acrylic on board



Right: 21-5-12, 2021
Acrylic and marker on canvas

【Artist | Kiyoshi Hamada】



Kiyoshi Hamada was born in 1937 in Kochi, Japan. Following graduation from Tama Art University in 1961, Hamada became acquainted with leading post-war Japan avant-garde artists, such as Yoshishige Saito, and began pursuing abstract modes of production. He was awarded an Honorable Mention at the Osaka Biennale of Prints Competition of 1977 and, with much acclaim, has been active in various domestic and international exhibitions. In 2015, he held a solo exhibition, “The Legacy of Kiyoshi Hamada – Paintings of Layering and Erasing”, at the Nerima Art Museum. With great promise, Hamada’s oeuvre has developed over time. Nevertheless, from his iconic Drawing series to his recent monochrome semi-cultural works, Hamada’s preoccupation with the “systems” of production has remained essential to his work.

His works have been acquired by various museums, such as the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (Japan), Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (Japan), Artizon Museum (Tokyo, Japan), and the Kraków Museum of Art (Poland).

< Public Collections >

The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (Tokyo), Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (Tokyo), Machida City Museum of Graphic Arts (Tokyo), Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery (Tokyo), Artizon Museum (Tokyo), Nerima Art Museum (Tokyo), Fuchu Art Museum (Tokyo) Mitaka City Gallery of Art (Tokyo), Osaka Contemporary Art Center (Osaka), The Museum of Art, Kochi (Kochi), Shirakidani International Museum of Contemporary Art (Kochi), Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts (Tochigi), Okazaki City Museum of Art (Aichi), Kraków Museum of Art (Poland), Cleveland Museum of Art (Cleveland), The Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago), Art Gallery of New South Wales (New South Wales)

【Exhibition Details】

Exhibition Title : Kiyoshi Hamada, *Ebb & Flow*

Dates : February 25 (Saturday), 2022 to March 25 (Saturday), 2023

Venue : √K Contemporary (Minamicho 6, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo)

Tel (+81) (0)3-6280-8808 / Email info@root-k.jp

Exhibition Website: https://root-k.jp/exhibitions_en/kiyoshi-hamada-ebb-and-flow/

On √K Contemporary

Guided by the notion that new art is generated from years of refinement, √K Contemporary deals mainly with contemporary art from the post-war period onwards. With an ethos colored by its roots in traditional art, √K Contemporary hosts and organizes various unique exhibitions and events that aim to provoke, stimulate, and evoke new thoughts and ideas. In conserving its acts, the gallery hopes to place itself within and pave its way toward the future art scene.

Manifesting this notion, the 300 sqm gallery space was envisioned as a "gallery from space", where works are shown with new values and viewed with new eyes. With innovation at its heart, √K



Contemporary strives to become the next-generation art space that represents "the present of the future".

Official Website: <https://root-k.jp/en>

TW: @rk_contemporary | FB: @rootkcontemporary | IG: @rk_contemporary

※Depending on the state of COVID-19, business days and hours are subject to change.

Please check updates on the √K Contemporary website, Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter periodically for updates.

For all Press & Media Related Inquiries

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