

Yamamoto Keiko Rochaix

PRESS RELEASE

I hear your breath in 4/4

Shino Yanai

10 February - 24 March 2022

Private view and opening reception: 10th February 2022, 6pm - 9pm

Evening of Performance : 3 March

Yamamoto Keiko Rochaix is pleased to announce its first solo exhibition of Shino Yanai, an emerging multimedia artist based in London. Yanai creates installations of videos, photography and sound, often her performance as the subject of the installations, recorded with various media. For the upcoming exhibition, The basement gallery serves as a venue for the audience to vicariously experience by way of video and audio, the hypnotic performance that rolled out at the Tokyo Biennale in the summer of 2021. At the ground floor gallery, new prints and other works shed light on the artist's take on new ways to conceive the world, created during the the periods when pandemic-related various restrictions on life were imposed.

Yanai presents us unique perspective of the world through her practice which increasingly incorporates the sound aspect of life, whether it is music, environmental audio or general noise, while examining and reconstructing the lived experience or performance with conscious attention to the physicality of body. Her practice reminds us of how a place, either present or past, is inseparably linked to sound and her sound always has the bodily, or physical resonance.

In the main video work 'Well Temperament' created with a composer and performer Ken Ikeda, the artist's own breath during her run at and around the centre of London sets the audio base throughout the duration of the video, at 4/4, a musical time signature for four beats per measure. The everlasting, steady beat of footsteps blends in with environmental noise and other elements that are also recorded while running, almost to an intoxicating effect.

The performance took place at the open arcade gallery of Yushima Confucius Mausoleum in Tokyo. With the backdrop of the minimalistic, esoteric decor darkened with drapes that lets in sunlight ever so slightly as they gently floats along with the summer breeze, Yanai's performance is a spontaneous, living attempt, to reconcile the half-dream and the reality, searching to harmonise the beat that is generated by her own run, and her breathing while walking along the other-worldly, mystical space of the by-gone era monument.

New print, audio and video works at the ground floor are invitation to experience new points of view, or even new order in looking at life and various phenomenon in society and nature. Yanai's work does not readily disclose itself, but reserves the most poignant and prominent constituents only to those who are willing to engage, to look beyond what one sees, and contemplate. Relatively small size works on the ground floor gallery would then turn out to present whole new ways of seeing - a world on its own.

We will host an evening of performance by the artist on Thursday 3rd March, in conjunction with the Whitechapel Gallery First Thursdays. Detail to be announced at a later date.

Shino Yanai (b. 1979, Nara)
Lives and works in London

Yanai creates installations using performance, video and sound. She is interested in relationship between sound and memory and her practice investigates the ways to show invisible power structure and alienation. She has studied and practiced Japanese painting before her interests shifted to contemporary art. Before going into the visual art, Yanai trained as a classical pianist.

Recent exhibitions and performance include: 'Well Temperament', curated by Kazuko Koike, for 'Praying for Tokyo', Tokyo Biennale 2020/2021 and the performance for the exhibition created and enacted with Ken Ikeda, both 2021; '11 Stories on Distanced Relationships: Contemporary Art from Japan', online exhibition organised by the Japan Foundation, 2021; 'Flowers of Romance', White Conduit Projects, London, 2021; Unwanted Sound curated by Haruka Iharada, Goethe-Institut, Tokyo, 2020; 'de-sport: The Deconstruction and Reconstruction of Sports through Art', 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, 2020; 'Creation and Technique', Pola Museum Annex, Tokyo, 2019; 'The Deep End', (solo), Sagacho Archives, Tokyo, 2019; 'Happy and Glorious' at 'TBCTV', Somerset House, London, 2018; 'A Point of No Return | Anthropocene Entity', Art Action UK and White Conduit Projects, London, 2018; 'Blue Passages', Mediarc International Festival of Architecture 'Proiezioni sezione Festival Internazionale Now You See Me Parigi 2017, Le Murate Progetti Arte Contemporanea, Florence, 2017; 'Blue Passages', Art Public - Now you seem me, International Public Art Short Film Contest, musée du Louvre, Paris, 2017; 'Blue Passages' (solo), White Conduit Projects, London, 2016

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Title: I hear your breath in 4/4
Artist: Shino Yanai
Address: 19 Goulston St, London, E1 7TP
Dates: 11th February - 24 March 2022
Private View: Thursday 10th February 2022
Opening Hours: Wednesday to Saturday, noon – 6pm
Travel: Aldgate East, Aldgate, Liverpool Street

Twitter: twitter.com/yamamotokeikor
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