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 fi gures, 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

Solo exhibitions

2025

2025 - Tomoo Gokita, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris,

2024

2024 - Gumbo, curated by Alberto Salvadori, ICA, Milano, I

2023

2023 - Tomoo Gokita, Petzel Gallery, New York, USA

2022

2022 - Diary, Taka Ishii Gallery Viewing Room, Tokyo, J

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 - PEEKABOO, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo , J. Catalogue
2018 - HOTEL PARAISO, McNamara Art Projects, Hong Kong, PRC
2018 - Tomoo Gokita, SHOP Taka Ishii Gallery, Hong Kong, PRC
2018 - Tomoo Gokita, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA

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 - Damage Control, Bill Brady Gallery, Miami, USA
2015 - Bésame Mucho, Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2014

2014 - The Great Circus , Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Sakura, J. Catalogue
2014 - Tomoo Gokita, Mary Boone Gallery, New York , USA
2014 - Variety Show, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, J

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

2023

2023 - An Apartment for Ghost: ’57-’23, Petzel Gallery, New York, USA

2022

2022 - Winter Wunderkammer, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace, I
2022 - The Five story about ART – have always been there, Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Aichi, J
2022 - HANGA SHOP, Taka Ishii Gallery, Hong Kong, HK
2022 - Lynchland: Genre, Auteurism and a Fish in the Percolator, Torrance Museum of Art, Torrance, USA
2022 - Winter Wunderkammer, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace, I

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 - The Encyclopedia of Masamichi Katayama: Life is hard... Let's go shopping, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, J
2016 - Moved, Taka Ishii 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 - Wonderful My Art, Kawaguchiko Museum of Art, Yamanashi, J
2013 - 20th Anniversary Trax Exhibition, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J

2012

2012 - East West Shift to the Middle Part II, Bill Brady KC, Kansas City, USA
2012 - The Unseen Relationship: Form and Abstraction, Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Chiba, J

2011

2011 - Black and White, Nanzuka Underground, Tokyo, J
2011 - Akatsuka Fujio Manga University Exhibition, Kyoto International Manga Museum, Kyoto, J
2011 - New York Minute Moscow, Garage Center for Contemporary Art, Moscow, RUS
2011 - GUMPTION, ZieherSmith, New York, USA
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

2010

2010 - The Pencil Show, Foxy Production, New York , USA
2010 - The Osara Show - Plate paintings by Four Artists, Gallery Target, Tokyo , J
2010 - Disorder Disorder - Ulterior Motives in Contemporary Art, Penrith Regional Gallery, New South

Wales, AUS
2010 - It Ain't Fair, OHWOW Gallery, Miami, USA
2010 - Baker, Braunig, Gokita, Hopkins, Foxy Production, New York , USA
2010 - The Franks-Suss Collection, Saatchi Gallery, London , UK

2009

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
2009 - Gallery Trax Selections'09, Gallery Trax, Yamanashi, J
2009 - New York Minute, MACRO Future Museum, Rome, I
2009 - Defining a Moment: 25 New York Artists, House of Campari Presents, New York, USA
2009 - Ambivalent Figuration, People at Samson Projects, Boston, USA
2009 - Collected Visions, Pera Museum, Istanbul, TR

2008

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, Malmö Konsthall, Malmö, SW
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

Bibliography

2020

De Beni, Eleonora. "GAME OVER di Tomoo Gokita", *ATP diary*, July 19 2020.
Suzuki, Satoshi. "A Conversation with Tomoo Gokita", *Fun Palace*, September 2020.

2018

Garreffa, Nirvana . "The Surreal Paintings of Tomoo Gokita Inspired by Vintage Playboys", *HYPEBEAST*, 28 January 2018.

2017

Bogojev, Sasha. "Tomoo Gokita's 'Beauty' @ Mary Boone Gallery, NYC", *JUXTAPOZ*, 17 October 2017.

2015

Ng, Elaine W.. "Tomoo Gokita: One Thousand Shades of Gray", *ART ASIA PACIFIC*, July/August 2015, pp. 60-69.

2014

Laster, Paul. "Tomoo Gokita", *TIME OUT NEW YORK*, 6-12 February 2014 , p. 32 .
Masushio, Taro. "Tomoo Gokita Exhibition", *SHIFT (Japan)*, April 2014.
Rian, Jeff . "Visual Essay: Introducing the World of Tomoo Gokita", *PURPLE FASHION*, September 2014, pp. 505-512.

2011

Rawlings, Ashley. "Where I Work: Tomoo Gokita", *ART ASIA PACIFIC*, March-April 2011.

2010

Taft, Catherine. "Tomoo Gokita/Honor Fraser", *ARTFORUM*, February 2010, p. 210.

2009

Brennan, Drury. "Tomoo Gokita: The Grayscale Pleasure of Altered Domesticity", *FLAUNT*, n. Number 104, 2009.
Knight, Christopher. "Tomoo Gokita at Honor Fraser Gallery", *LOS ANGELES TIMES*, 27 November 2009 .
Laster, Paul. "New York Minute: 60 Artists on the New York Scene", *FLAVORPILL*, October 2009.
Rosenberg, Karen. "Tomoo Gokita 'Champion Carnival'", *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, 24 April 2009.

2008

Eaker, Adam. "One to Watch: Tomoo Gokita", *ARTKRUSH*, June 2008.

2007

C., A.. "On the Walls Now: Vanity Drunko, Tomoo Gokita", *FRONTIERS*, May 2007.
Dambrot, Shana Nys.*MODERN PAINTERS*, June 2007, p. 113.
Fowler, Brendan. "Tomoo Gokita", *ANP QUARTERLY*, n. 9, 2007.
Goodrich, John .*NEW YORK SUN*, 13 September 2007.
Grayson, Kathy. "Tomoo Gokita", *THE JOURNAL*, n. 21, 2007, pp. 90-100.
Renzi, Jen.*HOUSE AND GARDEN*, June 2007, p. 120.
Taft, Catherine. "Tomoo Gokita: Vanity Drunko", *ART REVIEW*, June 2007, p. 150.

2006

Coomer, Martin. "Introducing: Tomoo Gokita", *MODERN PAINTERS*, December-January 2006, pp. 82-83.
Smith, Roberta. "Tomoo Gokita", *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, 15 September 2006.

2005

Smith, Roberta. "Stranger Town: Invading Genres Breach the Art World's Porous Borders", *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, 9 March 2005.

Public Collections

China

X Museum, Beijing

Japan

Japigozzi Collection
Oketa Collection, Tokyo
Taguchi Art Collection, Kanagawa

Spain

Colección SOLO, Madrid

United States of America

Collection of Kaws, New York
High Museum of Art, Atlanta
Marciano Art Foundation, Los Angeles
The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland
The José Parlá Collection