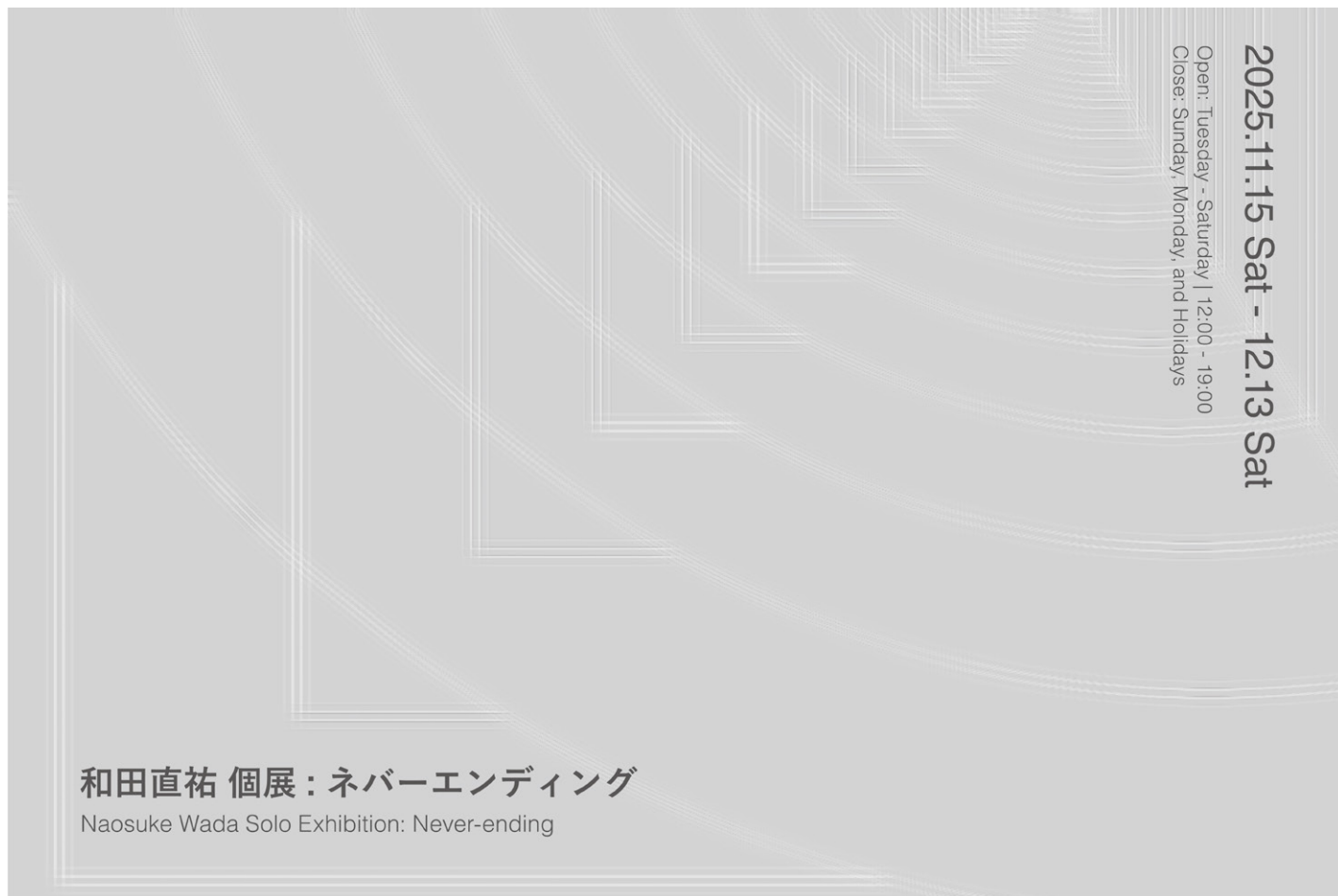




TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY is pleased to present “Never-ending,” a solo exhibition by Naosuke Wada. Born in Hyogo Prefecture in 1983, Wada completed his M.A at Kyoto University of Art and Design (now Kyoto University of the Arts) in 2013. After several years of working in Kyoto, he is currently based in Osaka, where he continues to develop his practice with remarkable energy and precision.

What distinguishes Wada’s work is his unique painterly expression, built upon the classical glazing technique—layering thin, translucent washes of paint—to explore light and space. Through the repeated application of highly transparent mediums, the paint forms subtle strata of color and depth, producing a luminous transparency as though the light itself is embedded within the work. Depending on the viewer’s distance and angle, forms and hues shift delicately, offering a visual experience imbued with fluidity, reminiscent of drifting glaciers. By integrating overlapping memories and temporal structures and sublimating them into painting, Wada invites a reconsideration of the very act of “seeing.”

In his first solo exhibition in 2022, Wada expanded his pictorial structure by introducing physical alterations such as missing sections, distortions, and shrinkage to the canvas, bringing material transformation to the forefront and pushing his painting practice into a new phase. In 2023, for the duo exhibition Sessha — Proof of Painting IV with Atsuo Suzuki, both artists jointly oversaw the curation and spatial composition, manifesting their respective approaches to suzuki through the exhibition format itself. More recently, Wada has participated in Intervals—a collaborative project launched in 2024 by galleries in Tokyo, Osaka, and Seoul—and he is preparing to present new works in Seoul next year, drawing increasing attention for his evolving practice.

This exhibition, Wada’s first in approximately three years, takes a closer look at the element of “trimming,” which has intertwined with his creative process over time. In his previous solo show, he employed physical omissions and ruptures—such as voids and tears along the borders of pictorial space—to generate irregular contrasts that engaged the viewer’s imagination and questioned the complementarity of painting. In the present exhibition, Wada focuses on how new images can emerge infinitely through the act of cropping or isolating parts of a given motif. The new body of work reflects this inquiry while also tracing and reconfiguring his own ongoing production process.

Regarding this exhibition, Wada remarks: “I wanted to focus on the sensory and incidental aspects that arise during the act of creation itself. Rather than placing all emphasis on contemplation alone, I felt drawn to engage with painting through the very process and gestures that bring a work into being.”

While many painters continue to pursue originality, it is equally true that none can escape the influence of art history. Wada’s practice in this exhibition may thus be seen as an attempt to recalibrate his relationship to that historical continuum—while simultaneously offering a critical perspective on his own understanding of painting and the very act of making it.

Naosuke Wada

Lives and works in Osaka

1983 Born in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan

2013 M.F.A. Painting, Kyoto University of the Arts

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Whole set of No.2 to 8 | GALLERT RIN, Tokyo
- 2022 Solo Exhibition “Pathway” TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY
- 2016 Naosuke Wada Exhibition “Terrarium” | Yamanaka suplex, Shiga

GROUP EXHIBITIONS, ART FAIRS

- 2025 Intervals: Extraction | TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY, Osaka
- CAPS:Contemporary Art Practice | Studio – CAPS 2025 | Takashimaya Osaka, Osaka
- ART FAIR TOKYO 2025 | TOKYO INTERNATIONAL FORUM, Tokyo
- Kyoto University of the Arts Graduate School Selected Graduates Exhibition 2010-2015 | Galerie Aube, Kyoto
- RE: FOCUS vol.6 | TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY, Osaka
- 2024 Micro Salon | CADAN Yurakucho Space, Tokyo
- Intervals: Distance | KOKI ARTS, Tokyo
- 「ART NAKANOSHIMA 2024」 | DOJIMA RIVER FORUM, Osaka 2024
- MEET YOUR ART FESTIVAL 2024 “NEW ERA” | Tokyo Tennozu Canal area, Tokyo
- From the Oblivion | POOL SIDE GALLERY, Kanazawa
- Remembering or Fading Away | Alpha Contemporary, Tokyo Contemporary
- Art Fair at HANKYU LUX | Hankyu Umeda Main Store, Osaka
- The Echoes of East Kyoto | WHAT CAFE, Tokyo
- 2023 ART FAIR ASIA FUKUOKA 2023 | MARINE MESSE FUKUOKA, Fukuoka
- Sydney Contemporary | Carriageworks, Sydney
- MA: Blank of the imagination | graf porch, Osaka
- ART NAKANOSHIMA 2023 | DOJIMA RIVER FORUM, Osaka
- 2022 can (not) reach | EUKARYOTE, Tokyo ART OSAKA 2022 | Osaka City Central Public Hall, Osaka
- ART FAIR TOKYO 2022 | Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo
- 2021 DELTA 2021 | SEASIDE STUDIO CASO, Osaka

Selected Awards

- 2021 Kyoto Art for Tomorrow 2021 | Selected
- 2018 The 9th HARUHI Painting Triennale | Honourable Mention
- 2017 The 12th TAGBORT AWARD | Selected

Artworks



Naosuke Wada Solo Exhibition 「Pathway」 2022 | Venue: TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY | Photo by



L→R
An ellipsis, somewhat narrow slit
2025
urethane paint on wooden panel
H1800 × W700 × D40 mm

An exhibition as close to painting as possible #1
2025
wood, urethane paint, acrylic, wall paper, lacquer spray
H2400 × W900 mm *size variable

Exhibition Information

Naosuke Wada
Never - ending
2025.11.15 Sat - 12.13 Sat

OPEN: Tue - Sat 12:00 - 19:00 | CLOSED: Sunday, Monday and Holiday
Contact: info@tezukayama-g.com / Okada (TEZUKAYAMA GALLERY)

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