galerie taménaga
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TOKYO PARIS OSAKA KYOTO

Galerie Taménaga
Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo
October 2026

Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto: “Ima Kyoto”

from Saturday 5 December 2026 to Monday 11 January 2027 (public holiday).



Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto is pleased to present Ima Kyoto, the latest edition of its annual exhibition, from Saturday 5 December 2026 to Monday 11 January 2027 (public holiday). The gallery will be closed for the winter holidays from 27 December to 4 January. The exhibition brings together four Japanese artists, each offering their own vision of the present.

Launched in 2022, the exhibition showcases young Japanese artists with ties to Kyoto, a city that has been a centre of culture for centuries, in the hope that their work will endure for generations to come. The gallery has now been open for more than five years, and the exhibition remains an important opportunity for us to discover new talent and explore the breadth of contemporary Japanese art.

Naoko Murata reassembles analogue collages and fragments of other people’s records into works that sit between figuration and abstraction. Through them she seeks to share with the viewer an ambiguous and fleeting sense of time. Yui Komatsumoto relates the patterns of an artificial stone, Detroit agate, to her own experiences as a way of exploring self identity and self-acceptance. Chiharu Yakushigawa paints with both hands and feet, creating rich colour in which different hues meet whilst retaining their own identity. Asuka Kaneko, exhibiting with Galerie Tamenaga for the first time, draws on her background in architectural design and on research trips to various places. She paints landscapes of “worlds that never came to be”, free from the constraints of reality.

As these four distinct practices show, the exhibition does not follow a set theme but is united only by the artists’ ties to Kyoto. Unbound by any fixed framework, it invites visitors to enjoy the full diversity and richness of art.

Ima Kyoto has also often led to exhibitions at our Paris gallery, serving as a springboard for young artists from Kyoto to the international stage. We look forward to continuing this exhibition for many years to come, and warmly invite you to discover the fresh, free-spirited sensibility of these young artists.

【Exhibiting Artists】

Naoko MURATA　/　村田 奈生子



Born in Osaka Prefecture, Japan, in 1984, Naoko Murata graduated from Kyoto Seika University, where she majored in Nihonga (Japanese-style painting).
Working from collages she assembles by hand, Murata creates monochrome abstract paintings on the theme of time. She reworks geometric motifs and energetic brushstrokes on the canvas, and the new forms that emerge capture a single moment of the present. Through this process, she seeks to make time visible: something formless, ambiguous and fleeting that can only be grasped within human consciousness. Although her palette is restrained, bold brushwork and dynamic composition bring a sense of movement to the stillness of her works.
She was selected for the Idemitsu Art Award 2024. Her recent group exhibitions include Ima Kyoto (Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto, 2023) and MONOCHROME (Galerie Tamenaga Tokyo, 2024).

Yui KOMATSUMOTO　/　小松本 結



Born in Mie Prefecture, Japan, in 1993, Yui Komatsumoto completed an MA in Fine Art at Kyoto University of the Arts (formerly Kyoto University of Art and Design).
Komatsumoto creates layered patterns in oil and acrylic using tarashikomi, a technique in which paint is applied to a still-wet surface so that it spreads and pools. Her motif is Detroit agate, an artificial stone formed by chance as paint built up over years in American car factories. Once the strata of colour created by the flowing, overlapping paint has dried, she paints further into them, often combining them with portraits of women. In doing so, she explores themes of identity and self-acceptance, questioning society's ideals of appearance and beauty. Her work ranges from arresting pieces to more melancholic ones that evoke shifting emotions, each conveying a quiet yet powerful resolve that speaks to our time.
She was selected for FACE 2020: Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Art Award Exhibition. Her recent group exhibitions include Ima Kyoto (Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto, 2025) and Merry Cherry Blossom (Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto, 2026).

Chiharu YAKUSHIGAWA　/　薬師川 千晴



Born in Shiga Prefecture, Japan, in 1989, Chiharu Yakushigawa completed an MA in Fine Art at Kyoto Seika University.
Yakushigawa paints directly with her hands and feet, using pigments she prepares herself according to a classical tempera technique. In her work, the meeting points between colours become boundaries of mutual acceptance, between self and other, and between things that differ. She adopts a different approach for each series. Her Knock series, for example, explores relationships between people in the age of social media through the simple act of knocking: the signal we give before stepping into someone else's space. In recent years she has also worked and exhibited abroad, drawing growing international attention.
Selected solo exhibitions include Knock Knock: Knocking on the Door of Boundaries (Kyoto City KYOCERA Museum of Art, The Triangle, 2025) and Through the Veil, Across the Rub (GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS, Tokyo, 2025). In 2019, she received the Shiga Prefecture Next Generation Culture Award.

Asuka KANEKO　/　金子 明日香



Born in Saitama Prefecture, Japan, Asuka Kaneko graduated in Architecture and Environmental Design from Tohoku University of Art and Design. She has been based in Kyoto since 2024.
Drawing on her experience in architectural and design projects, Kaneko developed an interest in architects' conceptual drawings and unbuilt architecture. Her practice takes as its starting point the traces of thought and hesitation found in such works. Using places she has visited as her subjects, she works in acrylic and pigment ink to depict landscapes freed from the constraints of reality. Probing the sense of dissonance that arises as an image is given physical form, she continues to ask what the landscape of "a world that never came to be" might look like.
Her solo exhibitions include Somewhere Not Here (Gallery201, Tokyo, 2024), and her group exhibitions include Sens of Shiro (KYOTO TSUTAYA BOOKS, 2026).

Galerie Tamenaga Co., Ltd.

Galerie Tamenaga was founded in Ginza, Tokyo, in 1969. Working across Impressionist, Modern and contemporary art, the gallery has placed important works with museums and private collections in Japan and internationally for more than five decades. It opened galleries in Paris and Osaka in 1971, followed by Kyoto in 2021. In September 2025, the Tokyo gallery relocated from Ginza to Kotto-dori in Minami-Aoyama, tripling its exhibition space.

Today, the gallery presents an international programme across its four locations, with a growing focus on Japanese artists.



Galerie Tamenaga Tokyo



Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto

【Exhibition details】

Ima Kyoto

Period: Saturday 5 December 2026 to Monday 11 January 2027

* Winter holidays from 27 December to 4 January.

Hours: 10：00 - 18：00

Venue: Galerie Tamenaga Kyoto

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