

## Shai Azoulay “Good Eye”

March 2 - April 6, 2013

Israeli painter, Shai Azoulay’s first Japan exhibition, “Good Eye” will be held at ARATANIURANO from March 2nd to April 6th.

Shai was born in 1971 the northern part of Israel called Qiryat Shemona. Currently setting his base at Jerusalem, He works around Tel Aviv, New York, Washington, and Paris. His work sold out at the Frieze Art Fair in London last year.

“Why do people still continue to paint?” Shai tackles this question by answering “I paint to nail down the answer of that question and that remains a great mystery to myself as well”.

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Shai artistically portrays animals such as donkey, humans, plants, and daily life commodities for example cups and buckets in a background that is reminiscent of a desert, hence giving the piece a sense of fantasy. His work is derived from his experiences, and imageries he obtained by reading and from conversations with others. “The people that appear in the artwork are Shai himself in a power game, and as the roles and the media change, the composition of the artwork changes” Shai says.

The title “Good Eye” is an antonym of the word “evil eye” and is closely linked to the religious Hebrew language, and has a liberal message. It is easy to criticize, but to accept the criticism with a “good eye” is difficult, he says. As if he is suggesting our present condition, his artwork is a fusion of grotesque and the other side of grotesque, tranquil expressions, conveying the message above.

This exhibition will be the opening exhibition for him in Japan mainly featuring his new painting works, exhibiting about 10 artworks. There will be no opening receptions on the

1.  
Gossip  
2011  
Oil on canvas  
167 × 138 cm  
Courtesy of the artist and Inga gallery

2.  
Walkway  
2011  
Oil on canvas  
115 × 115 cm  
Courtesy of the artist and Inga gallery

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first day, but his works will be shown in the interior shop “Bo Concept” (Gaien Mae), and Shai will make an appearance in talk show on March 19th.

Inga gallery participating from Israel, his works will also be shown there at the Art fair Tokyo (Booth No. F14).

We would like to ask you to contribute in advertising the exhibition.

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