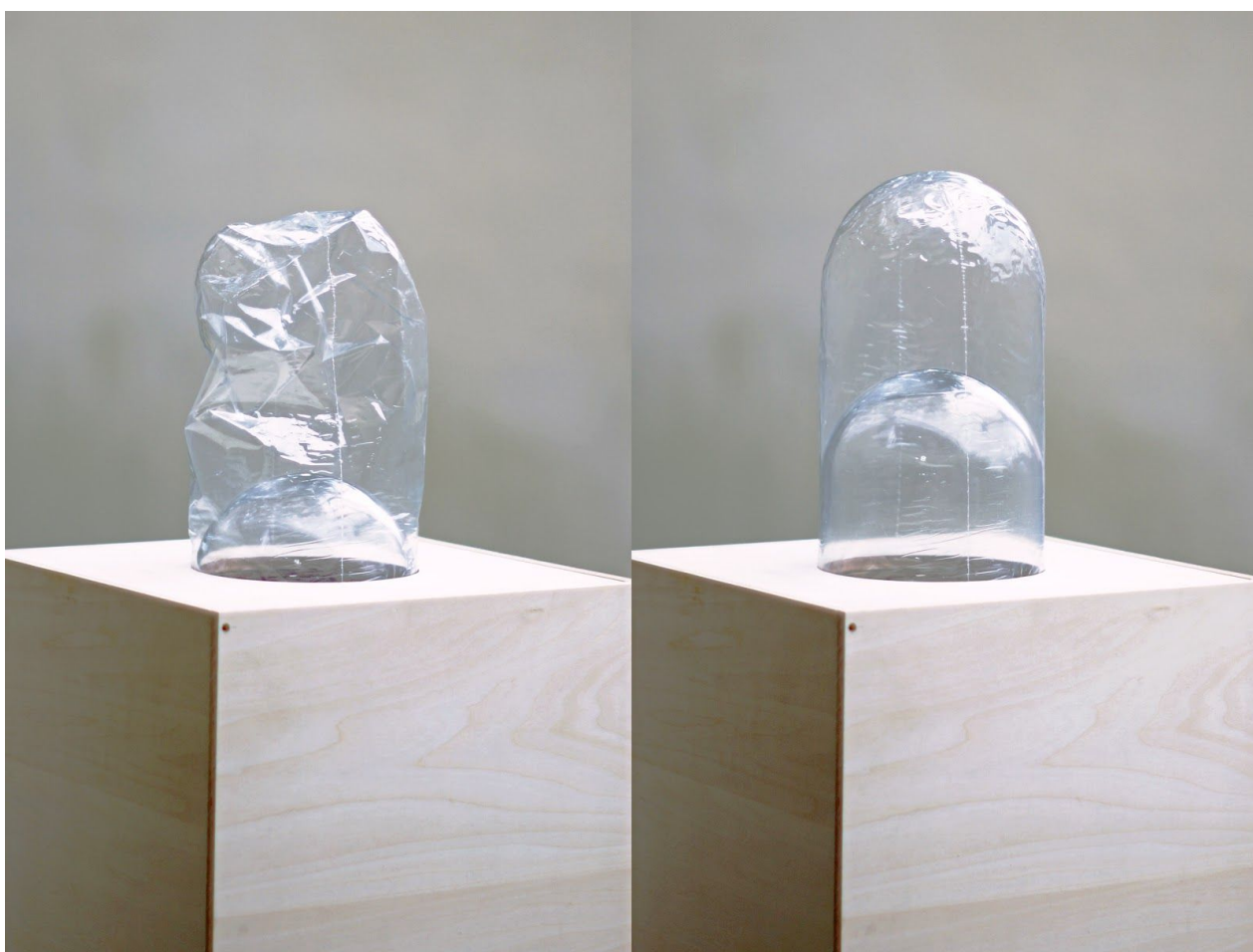


Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake Solo Exhibition “Reification Poem—Exposed Internal Pressure”

- Period January 9th (Saturday) - February 14th (Sunday), 2021
- Hours Wednesdays through Saturdays, 13:00 - 19:00
(closed on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and National Holidays)
**Sunday open only on Feb 14th*
- Venue KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY
4-7-6 Shirakawa, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0021 JAPAN
tel +81 3 5843 9128 e-mail gallery@kanakawanishi.com



Exposed Internal Pressure

2020 | glass dome, plastic, motor, others

© Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake, courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY is pleased to announce the opening of Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake’s solo exhibition, “Reification Poem—Exposed Internal Pressure,” from Saturday, January 9th, 2021. The exhibition is organized around the concept “Reification Poem,” which refers to the tentative perception of events and scenes in front of one’s eyes, or the attempt to reproduce events and scenes by observing them out of context.

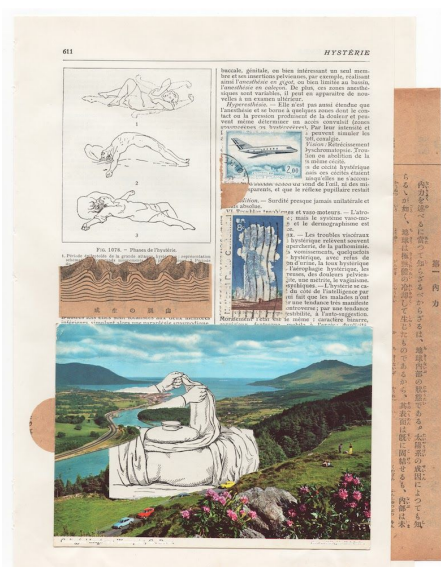
■Please contact below for any image enquiries■

Junya Kataoka and Rie Iwatake began their activities as an artist unit after a residency in Paris in 2013, and have been presenting series of works that reveal the modest dissimilarities hidden in everyday life in exhibition spaces where Kataoka's kinetic works and Iwatake's two-dimensional works interact with each other.

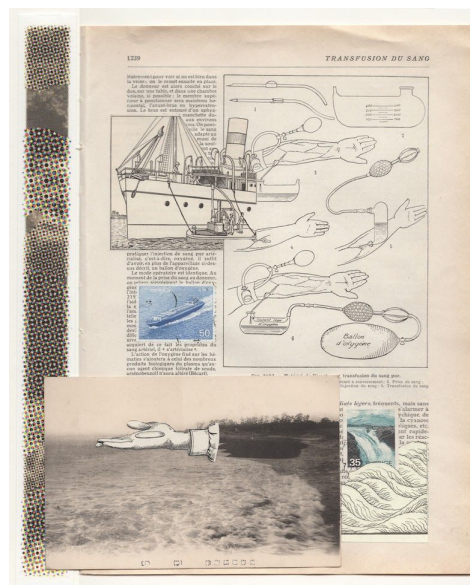
Kataoka's kinetic works start from an observation of everyday items such as cello tapes and facemasks, and by applying simple physical energy such as rotation, gravity, or wind to the objects, he creates a situation where “something more is happening than what is expected to happen.” On the other hand, Iwatake's two-dimensional works use collage, photography, and printmaking, combining fragments of medical books and postage stamps to create narratives that deal with similarities and associations between events.

In this exhibition, “Reification Poem—Exposed Internal Pressure,” the duo will present kinetic works inspired by face masks and disinfection alcohol, which have become ubiquitous over the world since the spring of 2020, as well as collages that combine the scenes and from old medical books and postcards. The movements of a mouth under a mask, for example, are unconsciously performed every day and are therefore overlooked. Furthermore, as there was no clear distinction between the spiritual and the non-spiritual in the old days, doctors in old medical books who treated the human body were depicted as though they were magicians, and the combinations of those illustrations collaged with the mundane landscapes used in postcards brings out a tasteful gaze that treats the ostentatious and the modest in equal measure.

At a time when it is difficult to see the future and the world is filled with anxiety, their attitude of looking at things in a tentative manner may give us something new to discover. We hope that you will enjoy this exhibition along with the group exhibition “MOT Annual 2020: Invisible Powers,” which is also on view at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo until February 14, 2021.

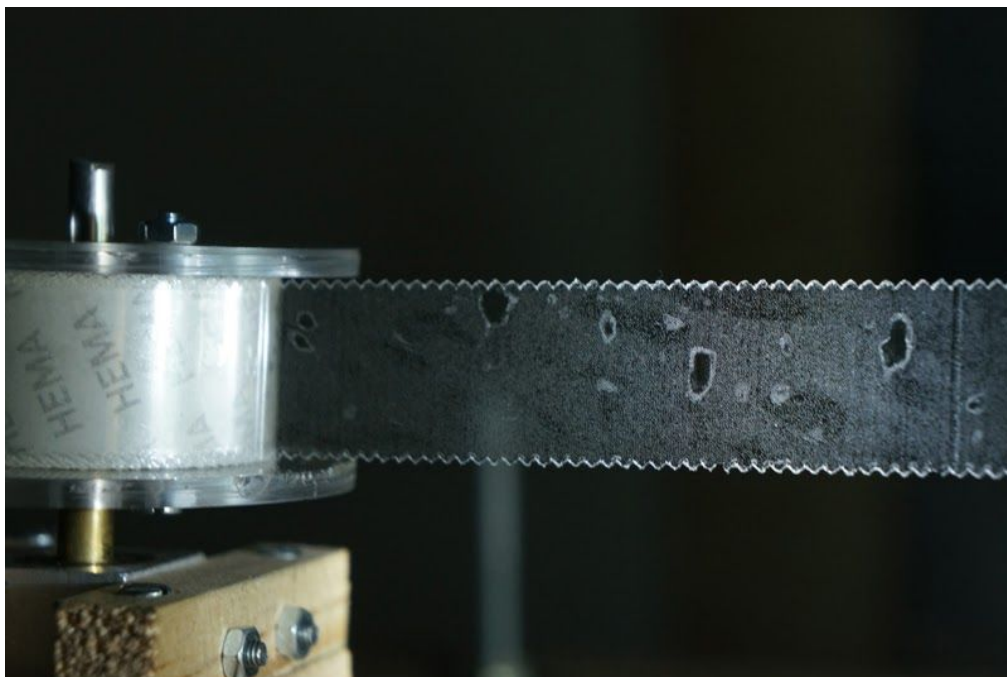


Bodyscapes—In Describing the Internal Forces
2020 | collage
© Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY



Bodyscapes—Feeling the Pulse
2020 | collage
© Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

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Ghost in the Sellotape

2014-2020 | sellotape, lens, LED, motor, others
© Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY



Recreation of Sunlight Coming-Through-the-Leaves by Palms

2020 | photograph, LED tube, hand sanitizer, others
© Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

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Artist Statement

Our inspirations derive from things around us and things familiar to us.

Things and phenomena that we have seen or used many times before may somehow seem strange.

What I recently noticed is the movement of a mask when a person smiles.

Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake

Artist Profile

Major solo exhibitions of the artist duo include *As the inevitable spin of a light bulb and a fan on a marble slab* (2019, KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY, Tokyo), *Big Two-Hearted River* (2019, 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo), *Under35 Junya Kataoka + Rie Iwatake* (2017, BankART studio NYK, Kanagawa, Japan), *A Blot on the Landscape* (2016, The Container, Tokyo), and *Latent Constellation* (2016, Treasure Hill, Taipei, Taiwan). Group exhibitions and art festivals include *MOT Annual 2020 Invisible Powers* (2020, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo), *Trans_2018-2019* (2019, Akiyoshidai International Art Village, Yamaguchi, Japan), *Art and Glasses Road Show* (2018, Kamata_Soko, Tokyo), *Roppongi Art Night* (2018, Roppongi Hills, Tokyo), and *Local Enough?* (2016, Taipei Artist Village, Taipei, Taiwan).

Junya Kataoka was born in 1982 in Tochigi, Japan.

He received his B.A. at Musashino Art University, Department of Design Informatics in 2005, and M.A. at University of Tsukuba, Master's Program in Art and Design, Plastic Art and Mixed Media in 2010.

Rie Iwatake was born in 1982 in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.

She received her B.A. at Kanazawa College of Art, Department of Craft, Textile Course in 2006, and her M.A. at University of Tsukuba, Master's Program in Art and Design, Constructive Art in 2010.

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