

Portrait of a Painter

I would like to write about one painter.

The painter is unknown.

Probably, his name and works will not find the place in art history.

He is an ordinary painter.

He has a respect for art history and recognizes its universality to some extent.

Therefore, he is not willing to make the popular paintings in defiance of art history.

He believes paintings can only be represented in ready-made logic and established way.

Then he makes an attempt to express his practices in the form of painting within its limits.

They are not avant-garde by any means. Furthermore, his attitude toward art is persistent and indifferent to the current of the times.

His works exist on the periphery being at a site distant from the center of art.

He paints mundane landscapes.

The landscapes are commonplace and anonymous.

He decides on the motif from the image coming into sight spontaneously from magazines or websites. He has never been to that place nor known it personally, and he will never visit there in his lifetime.

He paints the reversed image of the original one after clipping it from the original context.

He thinks that he can represent, so to speak, the bare and natural brush strokes and traces of paint which painting itself has by clearing away one's opinions, lyricism or crafty ideas.

“Landscapes never seen anywhere”

They can be found far off, and he seeks to seize their neutral inorganic image and sense.

When things surrounding us are reflected on in the world where everything crosses each other and comes and goes, depersonalized existences in a similar vein overlap himself.

The anonymous and impersonal landscape that makes an appearance on canvas can be said to be the portrait of himself.

Toshio Miyaoka

BASE GALLERY / MATRIX JAPAN S.A.

Koura Daiichi Bldg.1F, 1-1-6

Nihombashi Kayabacho Chuo-ku

Tokyo 103-0025 JAPAN

tel: 81 3 5623 6655

fax: 81 3 5623 6656

www.basegallery.com

info@basegallery.com