



exhibition 1

Katsuyuki Shirako Solo Exhibition

2010.06.04 (fri.)–06.27 (sun.)

open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 12:00-18:00

opening reception on 06.05 (sat.) 18:00-20:00

In order to create my artwork, I overlay different kinds of designs from different materials onto the images inspired by the beauty of plants and/or other living creatures in the nature. I expect the image of my work to be neutral so that it can be interpreted in various ways.

Katsuyuki Shirako



Utilizing Japanese traditional craft, “lacquer” techniques, Katsuyuki Shirako creates his artworks clearly different from existing “Modern Art of Lacquer”. I have never come across this kind of artwork. Shirako acquires his original designs after filtering inspirations deprived from plants, other living creatures and phenomenon in the nature through his own sensitivity. Depending on those designs, he makes incredible numbers of drawings. Those drawings vary from the ones drawn at random as if he scribbles on a piece of paper to precise blueprint that does not allow even a millimeter fault. Shirako chooses the final design out of those drawings, and improves them with specific regulations, such as repetitions of shapes. Then he begins the long and complex procedures of carving, shaving, assembling, lacquering and painting wood. Based on the designs originated from inspirations acquired from the nature, the image of Shirako’s beautiful artworks offer many layers of images and creates unique existences.

In Shirako’s first solo exhibition, “ exhibition 1” introduces three-dimensional objects made of Japanese Lime Trees, MDF, lacquer, Japanese paints, etc., and photographs of combinations of his own works of lacquer and plants/vegetables.

eN arts Naomi Rowe