

Yukinori Yanagi USSR

May 17th to June 28th, 2014

柳 幸典 USSR

2014年5月17日(土) ~ 6月28日(土)



The environment that surrounds us is a collection of places. Because of their abstract nature, "places" require something to support or define them. "Borders" serve this purpose. [...] When something foreign from one place engages in intercourse with a neighboring place, both areas vibrate in relation to one another. Crossing borders expends energy and, at the same time, through the crossing of borders, energy is generated.

Yukinori Yanagi

Miyake Fine Art is pleased to announce an exhibition by Yukinori Yanagi's "USSR". *USSR* is constructed with the national flags of Soviet Socialist Republics, which used to form The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. It was created 5 years after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. *USSR* is one of Yanagi's representative series called "World Flag Ant Farm" ruminating the theme of Cold War. In the series, ants were released into the coloured sands designed as flags in boxes connected with plastic tubes and they dug out the sands collapsing the whole image. By rediscovering his "Flag Series" amid the rapidly changing world affairs today, we will reexamine the social and prescient nature of his works. We will also exhibit *Three China* created in 1997 from the same series.

Yukinori Yanagi was born in Fukuoka in 1959, studied and obtained M.F.A. at Yale University. He was the first Japanese artist to be awarded the prize at Aperto, 45th Venice Biennale, 1993. In New York, his solo exhibitions were held at Anthony d'Offay (London), Peter Blum (New York), as well as at the numerous international exhibitions such as "Sao Paulo Biennale" (Brazil, 1996), and "Biennale de Lyon" (France, 1997). At "Whitney Biennale 2000", he was one of the first non-American artists selected for the exhibition. In 1992, his solo exhibition was held at the museum in Naoshima, where he was captivated by the beauty of the islands in the Seto Inland Sea. Later, in 1995, he encountered the abandoned copper refinery in Inujima, and soon proposed "Inujima Project" completed in 2008, today, known as "The Inujima Seirenscho Art Museum". Yanagi now resides and works at "Art Base Momoshima", a new art facility opened in 2012 utilizing the closed junior high school in Momoshima, an island in Onomichi City. There, he continues to work actively creating his new works.

MIYAKE FINE ART

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Exhibition: Yukinori Yanagi / USSR
Date: May 17th (Sat) to June 28th (Sat), 2014
Open: Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 7pm
Closed: Sunday, Monday and Holidays
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