

July 4, 2023  
Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

## Jam Session: The Ishibashi Foundation Collection x Yamaguchi Akira **Drawn to the Irresistible Sensation**

September 9 [Sat.] - November 19 [Sun.], 2023



YAMAGUCHI Akira, *Raigo*, 2015, Collection of the artist  
©YAMAGUCHI Akira, Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery

The Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation (Director: Ishibashi Hiroshi) is pleased to announce *Ishibashi Collection x Yamaguchi Akira: Drawn to the Irresistible Sensation*, our fourth Jam Session, an exhibition consisting of a joint performance of works from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection and new works by a contemporary artist.

Contact with the modern—and even more so with modern painting—had an adverse influence on Japan. Modern painting in Western Europe was a reaction against realistic and academic painting, an attempt to recover its essential nature. But what about modern art as introduced to Japan, which had no history of realistic or academic painting?

Yamaguchi Akira (b. 1969) responded with that statement to the Ishibashi Foundation Collection, which includes modern paintings by both Japanese and Western artists. In this Jam Session, we invite you to observe Yamaguchi Akira questioning what "modern," a "Japanese-style code," and "the essence of Japan" mean as he tries to break away from the history and art systems imposed by society, driven by a sensation he finds irresistible.

## Exhibition Highlights

### 1. A Yamaguchi-style Session

While addressing modern painting in Japan, Yamaguchi has chosen for this Jam Session to work with Sesshu's *Landscape of the Four Seasons* and Cézanne's *Mont Sainte-Victoire and Château Noir*. Visitors should look forward to a Sesshu-based installation and a free exploration aimed at a deeper understanding of Cézanne.

### 2. First Public Showing of the Original Paintings for Much-Discussed Works

*Tokyo Landscapes*, the background for the opening titles for the 2019 NHK historical drama series *IDATEN The Epic Marathon to Tokyo*, and *View of Flourishing South End Nihonbashi*, the original of the public art for the Tokyo Metro Nihombashi Station revealed in July 2021, will be on public display for the first time.

### 3. Multiple Installations

Whether we look at Yamaguchi's works, look at Sesshu or Cézanne, or turn our gaze to modern painting in Japan, what we see depends on visual recognition. Here we are asked to become conscious of how we recognize what we see. In this group of installations, we share Yamaguchi's experience of this process.

## YAMAGUCHI Akira



Photo: SOGABE Yohei

Born in Tokyo in 1969. Raised in Kiryu City in Gunma Prefecture. Completed the Master's Program in oil painting at Tokyo University of the Arts in 1996. In 2013 his *Hen na Nihon Bijutsushi* (Strange History of Japanese Art) won the 12th Kobayashi Hideo Award. A distinctive feature of his work is the use of oil painting to reproduce traditional styles of Japanese painting. Since then, Yamaguchi has embraced many forms of creative expression, including painting, sculpture, manga, and installations. His work has been shown numerous times in exhibitions both in Japan and abroad. His works include public art for the Tokyo Metro Nihombashi Station and the official art poster for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.

## Works on Display



YAMAGUCHI Akira, *Tokyo Landscapes*, 2018-2023, Collection of the artist  
©YAMAGUCHI Akira, Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery  
On the right are two details.







YAMAGUCHI Akira, *View of Flourishing South End Nihonbashi*, 2021-2023, Collection of the artist  
©YAMAGUCHI Akira, Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery  
On the lower right are two details.



YAMAGUCHI Akira, *Distant View of the Zenkoji Gokaicho*, 2022-2023, Zenkoji  
Photography by MURAYAMA Masatoshi  
©YAMAGUCHI Akira, Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery  
On the right is a detail.



YAMAGUCHI Akira, *Graffiti Today* (detail), 2021, Collection of the artist  
©YAMAGUCHI Akira, Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery



SESSHU, *Landscape of the Four Seasons*, Muromachi period, 15th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation



Paul CÉZANNE, *Mont Sainte-Victoire and Château Noir*, c. 1904-06  
Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

## Exhibition Overview

Exhibition title:	Jam Session: The Ishibashi Foundation Collection x Yamaguchi Akira Drawn to the Irresistible Sensation
Organized by	Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Venue:	Artizon Museum, 6F Gallery
Exhibition period:	September 9 [Sat.] - November 19 [Sun.], 2023
Opening hours:	10:00 - 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays except November 3) *Last entry 30 minutes before closing.
Closed:	Mondays (except September 18, October 9), September 19, October 10
Admission (incl. tax):	Timed entry system (Online booking starts from July 7, 2023) Online ticket: 1,200 yen In-Person ticket (on sale at museum): 1,500 yen Students: Free entry (Advance online booking required.) *In-Person tickets are available only for time slots that have not reached full capacity. *Advance booking is not required for children up to junior high school age. *This admission fee gives the visitor access to all concurrent exhibitions.
Curator:	HEIMA Rika

## Concurrent Exhibitions

From the Scene of Creation —Artists' Archives in Films and Photographs (5F Gallery)

Selections from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection

Special Section Women Reading (4F Gallery)

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Directions: 5 minutes on foot from JR Tokyo Station (Yaesu Central Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line Kyobashi Station (No.6, 7 Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Tozai Line, Toei Asakusa Line Nihombashi Station (B1 Exit)

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