

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **In Front of Behind**

### **Ingo Baumgarten + Takashi Suzuki**

**Venue:** HRD Fine Art  
(494-1 Kamigoryo-tatemachi, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto)

**Date:** February 8 - March 29, 2025

**Hours:** **Thu: 11:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Fri & Sat / February 9 (Sun): 11:00am - 7:00pm**

**Closed:** Sun-Wed (available for viewing by appointment)  
**Opens on February 9 (Sun) 11:00am - 7:00pm**

**Opening reception: February 8 (Sat) 5:00pm-7:00pm**

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HRD Fine Art is pleased to announce the opening of a two-man exhibition, titled "In Front of Behind," featuring Ingo Baumgarten, a German painter based in Seoul, Korea, and Takashi Suzuki, a Japanese artist based in Kyoto.

Ingo Baumgarten was born in 1964 in Hannover, Germany. He studied at the National Academy of Fine Arts in Karlsruhe and the Higher School of Visual Arts in Paris before acquiring his master's degree at the Tokyo University of the Arts in 1999. Since 2008 he has been teaching at the Department of Painting at Hongik University in Seoul, Korea, while actively creating his artworks centered on painting.

Takashi Suzuki was born in 1971. Hailing from Kyoto, Suzuki graduated from the Art Institute of Boston in the U.S. before studying at the Kunstakademie Dusseldorf in Germany, learning from and working with German photographers of fame such as Thomas Ruff and Thomas Struth. Currently based in Kyoto, his works are in the collections of reputable Japanese museums including the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo and the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto.

Baumgarten's works are centered on architectural forms and chromatic compositions. In his recent works in particular, he focuses on the peculiar urban landscapes and building designs in Korea where he currently lives. Though his paintings are characterized by subdued realism, they look eerily fantastical at the same time, while also provoking an argument of picturesque vs. banal.

Working primarily with photographic imagery and techniques, Takashi Suzuki freely

departs from and pushes the boundaries of conventional photographic expression. In recent years, his interest in geometric forms has been particularly strong, and his work raises questions about the symbolism and connotation of images and human perception from a variety of perspectives.

This exhibition showcases artworks of the two artists who are fascinated by shapes and forms, thereby aiming to present new, fresh perspectives towards the relations between what is visible and what is hidden behind it. It is also a cross-cultural collaboration between two disparate yet strangely similar artists, a German painter who settled in Korea via Japan and a Japanese artist who studied photography in the U.S. and Germany, re-examining dichotomous ideas such as East and West, painting and photography.

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Takashi Suzuki participates in a group exhibition held at the Shiga Museum of Art, titled "BUTSUDORI: The Photographic Expression of 'Objects,'" opening on January 18, 2025.

#### [ ARTISTS' STATEMENT ]

My artistic process is based on the perception of my environment- that is now Korea especially Seoul. I am interested in the transformations in society and the way that shows in the cityscape and in the relations of functions and appearances. The well-known landmarks and sights appear in that context less interesting for me than exploring the usually overseen common and typical places, the backgrounds, the places behind.

My paintings display my reflections while at the same time they strive for aesthetic autonomy; with compositions and colors diverting from usual seeing habits.

— Ingo Baumgarten

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Everything has its form. And it is difficult to imagine something without knowing its form.

For me, photography is the act of cutting out the real world and giving it a form and meaning different from what it originally was, and looking at the photographed image is to examine the newly given form and explore its meaning.

— Takashi Suzuki

[ ARTWORKS ] (for reference)



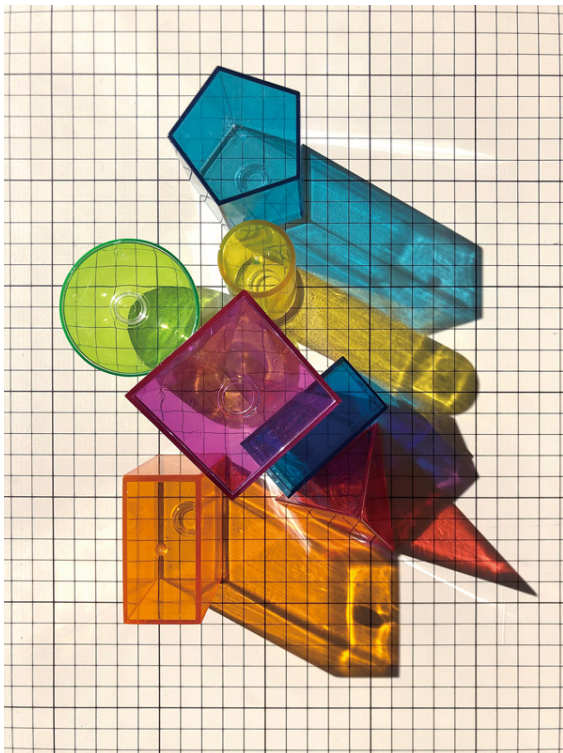
**Ingo Baumgarten** *untitled*  
oil on canvas 70x50cm 2024



**Ingo Baumgarten** *untitled*  
oil on canvas 100x80cm 2019



**Takashi Suzuki**    *Fictum cp-0262*  
archival pigment print 44.5x121cm 2018



**Takashi Suzuki**    *lumière géométrique 12R*  
archival pigment print 20x15cm 2024

## [ ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHY ]

### Ingo BAUMGARTEN

- 1964 Born in Hannover, Germany  
 1992 Graduated from the National Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe (State Exam)  
 1999 MFA, Tokyo University of the Arts  
 Lives and works in Seoul, Korea

#### Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 1994 *Culture: Culture around – around Culture*, Museum of Setùbal  
 1995 *Galerie Martina Detterer*, Frankfurt  
 1998 Casa Gallery, Tokyo  
 Haus der Kunststiftung, Stuttgart  
 1999 Artspace Gento, Tokyo  
 Galerie der Stadt Kornwestheim, Kornwestheim  
 2002 *Our Town*, SPHN Gallery, Berlin  
 2003 *City: Matter of Opinion/View*, Galerie Saalbau, Berlin  
 2005 *The Beauty of the Common*, Galerie Abt, Stuttgart  
 MAJT, Lille  
 2006 *Close Up*, Gallery Le Deco, Tokyo  
*Town at the Lake*, Zeppelin Museum, Friedrichshafen  
 2007-08 *Heterogeneous Aesthetics*, Kaoyuan Art Center, Kaohsiung  
*no title*, Bruno David Gallery, Saint Louis  
 2008 *Forms of City*, Art Gallery of Kunshan University, Tainan  
 2010 *Ingo Baumgarten*, Ronam Gallery, Seoul  
 2013 *Korean Houses - Painting*, Eugean Gallery, Seoul  
 2015 *point of view*, Hanmi Gallery, Seoul  
 2016 *Perception*, Gallery Atelier Aki, Seoul  
 2017 *Urban Details*, United Art Museum, Wuhan  
 2018 *hard edges soft colors*, Gallery Plan D, Düsseldorf  
*passages*, Gallery Chosun, Seoul  
 2019 *space & color*, Tongin Gallery, Seoul  
*something behind*, United Art Museum, Wuhan  
 2021 *just painting*, JJ Gallery, Seoul  
 2022 *afternoon, four o'clock*, Project Space MIUM, Seoul  
 2023 *Compromises*, Imsoobin Gallery, Seoul

#### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1990 *Not British Art of the Nineties*, Norwich  
 1994-95 *Kunst-Pro-Thesen*, Art Museum Düsseldorf  
 1995 *Pensées du dehors*, Contemporary Art Center "La Ferme du Buisson", Noisiel

- 1997-98 *18th Touring Exhibition of the Art Foundation Baden-Württemberg*, Baden-Württemberg
- 2003 *Die Grosse*, Kunstaussstellung NRW, Düsseldorf  
*Citylandscapes*, Galerie Haus Schneider, Ettlingen  
*Zeitgenössisch*, Berlin
- 2008 Bruno David Gallery, Saint Louis  
Galerie Abt, Stuttgart
- 2012 *Totally German*, Kimkim Gallery at Pool, Seoul
- 2013 SETEC Art Show, Seoul  
*Der Blick zurück nach Vorn*, Galerie Abt Art, Stuttgart
- 2014 *Universal Studios Seoul*, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul
- 2015 *25 Jahre 34 Stipendiaten*, ZF Kunststiftung, Zeppelin Museum Friedrichshafen  
*Visible Air*, Museum of Kyunghee University, Seoul
- 2016 *International DMZ Art Festival*, Kangwondo
- 2018 *Pyeongchang Culture Olympic DMZ Art Fiesta 2018*, Kangwondo
- 2019 *Take ( ) at face value*, Korean Cultural Centre Australia, Sydney
- 2021 *The Front Side*, Odusan Unification Observatory, Paju
- 2023 *Future Lies Ahead-Daejeon 1993/2023*, Daejeon Museum of Art, Daejeon
- 2024 *Marcher à l'étoile*, Hongik Museum of Art, Seoul

#### **Scholarships/Residency Programs/Awards**

- 1987-88 French-German Bureau for the Youth, Paris
- 1991 Erasmus-Exchange Program of the EU for Norwich
- 1993-94 Scholarship of the Institute for Higher Studies in Visual Arts, Paris
- 1996 Scholarship of Art-Foundation Baden-Württemberg
- 1996-99 Scholarship of the Japanese Government, Tokyo
- 2005 Culture Foundation of the ZF Friedrichshafen AG, Friedrichshafen  
Atelier of the MAJT Residency, Lille
- 2017 Migrant Bird Artist Residence Program, Wuhan Creative Capital, Wuhan
- 2019 Migrant Bird Artist Residence Program, Wuhan Creative Capital, Wuhan

## Takashi SUZUKI

- 1971 Born in Kyoto  
 1996 Graduated from The Art Institute of Boston  
 2001-02 Guest student in the class of Thomas Ruff at Kunstakademie Düsseldorf

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2002 *Haut*, Artislong Gallery, Kyoto  
 2004 *Altus*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
 2006 *Altus-spatium*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
 2008 *ARCA*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
 2010 *BAU*, rep (radlab exhibition project) x Super Window Project, Kyoto  
 2015 *Form Philia*, IMA Gallery, Tokyo  
 2019 *Though this be madness, yet there might be method in't*, IG Photo Gallery, Tokyo  
*Miru*, Art Kageyama Gallery, Shizuoka  
 2020 *Quiet Riot*, Media Shop Gallery, Kyoto  
 2021 *Are you my echo.*, HRD Fine Art, Kyoto

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2002 *Rundgang*, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf  
 2003 *2002 Young Portfolios*, Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts, Hokuto  
*Double Sense - Hitoshi Nomura x Takashi Suzuki*, galerie16, Kyoto  
 2004 *Gallery Show*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
 2005 *Art Court Frontier 2005*, Art Court Gallery, Osaka  
 2006 *Photography Today 3: Resolution/Dissolution*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo  
 2007 *Young Japanese Landscape*, Museum of Young Art, Vienna  
 2010 *Emerging Asian Artists Art Gwangju 2010*, Gwangju  
*My Favorites-Index of a Certain Collection*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto  
*Sense Perception*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
*No Man's Land*, French Embassy, Tokyo  
 2011 *Exchange Osaka - Tokyo*, SANAGI FINE ARTS, Tokyo  
*Curatorial Library*, Kobe Design University, Kobe  
*Une fenêtre japonaise*, galerie de multiples, Paris  
*PACIFIC*, Scion Installation L.A. Gallery, Culver City, California  
 2012 *Presage*, HI-NEST BLDG, Kyoto  
*Quiet Moments*, The Third Gallery Aya, Osaka  
 2013 *ZINE / BOOK GALLERY! 2013*, Takarazuka Media Library, Takarazuka  
 2014 *Photography Will Be*, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya  
*Coincidental Perception*, KUNST ARZT, Kyoto  
*cognition / recognition*, UltraSuperNew Gallery, Tokyo

- 2015 *Kiseki, Kanbodai Temple, Iga*  
*Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival 2015, Toronto*
- 2016 *Order & Reorder: Curate Your Own Exhibition, The National Museum of Modern Art,*  
*Kyoto*  
*Chronicle, Chronicle!, Creative Center Osaka, Osaka*
- 2017 *Chronicle, Chronicle!, Creative Center Osaka, Osaka*
- 2018 *Ni'homme - Summer Group Exhibition, Ibasho Gallery, Antwerp*
- 2019 *ASAMA International Photo Festival PHOTO MIYOTA, Miyota Museum of Photography,*  
*Miyota-machi, Nagano*  
*Bijyutsujyoron, Fujieda City Hall, Fujieda*
- 2020 *real SOU #5 'Walking', Ibaraki City Honmachi Center, Ibaraki*
- 2021 *Sync - eternal commons / ephemeral being, Good Nature Station Gallery, Kyoto*
- 2023 *Joenu East Asia Culture City International Exchange Exhibition: Harmony, Palbok Art Factory*  
*& Hanbyeok Cultural Center, Jeonju*
- 2024 *Temporary Contemporary Photography, YOD Gallery, Osaka*
- 2025 *BUTSUDORI: The Photographic Expression of 'Objects', Shiga Museum of Art, Otsu*

**Public Collections**

- Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts, Hokuto
- The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
- The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto

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For further information or for artwork images please contact us:

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