

MAYA FUJI

Born 1988

Lives and works in San Francisco, USA

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1988 in Japan and raised in the California Bay Area, Maya Fuji is inspired by both her cultural heritage and the exploration of the liminal space she lives in as an issei (first-generation) mixed-race woman in the United States.

She is fascinated by traditional Japanese mythology and folklore, as well as Showa and Heisei—era subcultures, and expands on these themes within the context of her personal experiences. A recurring theme in her work is the exploration of what forms our sense of identity, and how that can shift during one's lifetime on account of generations living abroad. Imbuing the complexity of being multicultural, multinational, and multiracial is central to her works, as her paintings contrast the nostalgia of childhood memories with underlying feelings of being a foreigner simultaneously navigating Japanese and American communities. She illuminates self-discovery through narration and investigation of the otherness she has felt throughout her life, and uses it as a catalyst to reconnect with and reclaim space within her heritage.

Solo exhibitions include SWIM Gallery in San Francisco and YOD Gallery in Osaka. She has shown group exhibitions with New Image Gallery in Los Angeles in addition to Glass Rice and Hashimoto Contemporary in San Francisco. Fuji has been featured in publications such as *New American Paintings*, *Friend Of The Artist*, *It's Nice That*, *Immigrantly Podcast*, and was the winner of the Innovative Grant and was shortlisted for the Hopper Prize in 2023.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 YOD Editions, Osaka, Japan, “ダブル・Double”
- 2022 SWIM Gallery, San Francisco, CA, “Fujimura Tobacco Shop ・ 藤村タバコ店”
Voss Gallery, San Francisco, CA, “KAMI/ 髪 神”

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Enari Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands, “Moons”
Good Mother Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, “Monstra”
Residency Art, Los Angeles, CA, “The New Contemporaries Vol III”
The Hole, New York, NY, “Fembot”
Hashimoto Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA, “For The Love Of Dog”
Root Division, San Francisco, CA, “Introductions”
Franchise Gallery/ Tlaloc Studios, Los Angeles, CA, “Próximo”
Rosa Projects, Oakland, CA, “It's Good To Be Here”
The Hole, Taipei, Taiwan, “Taipei Dangdai”
Glass Rice Gallery, San Francisco, CA, “Art Market San Francisco”
Hashimoto Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA, “Potluck”

Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA, "Inaugural Group Show"

- 2022 Streams Gallery, Seoul, Korea, "Korea International Art Fair"
New Image Art, Los Angeles, CA, "Saltfish"
Glass Rice Gallery, San Francisco, CA, "Hella Good"
Thinkspace Gallery, London, UK, "Across The Pond"
Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, "Across The Pond"
Streams Gallery, Hong Kong, "Art Central Hong Kong"
Tchotchke Gallery, New York, NY, "Butterfly Effect"
Soft Times Gallery, San Francisco, CA, "Inaugural Group Exhibition"
Glass Rice Gallery, San Francisco, CA, "Looking Glass"
- 2021 Keep Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM, "Humid Nostalgia"
Good Mother Gallery, Oakland, CA, "Battle of the Bay"
Chandran Gallery, San Francisco, CA, "Ginga"
- 2020 Spoke Art, San Francisco, CA, "NSFW"

AWARDS

- 2023 Art Connect Artists To Watch
Artsin Square Grant Spring 2023, Winner
Hopper Prize Spring 2023, Shortlist
Innovative Grant Winter 2023, Winner
- 2022 Innovative Grant Fall 2022, Honorable Mention
- 2021 Beautiful Bizarre Magazine Art Awards 2021, Finalist

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2023 Artmaze Mag Issue 35
Not Half, But Double, Metal Magazine, Zach Lee
Divide Magazine Issue 7
Fujimura Tobacco Shop, Dovetail Magazine, Kate Mothes
Tomorrow's Talent Vol. III, Booooooom
Friend Of The Artist Vol. 17
A Portfolio: Maya Fuji, Juxtapoz Magazine
Interview: Maya Fuji's Hybrid Worlds, Innovative Grant
New American Paintings Pacific Coast Issue 163
- 2022 Expressing Kinship and Self Through Art, Saadia Khan, Immigrantly Podcast
Interview: Maya Fuji's New Mythologies, Innovative Grant
Beautiful Bizarre Magazine Issue 37, Artist Snapshot, Danijela Krha Purssey
The Bay Area meets Kanazawa in Maya Fuji's bright and beautiful explorations, Jyni Ong, Its Nice That