

# Mizuki Nishiyama

Artist

www.mizukinishiyama.com • info@mizukinishiyama.com

## EDUCATION

Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts (IDSVA), PhD in Visual Arts: Philosophy, Aesthetics, and Art Theory (Expected 2028)

Central Saint Martins, MFA (2024)

Parsons School of Design, BFA (2020)

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama"*, CICA Museum, Gimpo, South Korea

2022 | *"The Beautiful and The Grotesque"*, Seefood Room, Hong Kong

2022 | *"Seiza - Transgressing the Seated Body"*, ArtNext, Hong Kong

2021 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Farmani Group, Hong Kong

2021 | *"Moroi"*, Shout Gallery, Hong Kong

2021 | *"Ikebana"*, International Finance Centre, Hong Kong

2021 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Mr Wolf, Hong Kong

2020 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Operation Smile Benefit, Hong Kong

2020 | *"Shunga"*, Whitestone Gallery, Hong Kong

2020 | *"An Exploration of Human Fragility : Love and Lust"*, Tenri Cultural Institute, New York

2019 | 脆い: Mizuki Nishiyama: An Exploration of Human Fragility", Greenpoint Gallery, New York

2018 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Rabbit House, New York

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 | *"Visions"*, Gallery Rosenfeld, London

2024 | Focus Art Fair, London

2024 | JW Marriott Hotel, Hong Kong

2024 | *"Layered Echoes"*, Bucherer, Geneva

2024 | University Women's Club, London

2024 | Hong Kong Arts Center, Hong Kong

2024 | *"A Quiet Room, A Place in Your Heart"*, Wow Gallery, Singapore

2024 | *"En Route"*, 3812 Gallery, Hong Kong

2024 | *"London Light"*, M P Birla Millenium Gallery, London

2024 | *"Red"* Performance, Lethaby Gallery, London

2024 | *"Remapping Reality"*, Contemporary by Angela Li, Hong Kong

2023 | *"Quiet Shores, Vibrant Swells: The Young Waves from East Asia"*, European Cultural Academy, Venice

2023 | *"Purity"* Performance/ *"Ode to Proteus"*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London

2023 | Eye of the Collector, London

2023 | *"The Earth We Walk Upon, The Ancestry We Bring With Us"*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London

2023 | *"All Things Current are Found"*, Central Saint Martins MA Interim Show, Trinity Buoy Wharf, London

2023 | *"Dreams of a New Moon"*, Lethaby Gallery, London

2023 | *"Hysteria"*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London

2022 | Digital Art Fair 2022, Hong Kong

2022 | *"Face to Face"*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London

2022 | *"Rise of Venus"*, Geek Pictures x Perrotin, India

2022 | *"Fever"*, Aucart, London

2022 | *"Beloved Community"*, Black Wall Street Gallery, New York

2022 | *"Orizzonti Trasversali"*, M.A.D.S Gallery, Milan

2022 | JingArt, Beijing

2022 | K11 Musea, Hong Kong

2022 | *"Through the Prism"*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London

2022 | AM Gallery, Hong Kong

2022 | BlueArk, Hong Kong

2021 | Tower 535, Hong Kong

2021 | HerClique, New York

2021 | Affordable Art Fair, Hong Kong

2021 | Art She Says, New York

2021 | Superfine! Art Fair, New York

2021 | 13a New Street, Hong Kong

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2019 | RAW Natural Born Artist (Stellar), New York  
2019 | The Landmark, Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong  
2019 | Abike Studio: The Phluid Project, New York  
2018 | 12th Street Gallery, New York  
2018 | Plant House Gallery, New York  
2018 | The Greenpoint Gallery, New York [First Place People's Choice]  
2018 | Spectra, New York  
2017 | Parsons Student Senate Gala, New York  
2016 | The Greenpoint Gallery, New York

## TALKS / WORKSHOPS

2024 | *"Mizuki Nishiyama : Bodies in Motion"*, Eton College, England  
2023 | *"Drawing Course with Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Royal Academy of Arts, London  
2023 | *"Reshape 2023 - Children of the Mekong Auction and Talk"*, Soho House, Hong Kong  
2023 | *"Why & How to Collect Emerging Art"*, Soho House Hong Kong, Hong Kong  
2023 | *"Exploring the Intersection of Grotesque, Eroticism and Femininity in Contemporary Art through the lens of Mizuki Nishiyama"*, Carlyle & Co, Hong Kong  
2023 | Anteprema, Peninsula Hotel, Hong Kong  
2023 | *"The Art of Love, The Love of Art"*, Selfridges Cinema, London  
2023 | Kalon Parlour, Lady Garden Foundation, London  
2023 | *"Hysteria"* Panel, Gillian Jason Gallery, London  
2020 | Hong Kong Association of the Deaf, Hong Kong

## RESIDENCIES

2024 | La Gascona, Cuenca, Spain  
2024 | Sapporo Tenjinyama Art Studio, Japan

## AWARDS/PRIZES

2024 | Homiens Long Listed Art Prize

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Mizuki Nishiyama is a mixed-Japanese artist known for her raw and confrontational works that span across mediums such as painting, sculpture, tapestry, poetry, and performance art. Her multidisciplinary practice delves into the fragile human condition, with a particular focus on the socio-political dimensions of the female experience. By incorporating her ancestral Japanese soil—buried with military forebears since the 1400s—into her art, Nishiyama critically engages with themes of ancestry, patriarchy, and the passage of time.

Nishiyama's work interrogates concepts of purity, femininity, Shintoism, and trauma, using natural elements as both material and metaphor to explore what it means to be a woman in contemporary society. Her artistic process begins with soil excavated from her paternal land in Japan, where her ancestors, including those who committed Seppuku, shaped the foundations of Shinto purification practices. This soil, rich with historical and spiritual significance, serves as a foundational element in her tapestries and paintings.

In her paintings, Nishiyama incorporates the same ancestral soil and employs a knife-cutting technique to slice through viscous oil pigments, capturing the tension between violence and tranquility.

In her tapestries, Nishiyama draws inspiration from the Shinto concept of Kami, or "God," which lacks a physical representation in the religion, symbolized only through the folded paper Shide. Nishiyama sources white organic fabrics, which she then burns as an act of defiance against patriarchy, buries in ancestral soil for months, and later revitalizes by soaking them in Japanese immune-boosting teas. The fabrics are further weathered by London's air and treated with traditional Japanese distressing and sewing techniques like Sashiko and Boro. This intricate process reflects the cyclical nature of life, death, and rebirth, creating a dialogue between past, present, and future, and exploring the female narrative across Eastern and Western cultures.

Drawing from her diverse cultural heritage, which spans Hong Kong, Japanese, and Italian influences, Nishiyama bridges Eastern and Western artistic traditions.

Currently a PhD student at the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts (IDSVA). Nishiyama holds a Master of Fine Arts from Central Saint Martins and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design. Her solo exhibitions include *Shunga* (2020) at Whitestone Gallery, Hong Kong, *An Exploration of human fragility: Love & lust* (2020) at the Tenri Cultral Institute of New York , and 脆い (Moroi: An Exploration of human fragility) (2019) at Greenpoint Gallery, New York.