

The image is a promotional poster for Frieze Seoul 2026, featuring two abstract paintings. The left painting, by Tenki Hiramatsu, depicts a stylized, elongated face in profile, rendered in shades of blue and green against a muted, earthy background. The right painting, by Ryu Takeda, is a dark, abstract composition with prominent horizontal bands of orange and red, suggesting a face or a landscape. The text 'KOSAKU KANECHIKA' is written vertically in white on the right side of the poster.

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KANECHIKA

Frieze Seoul 2026
Artists: Tenki Hiramatsu, Ryu Takeda

FRIEZE SEOUL

Frieze Seoul 2026

Artists: Tenki Hiramatsu, Ryu Takeda

Dates: September 2 – September 5, 2026

Venue: COEX

Booth: A22

<https://www.frieze.com/fairs/frieze-seoul>

KOSAKU
KANECHIKA

KOSAKU KANECHIKA is pleased to present a dual presentation of works by Tenki Hiramatsu and Ryu Takeda, two Japanese artists, at Frieze Seoul 2026.

Hiramatsu's paintings begin without predetermined motifs. Rather than starting from a fixed idea, he works through a process of identifying where chance and necessity converge — allowing figures to surface from backgrounds and brushstrokes that initially appear unrelated. By layering oil paint, acrylic, and wax, he builds a surface with a density and texture that no single medium could achieve alone — one where deliberate judgment meets serendipitous accident, and images slowly emerge from colors and textures responding to each other. He has described his creative process as an exploration of existence without purpose.

Takeda's paintings, similarly beginning with haphazard brushstrokes, evoke the imagery of accidental stains or scars. The memories and sensory character of the rural forests of his childhood surface not only through sight but through sound, smell, and touch. He often likens the act of painting to an excavation, working as if to uncover an unconscious realm that has been lost through verbalization and classification. He moves back and forth between distant

scales and categories, letting forms and textures rhyme with one another until something, whether an object, a rhythm, or a sound, becomes legible within the layers of strokes and drips.

Both artists' paintings emerge from a dialogue with paint shaped by spontaneity and coincidence, layering material to unearth images that exist somewhere between the figurative and the abstract. Neither works toward a predetermined image; in both practices, motifs emerge gradually through a process of trial and error, and remain open to further shifting even after they have assumed a recognizable shape, with their final form reached at the point where intention gives way to serendipity. What results are two distinct visual languages built from a shared method: painting as a way of finding an image, rather than depicting one. The presentation will include the artists' most recent paintings, alongside elements of installation and sculpture that reflect their respective processes and worldviews.

This presentation for Frieze Seoul 2026 will consist of approximately 20 works by the two artists.

Tenki Hiramatsu

Tenki Hiramatsu was born in Wakayama Prefecture, Japan in 1986, and is currently based in Berlin. He studied painting at the Nihon University College of Arts, and later at the Staatliche Kunstakademie Karlsruhe. Hiramatsu's major solo exhibitions include "Never Again" (Kunstverein Rastatt, Rastatt, 2019), "Unendliche Zigarettenpause" (Städtische Galerie Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, 2023), "Breather" (Sebastian Gladstone, Los Angeles, 2024) and "Slow Living" (Half Gallery, New York, 2024). His work was also featured in group exhibitions such as "Regionale 18 000 Object Oriented Ontology" (Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, 2017), "Alte Freunde, neue Freunde" (Claas Reiss, London, 2021), and "Splendore – joie, joie, joie..." (Fondation Fernet Branca, Saint-Louis, 2024). Hiramatsu's work has been acquired by UBS Art Collection and Zurich Insurance, among others.



Tenki Hiramatsu
Malingerer
2026
Oil on wooden panel
29.8 x 42.0 cm
TH-Pa-26-008



《Malingerer》

Regarding this work, titled “Malingerer,” Hiramatsu says, “When someone has their eyes closed, it is impossible for others to know what state they are in. When deadlines pile up, I sometimes wish I could simply sleep like this and let the time pass.” He has previously created works depicting figures in motion, as well as figures and their traces, including “Wanderer” (2025), which takes as its subject his own experience of repeatedly moving from one place to another, and “Drop-out” (2025), which reflects his experience of failing an entrance examination. The figures depicted in these works can also be understood as beings that do not entirely fit within social norms or fixed positions. While deviation can at times be accompanied by denial, loneliness, and instability, the figures that suggest a sense of freedom beyond such boundaries also reflect his own movements and personal experiences.

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Tenki Hiramatsu

Jealousy

2025

Oil, acrylic on wooden panel

60.0 x 70.0 cm

TH-Pa-25-008



installation view from Sweat and Tears at KOSAKU KANECHIKA, 2026



installation view from Sweat and Tears at KOSAKU KANECHIKA, 2026

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Tenki Hiramatsu
Bittersweet
2026
Oil on wooden panel
63.0 x 70.0 cm
TH-Pa-26-007

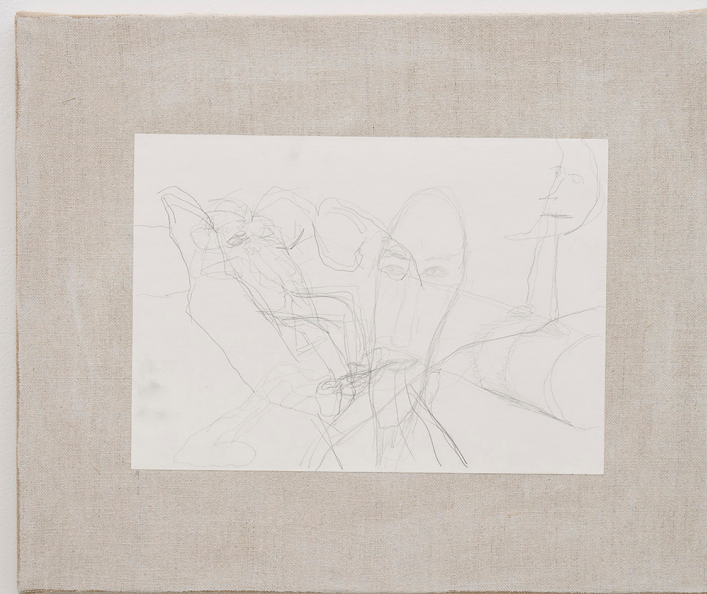


《Bittersweet》

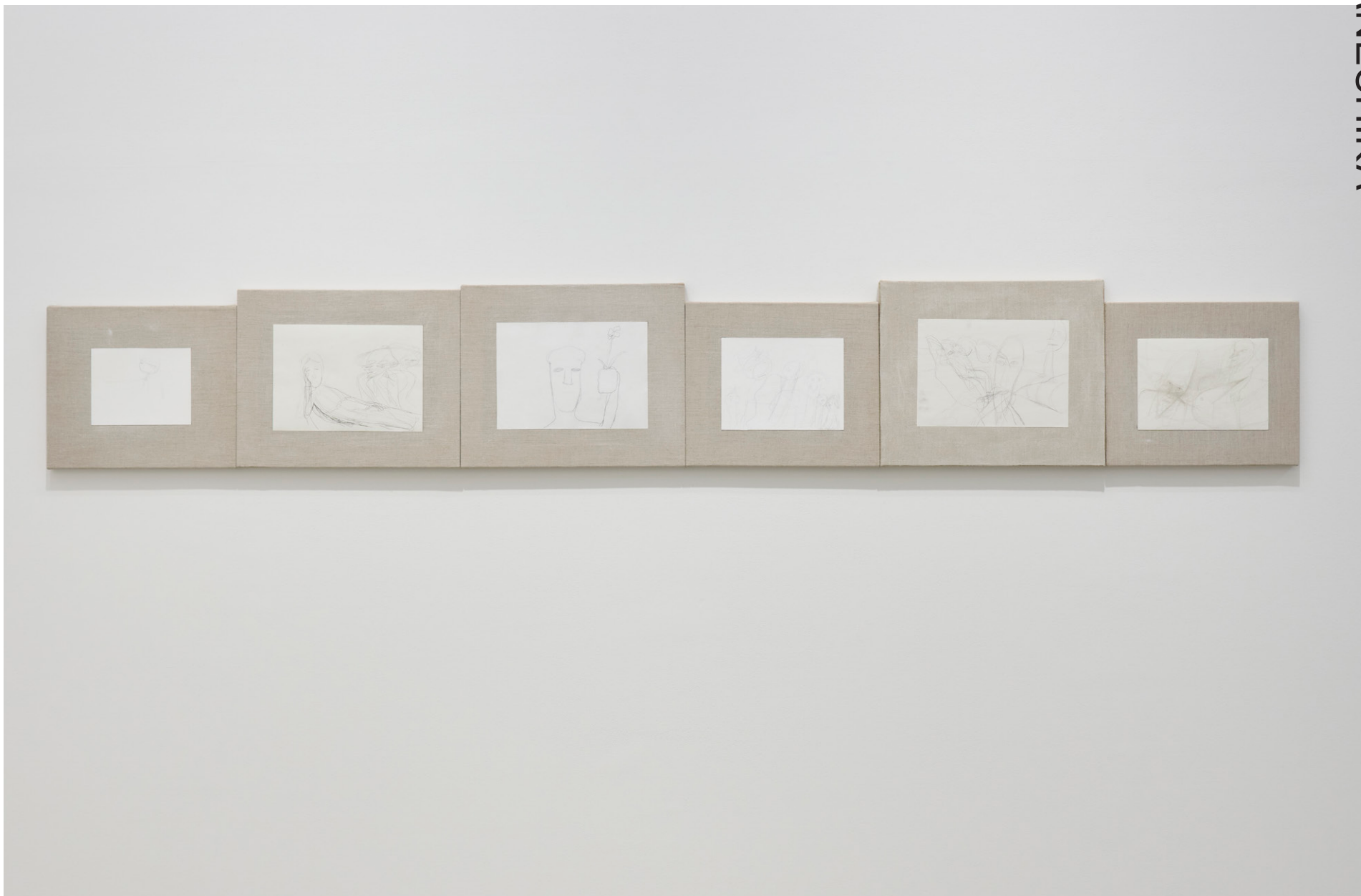
The elongated face of the figure, together with the colors of the background, gives the impression of a moon. The figure, appearing to arch backward, and the silhouette of the cat drawn in response to it, quietly inhabit the picture as presences that invite free associations in the viewer. Rather than painting predetermined motifs, Hiramatsu discovers unexpected images that emerge through the process of creation by changing the angle at which the painting is hung on the wall and observing the canvas from different directions. This freedom from intention shapes how his figures come into being — not planned, but arrived at through the act of painting itself. The figures that surface from his brushwork occupy an ambiguous emotional register: at times they draw the viewer close, at others they remain quietly out of reach. Hiramatsu's paintings ask to be looked at slowly, with attention given not just to what is depicted but to how color, form, and space press against one another.



Tenki Hiramatsu
Decadent youth and elder
2025
Graphite on gessoed paper mounted on linen
35.0 x 44.3 cm
TH-D-25-004



Tenki Hiramatsu
Moon, Smoker, Sleeping in the hand
2022
Graphite on paper mounted on linen
36.2 x 44.0 cm
TH-D-22-001



installation view from Sweat and Tears at KOSAKU KANECHIKA, 2026



Tenki Hiramatsu
Sound of Waves
2025
Oil, acrylic on wooden panel
90.3 x 100.4 cm
TH-Pa-25-007



Tenki Hiramatsu
Samourai
2026
Oil on wooden panel
70.2 x 80.0 cm
TH-Pa-26-006

Ryu Takeda

Ryu Takeda was born in Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan in 1989, and is currently based in Tokyo. He graduated from the Department of Sculpture at Musashino Art University in 2016. Notable solo exhibitions include “Griffin” (LAVENDER OPENER CHAIR, Tokyo, 2023), “Devonian Touch” (TAV Gallery, Tokyo, 2024), and “The Sixth Night” (The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, 2025). His works have also been included in group shows such as “RANZANSTUDIO Presents” (TURNER GALLERY, Tokyo, 2019), “Doubutsuenzoo in TOKAS 2021” (TOKAS, Tokyo, 2021), “HANNAH” (parcel, Tokyo, 2024), and “La Maison de Rendez-Vous” (Paul Soto Gallery, New York, 2026).



Ryu Takeda
device / tabula / goblet / bollard
2026
Oil on linen
89.6 x 145.7 cm
RT-Pa-26-008



KOSAKU
KANESHIKA

Ryu Takeda
device / tabula / g
2026
Oil on linen
89.6 x 145.7 cm
RT-Pa-26-008



installation view from Miner's Fog at KOSAKU KANECHIKA, 2026



installation view from Miner's Fog at KOSAKU KANECHIKA, 2026

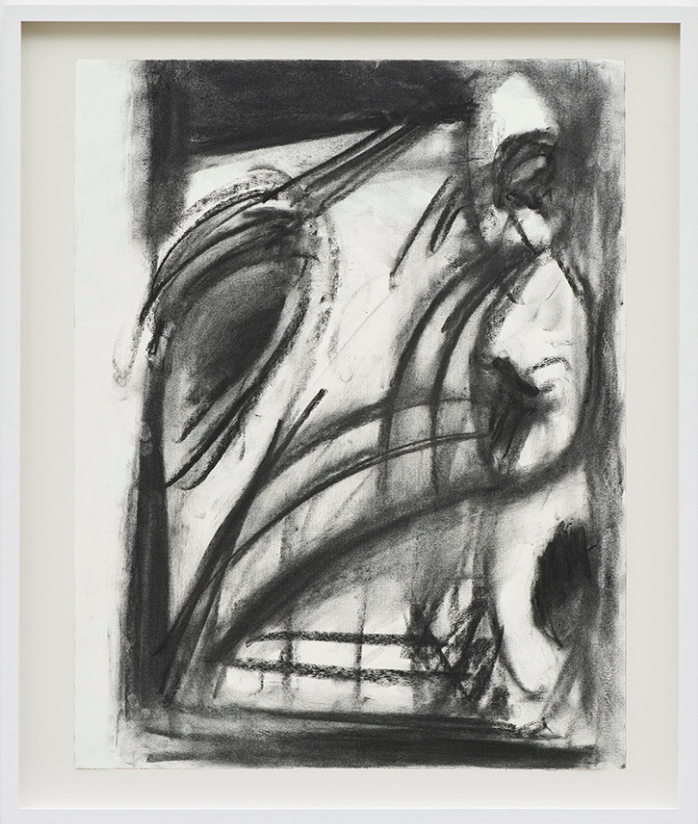


Ryu Takeda
Cavern
2026
Charcoal on paper
35.8 x 51.0 cm
RT-D-26-010

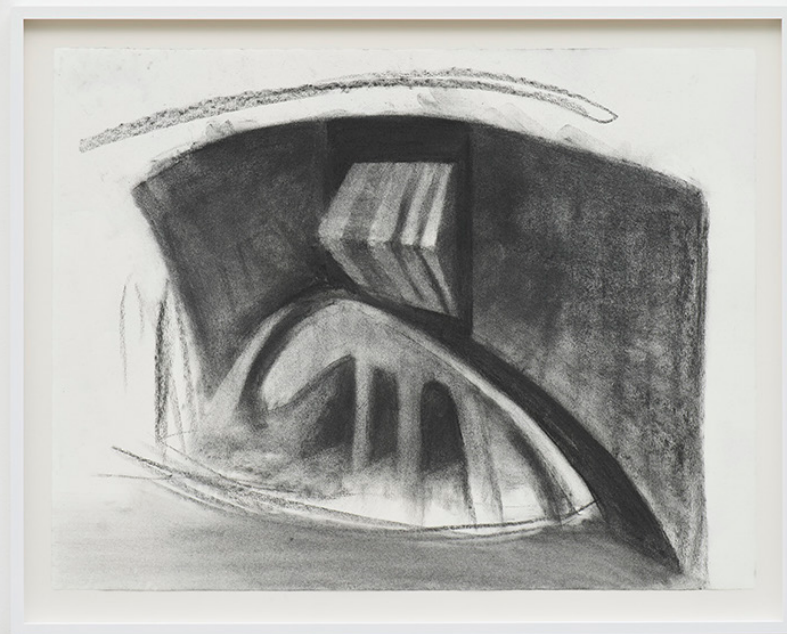
《Cavern》

Takeda describes his charcoal drawings as a process of creating brightness by wiping his hand across paper that has been completely covered in black, working as though he were digging clay out of a pitch-black darkness. Like shaping a sculpture from clay, he gradually brings forms into being from within the surface of the drawing. Unlike actual sculpture, whose scale is determined by its physical mass, painting and drawing allow the images that emerge from within the surface to be perceived at times as small objects and at others as enormous architectural structures. Takeda finds particular pleasure in the freedom to move back and forth between micro and macro scales, depending on the viewer's perspective.





Ryu Takeda
Cavern
2026
Charcoal on paper
66.0 x 51.0 cm
RT-D-26-011



Ryu Takeda
Cavern
2026
Charcoal on paper
50.8 x 66.0 cm
RT-D-26-012



Ryu Takeda
Vein
2026
Ceramic, glaze
h.10.0 x w.6.8 x d.2.9 cm
RT-S-26-011



Ryu Takeda
Vein
2026
Ceramic, glaze
h.9.2 x w.7.7 x d.4.0 cm
RT-S-26-012



Ryu Takeda
Vein
2026
Ceramic, glaze
h.13.2 x w.9.7 x d.3.5 cm
RT-S-26-010



《Vein》

The relief work titled “Vein,” evoking the mineral-rich layers hidden within the earth, is part of a series of ceramic works that Takeda first presented in depth in his 2026 solo exhibition, “Miner’s Fog”. Takeda, who has been very familiar with the use of clay since his childhood, notes, “Even when I am painting, I somehow get the feeling that I am molding.” This work was created by carving into a cube of clay and excavating its form using tools found in nature, such as bones picked up on the beach and dried branches. Although the work is a relief that can be hung on the wall, its form evokes the materiality and three-dimensionality inherent in clay, combining qualities of both painting and sculpture, as well as those of two and three dimensions. This presentation marks the first time that Takeda’s glazed works will be presented.

Related Information

Gallery Exhibitions

Ryu Takeda “Miner’s Fog”

Dates: July 31 - September 19, 2026

Venue: KOSAKU KANECHIKA Kyobashi

https://kosakukanechika.com/en/exhibition/miners_fog/

GROUP SHOW: 4 ARTISTS

Artists: E’wao Kagoshima, Ataru Sato, Tenki Hiramatsu, Isaac Soh Fujita Howell

Dates: August 29 - October 3, 2026

Venue: KOSAKU KANECHIKA Tennoz

https://kosakukanechika.com/en/exhibition/4_artists_2026/

Art Fairs

Frieze Seoul 2026

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Tokyo Gendai 2026

Artists: Yutaka Aoki, Junko Oki, E’wao Kagoshima, Takuro Kuwata, Ataru Sato,

Ryu Takeda, Noritaka Tatehana, Miwa Kyusetsu XIII, Ana Benaroya, TARWUK

Dates: September 11 - September 13, 2026

Venue: PACIFICO Yokohama

Booth: B02

<https://tokyogendai.com>