

Hotshoe 333

Miho Kajioka

And, where did the peacocks go?

22 May - 28 July 2019



HOTSHOE 333 is pleased to announce a new exhibition of photographs by Miho Kajioka (b.1973, Japan) in collaboration with The Photographer's Gallery.

After the Fukushima nuclear plant accident, Kajioka came across a blog about a number of peacocks that were left in the evacuation zone. She started to imagine the peacocks walking around the ruined city with their resplendent wings spread wide.

"The image I had in my mind seemed so far away from what was going on in Fukushima. It was as if two different layers of images – the disaster scene and beautiful peacocks – were overlapping with each other without being unified... I started to see different layers in almost everything after the disaster in 2011." - Miho Kajioka

Her ethereal, toned and noticeably hand-finished silver gelatin prints draw on the Japanese tradition of "wabi-sabi" – the appreciation of beauty in imperfection, and the Zen/Taoist belief that the essence of an object exists in the empty space inside and around it. These spaces in Kajioka's carefully exposed prints are as essential to her work as the subjects that emerge from the delicate surfaces.

"Miho Kajioka's photography opens up possible futures whilst conjuring unresolvable pasts. Her

photographs hold our imaginations because they are open-ended, whilst we hold onto her photographs as they appear to afford us the prospect of resolving that which we may not even realise requires resolution." Edward Dimsdale, Hotshoe Issue 195

Miho Kajioka (b. 1973, Japan) studied fine art in the United States and Canada and now lives in Kyoto. Since 2013, Kajioka's work has been exhibited in France, the Netherlands, Colombia, the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany and Spain and was highlighted at this year's Photo London.

In collaboration with The Photographers' Gallery, London and IBASHO, Antwerp.

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