



Hong Kong, October 19, 2022

J12 contemporary art by jason and calif Shibuya
 present
 "Forbidden Fruit, Talavera, and Vermin"
 A solo exhibition by Japanese pop and street artist Yoshi47

J12 contemporary art by jason and calif Shibuya are excited to announce 'Forbidden Fruit, Talavera, and Vermin', a solo exhibition by Japanese pop and street artist Yoshi47 (b. 1981). The exhibition will feature original works and pottery objects created this year by Yoshi47 at calif SHIBUYA (Shibuya PARCO 5F), Tokyo, Japan on November 10 to 21, 2022 and with a VIP Preview on Wednesday, November 9.

Forbidden Fruit, Talavera, and Vermin reflect Yoshi47's journey from his time in California to his current home in the rural countryside of the Atsumi Peninsula in Japan. A tribute to Mother Nature and all creatures that inhabit our world, he views the world as one of tolerance and of happy coexistence, where even the crow who pecked at his prized

watermelon can be seen as endearing. These 'vermin' are brought vividly to life in a multitude of hues: dark colors representing gaps in our humanity, while brighter colors represent hope. Yoshi47 paints his playful images using Aerosol paint, air brush, acrylics, and water color on paper, canvas or wood panels. The imagery on his pottery reflect a cross pollination of cultures, with Talavera, Mexican and Spanish pottery inspired motifs applied onto Japanese Atsumi pottery.

You can visit Forbidden fruit, Talavera, and Vermin at:

**calif
SHIBUYA**

Exhibition Venue:
 calif SHIBUYA,
 Shibuya PARCO 5F
 15-1 Udagawa-cho,
 Shibuya-ku
 Tokyo 150-8377, Japan

A VIP PREVIEW with the artist Yoshi47 in attendance will be held on November 9, 2022 (Wednesday) 4:00 – 8:00pm prior to the exhibition opening to the public.

Date: Nov 10 – 21, 2022. 11:00am – 8:00pm
 *Admission until 30 minutes before closing
 *Closes at 6:00pm on the last day





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About Yoshi47

Born in 1981 Gifu Prefecture, Japan, Japanese pop and street artist Yoshi47 at the age of twenty, moved to California, U.S.A. to pursue an art career. He spent four years in the Bay area doing live painting and participating in both solo exhibitions and art events. While living in San Francisco, he discovered a small group of avid bicyclists and became a bike messenger. It was through his experience as a courier that he found his essence of life and the conceptual basis for his art. In 2006, he returned to Japan. Initially he lived in Tokyo, where he continued to work as a messenger and became involved in the bicycle industry. He eventually relocated to Kariya City for two and a half years to focus on his artistic and business endeavors. In 2010, he spent eight months in Tochigi before ultimately settling in the Atsumi Peninsula three years ago. Aside from his art, Yoshi47 is involved in art curation, graphic design, company/collaborative projects, and continues to exhibit his artwork overseas such as Australia, China, America, Canada, France, Mexico, Sweden, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.



About J 12 contemporary art by jason

J 12 contemporary art by jason is focused and dedicated to connecting you with the emerging and mid-career artists from South East Asia, Hong Kong, China, and Japan with great artistry and creativity. The gallery's objective is to provide our clients with unique works of art that have investment potential and are reflections of who they are.

Founded in 2019 as jason /sveinn contemporary art as an online gallery, we rapidly changed to accommodate the ever-evolving art world by bringing our first drop of digital art and street art into our fold and launching our gallery space at PMQ and presenting our virtual Viewing Room on our website, leading us to our rebranding as J 12 contemporary art by jason.

For media enquiries and availability of Yoshi47's works, please contact:

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Yoshi47

Artist Statement

Written on October 14, 2022

I woke up before sunrise, and headed for the sea while rubbing my sleepy eyes. A quiet sea with not a soul in sight. A soft southwest swell splits neatly from the outside while maintaining its length. I chase the waves that come from far away while staring at the horizon all by myself. By the time the birds start to become active and the sun from the east feels a little dazzling, I am already out of the sea. After surfing, I then tend to my garden full of flowers, herbs, lawns and fields. Various insects living in the herb garden are flying around creating a feeling of paradise. When I hear the hum of bees, I think that next year I should try a beehive. On the other hand, the fields are overgrown with weeds, and pests are swarming around ripe vegetables wriggling with enthusiasm in the undergrowth.

While listening to DJ Peter Barakan's program "Weekend Sunshine", which my wife loves, on the radio, I read the pile of books with great impatience. Suddenly I think: NHK makes really good programs. The music in the studio changes depending on how the waves feel that day. Today, while listening to Akira Uchida's "SILENT PRAYER", I will further balance my autonomic nervous system that has become complacent with surfing, and make effective use of the serotonin that bursts out of my brain. I have no hesitation. I honestly accept what I want to draw, and draw one element after another while just enjoying it. When I look at the weeds that have grown out of the window, I perceive a slowly swaying adult figure, and then draw it. The things I want to do and the things I want to make just flow and continues to grow in my head organically. Then I paint it.

While having lunch with vegetables from my own field and fish caught by my friend, who is fisherman, I receive a phone call from Mr. Kunio Oshima, the chairman of the Atsumi Toyukai. "If you have time today, would you like to paint?" Three years have already passed since I moved here to the Atsumi Peninsula, and during that time I encountered a type of pottery called Atsumi ware. Currently, painting is my main activity, while my pottery making skills are refined. While practicing pottery and other activities, I am keenly aware of my own inability to center the clay while turning the potter's wheel. I will create such pottery while looking at the large anagama (Japanese wood-burning kiln) built in 1977, which is enshrined next to a pile of black pine firewood.

In the evening, there are days when you can enjoy small talk while surfing with the locals, and days where you can enjoy the evening meal by yourself, but today, before the sun sets, I tend to vegetables that will probably be harvested tomorrow, giving them plenty of water. Eggplants and green peppers, which continue to grow, have really helped me this summer.





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However, the watermelon, which I treasured the most, was pecked at by a crow. Looking at them sideways, I don't feel angry at the actions of animals that we call pests that live desperately for some reason. On the contrary, I find them very endearing. This is part of nature, and I can feel that I am connected to mother earth.

At sunset, I have a final interaction with nature on the lawn with a beer in my hand. In front of me, a dense forest like a tropical rainforest and small mountains accentuate the beauty of the earth, which is interwoven with light blue, pink, orange, red, blue, and purple. After dinner, I listen to a Thelonious Monk's session with the sounds of autumn bugs, drink scotch neat without chaser and close my eyes imagining what the day will be like tomorrow.

