

TAKE NINAGAWA

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For Immediate Release

Yoriko Kita
The Way Home
March 22 through April 26, 2008

Take Ninagawa Gallery is pleased to announce Kyoto artist Yoriko Kita's debut solo exhibition in Tokyo, "The Way Home," featuring new watercolor and charcoal paintings on fabric.

Instead of working from sketches, Yoriko Kita takes hundreds of snapshots of her daily life and travels, selecting elements from different photos and reconstituting them to make paintings that reflect a form of collage process. Previous series have taken as subject matter people, flowers and even animals, in each case visualizing scenes that exist in the intervals between subjective realities.

For "The Way Home," Kita's new watercolor and charcoal paintings depict forest and mountain landscapes. However, in these works, a snow-capped peak may in fact be a composite of Nagano's Chino Mountain and Mount Everest; Kyoto's Kamo River cuts through the Swiss Alps; or trees from New York's Central Park turn up in the middle of Paris. Kita provokes in viewers a sense of déjà vu as she presents them with familiar images that suddenly appear foreign. Rendered in quick, rough strokes, these incongruous "blends" both invoke a Romantic tradition of painting from life and a contemporary sense of irony and displacement, stirring timeless memories even as they produce new experiences of the prosaic.

Yoriko Kita graduated from the Mixed Media Course, Saga Art College, Kyoto, in 1997. Recent group exhibitions include "Exhibition as Media" at Kobe Art Village Center and "Portrait" at Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art in 2007. This is the artist's first exhibition at Take Ninagawa.