



MARI ITO

Tokyo, Japan, 1980. Lives and works in Barcelona, Spain

Mari Ito was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1980. She studied at Joshibi University of Art and Design, where she majored in Nihonga, a Japanese painting style combining traditional practices, techniques, and materials. She moved to Barcelona, Spain in 2006 and studied painting at Barcelona University. Since then she has taken up her residence in Barcelona.

In her work, Mari Ito explores the theme of "desire", accepted by some cultures as an important part of our life, but generally considered by most religions and philosophies as a dangerous force, capable of making us prisoners of our own impulses. The most dark, primitive and inaccessible part of human personality was well described by Freud as one of the three parts of the psyche: the *id*. Completely unconscious, irrational and illogical, it is only ruled by pleasure and is the set of uncoordinated instincts and impulses. On the other hand, Buddhism describes the concept of *Upeksha* as the freedom from all kinds of desires. It is opposed to individuality, and is the fourth element of true love.

In her paintings and sculptures, Ito represents the seed of desire, through a mix of happiness, sorrow and wrath, pleasure and danger. Using loud colors and sensitive lines, she creates a unique world made of hybrid creatures, like flowers with faces, that are both beautiful and unsettling. Beyond traditional Japanese painting, Ito opens up a unique image of the world that is filled with humor.

"I believe that "the origin of desire" lurking in the hearts of humans incites us to get into action. And I want to pursue the seed".

Mari Ito

Mari Ito's work has been exhibited in Spanish and Japanese galleries, and international art fairs such as Scope Basel and Contemporary Istanbul.

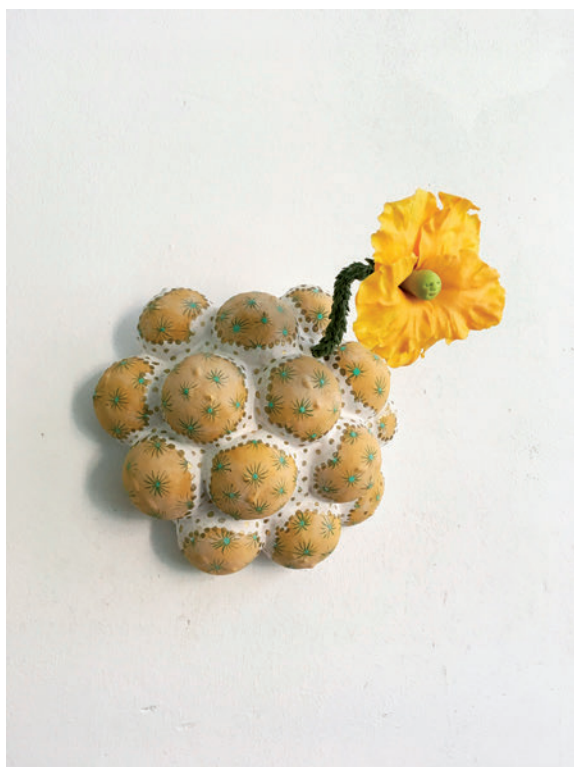
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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 "El jardín de los deseos del Japón contemporáneo", Torreon Fortea, Zaragoza, Spain
- 2018 "ITOMARISM KALEIDOSCOPE" Jankossen Contemporary Art Gallery, New York, USA
- "ITOMARISM" Mitsukoshi Nihonbashi, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 "ITOMARISMO" nap galley 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan
- "ITOMARISME" Artèria, Igualada, Spain
- 2016 "Mari Ito" ZEIT-FOTO SALON, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 "Invisible" nap gallery 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan
- "El jardín de los deseos" ZEIT-FOTO SALON, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 "El origen del deseo" TK Galeria d'Art, Barcelona, Spain
- 2012 "Id- El origen del deseo -nacimiento-" La Cerverinad'Art. Cervera, Spain
- "Id- El origen del deseo -nacimiento-" Galería Esther Montoriol. Barcelona, Spain
- "Id- El origen del deseo -nacimiento-" nap gallery ChiyodaARTS3331. Tokyo, Japan
- "Id- El origen del deseo" Zeit Foto Salon. Tokyo, Japan
- 2011 "Id-De l'origen del desig" Vinart. Igualada, Spain
- 2009 "Id- en movimiento hacia el círculo" Kannon Gyo Et Wa gallery. Barcelona, Spain
- "Id- El origen del deseo" Sala d'art Hostalet. Girona, Spain
- "Id- el origen de los deseos" Kannon Gyo Et Wa gallery. Barcelona, Spain
- 2008 "Mari Ito" ZENBU Gallery. Barcelona, Spain

ART FAIRS

- 2018 Art Paris, Jankossen Contemporary, Paris, France
- 2013 SCOPE Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 2012 Contemporary Istanbul, Tatiana Kourochkina Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- ArtNagoya Contemporary Art Fair, The Westin Nagoya Castl, Nagoya, Japan
- 2010 AHAF2010HK Asia Top Gallery hotel Art Fair. Gran Hyatt Hotel, Hong Kong, China

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Villa del Arte Galleries, Barcelona, Spain
- 2016 "DelicArTessen15" Galería Esther montoriol, Barcelona, Spain
- 2015 "UTOPIA" Jankossen Contemporary Art Gallery, New York, USA
- "Inter[canvi]" Arteria, Igualada, Spain
- "DelicArTessen14" Galería Esther montoriol, Barcelona, Spain
- "Dessin" Zeit Foto Salon. Tokyo, Japan
- "Sensibilitat Toquio" La Cerverinad'Art, Cervera, Spain
- "Flors" Galería Esther montoriol, Barcelona, Spain
- 2014 "DelicArTessen13" Galería Esther montoriol, Barcelona, Spain
- "Ulls D'Argos!" La Cerverinad'Art, Cervera, Spain
- "Painting by four" ZEIT-FOTO SALON, Tokyo, Japan
- "COVERED TOKYO 2014, Hikarie" SHIBUYA Hicarie, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 "Green Flower Street" Tatiana Kourochkina Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- "The Origin of Desire Mari Ito and Mami Yamanaka"
- Jankossen Contemporary Art Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- 2012 "Zeit Foto Collection" Zeit Foto Salon. Tokyo, Japan
- 2011 "DelicArTessen10" Galería Esther Montoriol. Barcelona, Spain
- "Art and adventure" Zeit Foto Salon. Tokyo, Japan
- "The fruits of Adventures" Zeit Foto Salon. Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 "DelicArTessen9" Galería Esther Montoriol. Barcelona, Spain
- 2009 "Via art 09" Shinwa art Museum. Tokyo, Japan
- "Asian Young Artists 4 - The world that drips -" Keumsan Gallery Tokyo. Tokyo, Japan
- "El japó de Jordi Serra" Masia Museu Serra. Barcelona, Spain
- 2007 "Christmas collection" ZENBU Gallery. Barcelona, Spain
- "Japanese Artists" ZENBU Gallery. Barcelona, Spain
- 2004 "Presentation from artist's eggs" Joshibi Art Museun. Kanagawa, Japan
- Japanese paper Studio complation memory exhibition of Koshi". Niigata, Japan
- "8 Artists with KADOIDEWASHI" Gallery SHUN. Kanagawa, Japan
- 2003 "Works 2003" Key Gallery. Tokyo, Japan