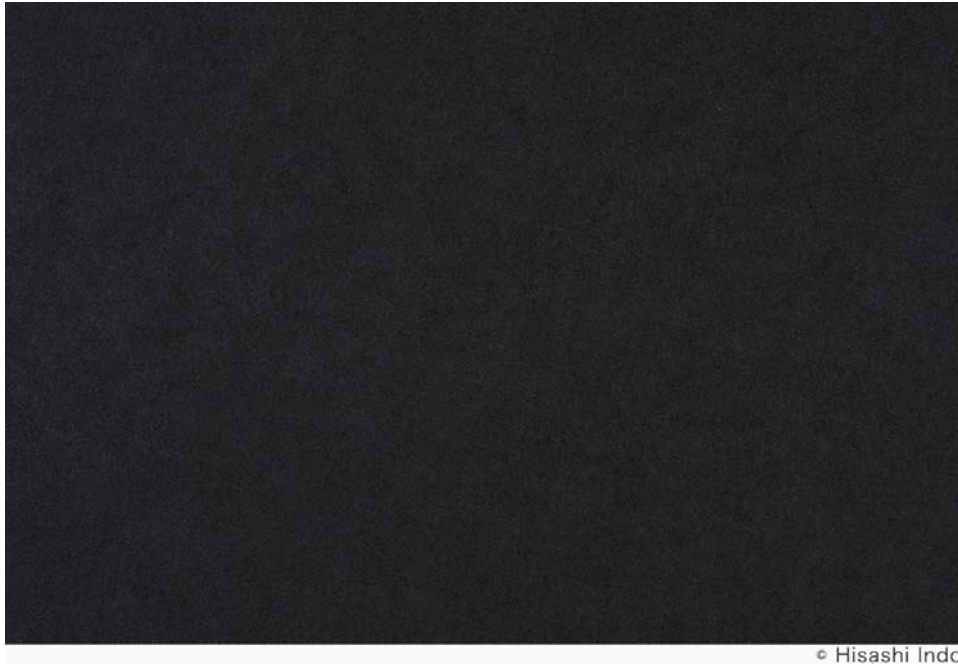


March 30, 2015

“Lifework / Matière”
Hisashi INDO – a Solo Exhibition



© Hisashi Indo

Dates: 4/18/2015 Sat – 5/17/2015 Sun

Closed on Mon, Tue and Wed

Note: Open on holidays, 4/29 & 5/4 – 5/6

Hours : 12:00~19:00

Opening reception : 4/18/2015 Sat 17:00~19:00

Venue : Fm

Ebisu-minami 1-14-12, Le Soleil3 Suite 303, Shibuyaku, Tokyo

Tel : +81-70-6969-1412

URL: <http://galleryfm.com/en/>

Cooperation : gallery a-cube, Tokyo Gallery+BTAP

Fm announces *Lifework/Matière*, an exhibition of works by Indo Hisashi.

Since opening in September 2014, Fm has alternated exhibitions that showcase up-and-coming artists with those of established artists who continue to deliver new value through their work. *Lifework/Matière* is a solo exhibition of the works of Indo Hisashi (1925-2009), a self-taught painter who created unique monochrome works. *Lifework/Matière* will be the last exhibition at Fm’s current premises before our relocation to new premises due to the demolition of our existing building.



©Hisashi Indo

Born in 1925 in Hokkaido, Indo Hisashi graduated from the electrical faculty of a technical high school before working at Hokkaido University's Ultrashort Wave Research Institute. Upon his return to civilian life after the war Indo taught himself to paint. After his works were selected for an exhibition of the Nika Association of Artists, Indo joined the Kyushitsu-Kai, a group (within Nika) set up by Jiro Yoshihara and Takeo Yamaguchi whose members included Yoshishige Saito and Yuki Katsura. Several of Indo's works were also shown at the Yomiuri Independent exhibition, which allowed works to be exhibited unexamined and would have a significant influence on the avant-garde movement in years to come, as well as being highly praised by Michel Tapié, a proponent of art informel.

After becoming independent, Indo continued to participate in many exhibitions both within in Japan and overseas, and went on to produce many unique paintings until his death in 2009.

While Indo had a long involvement with science during his time at the ultrashortwave institute, over the course of his artistic career he furthered his understanding of the human existence and the depth of the universe, which were his passion, as we can know his attitude from the following comment by Indo appearing in the pamphlet for his first solo exhibition:

March 30, 2015

“We must contemplate our human existence and this world ...”

Indo's style evolved over the course of his career, which can be split into three main periods: his neorealist period which began in the second half of the 1940s during which he depicted with strong colours and surrealist compositions people in the midst of the rapid social change that took place as Japan rebuilt after the war; his minimal painting period which began in 1956 and featured works based on Indo's profound observations of himself and the human existence; and Indo's inward-looking monochrome period, which began in the 1970s and involved an even deeper analysis of his observations of the world of the human psyche and pathos, in which he produced works not unlike prayers.

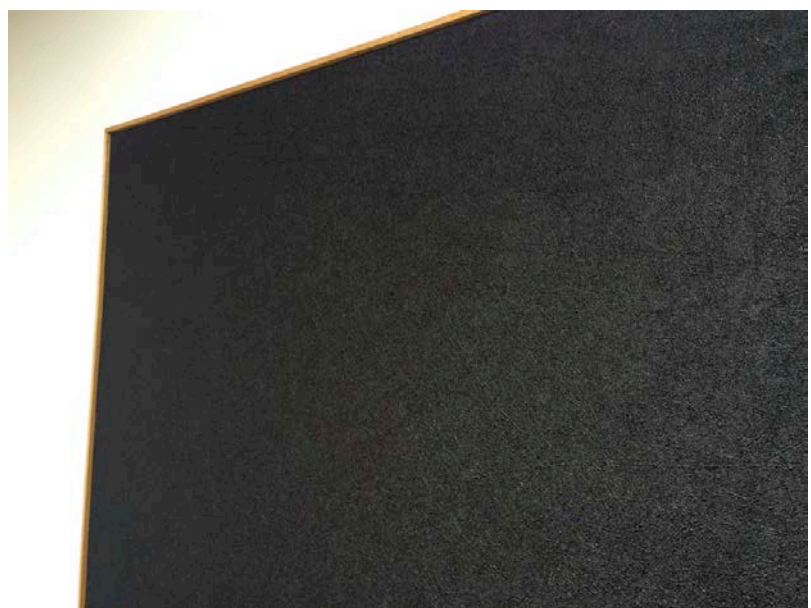
One constant element of all Indo's works is the artist's observations regarding what lies inside of people and the very essence of human existence. Throughout his career, which spanned from the war to the post-war period and the subsequent era of rapid economic growth, and dealt with incessant economic growth and the social development, and the modern age in which this process is being questioned, Indo remained focused on depicting the quintessential part of the human spirit that stays constant despite changing times.

This latest exhibition, featuring Indo's canvases and drawings, focuses on the artist's minimal painting period of the 1960s. In the intense, deep monochromatic hues achieved by depositing layer upon layer of paint and the delicate yet powerful marks made by not only brushes but also rollers and painting knives, the viewer is able to feel the influence of Indo, for whom the very act of creating was a study of what it means to be alive.

Artist Introduction:

Indo Hisashi (1925-2009)

Indo Hisashi was born in Hokkaido and after graduating Tomakomai Technical High School he began working at the Hokkaido University Ultrashort Wave Research Institute. It was around 1947 that, while still working, he also began teaching himself how to paint. Indo's creative career began with his Neorealist phase, characterized by bright



March 30, 2015

colours, after which the artist switched to monochromatic expression in 1956, subsequently joining the Kyushitsu-Kai within the Nika Association of Artists, exhibiting many works in Nika exhibitions and the Yomiuri Independent exhibition, among others, and being highly praised by Michel Tapié. After moving to Omiya, Saitama, in 1963, Indo continued to actively exhibit works, mostly in solo exhibitions. A retrospective exhibition of Indo's work, the "Indo Retrospective" was exhibited in the Asahikawa Museum of Art in 2002.

About Fm:

Fm is founded by Hirokazu Morita, a graduate of the business school at the University of Chicago (MBA), and Masumi Sasaki, a gallerist who previously worked at Tokyo Gallery+BTAP, the oldest contemporary art gallery in Japan. Fm's mission is to create a society full of creativity, intelligence, and cultural education, where people can be immersed in contemporary art on a daily basis. As the first step, in 2014, we opened a gallery at Ebisu in Tokyo. To realize our mission, we create an environment where more artists can flourish and grow into artists that go down in history. In order to do so, we do not get bound by conventional practice and ideas, and continue to pursue the way of being the next-generation gallery, utilizing technologies. Additionally, in order to expand the possibility of our service to the U.S. and other countries, we have a branch in Chicago and will actively provide such services in both Japan and the U.S. in the foreseeable future.

For more info: <http://galleryfm.com/en>

Email: info@galleryfm.com