

GALERIE PERROTIN 貝浩登 50 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, 17TH FLOOR, HONG KONG WWW.PERROTIN.COM +852 3758 2180

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CLAUDE RUTAULT, MICHAEL SAILSTORFER, PIERRE SOULAGES, AYA TAKANO, TATIANA TROUVÉ, XAVIER VEILHAN, PIETER VERMEERSCH, PETER ZIMMERMANN



Untitled, 2013
Acrylic on canvas
194 x 162 cm / 6.4 feet x 5.3 feet
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Galerie Perrotin, Hong Kong
Mr. – “Sweet!”
4 October – 9 November 2013

Mr. graduated from the Department of Fine Arts, Sokei Art School in Tokyo in 1996. He later worked as an assistant to Takashi Murakami and became a founding member of Murakami's Kaikai Kiki company, which supports young Japanese artists. He has also been associated with the Superflat movement and since the 1990s, has exhibited internationally in both group and solo exhibitions.

A self-proclaimed otaku, Mr. is known for repeatedly taking inspiration from and portraying beautiful girl characters in his works. His practice is a fusion of low-context contemporary art and high-context sub-culture. While his identity as an artist is an extension of his otaku self, he also attempts to take elements that are truly representative of otaku culture and translate them for audiences outside Japan. He incorporates precise details from Japanese manga onto the canvas by means of fine, hand-painted brush strokes, creating high-quality images with large surface impacts. The results are paintings with young girls as the chief subjects, set against abstractly crafted scenes.

The exhibition at Galerie Perrotin, Hong Kong, from 4 October to 9 November brings together a new body of works, which invite us once again into his private fantasy world.



“Urryaa!! (Wreal!!)” 2013
Acrylic on canvas
162 x 130,3 cm / 63 3/4 x 51 1/4 inches
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貝浩登 (香港)
Mr. – 「Sweet!」展覽
2013年10月4日至11月9日

Mr. 1996年畢業於東京創形美術學校(Sokei Art School)美術系，曾是村上隆助手，有份創辦村上隆花花(Kaikai Kiki)工作室，扶植新進日本藝術家；此外，又曾參與超扁平(Superflat)運動，90年代起在世界各地舉辦個展及聯展。

Mr.自認是御宅族，經常以動漫為題材，繪畫美少女角色，作品糅合低語境(low-context)當代藝術與高語境(high-context)次文化。作為御宅族藝術家，他嘗試擷取動漫文化的經典元素，轉化傳達予外國觀眾。透過精細筆觸，藝術家把漫畫細節轉移到畫布上，創造出極富動感的超凡意象，主角往往是抽象背景中的小女孩。

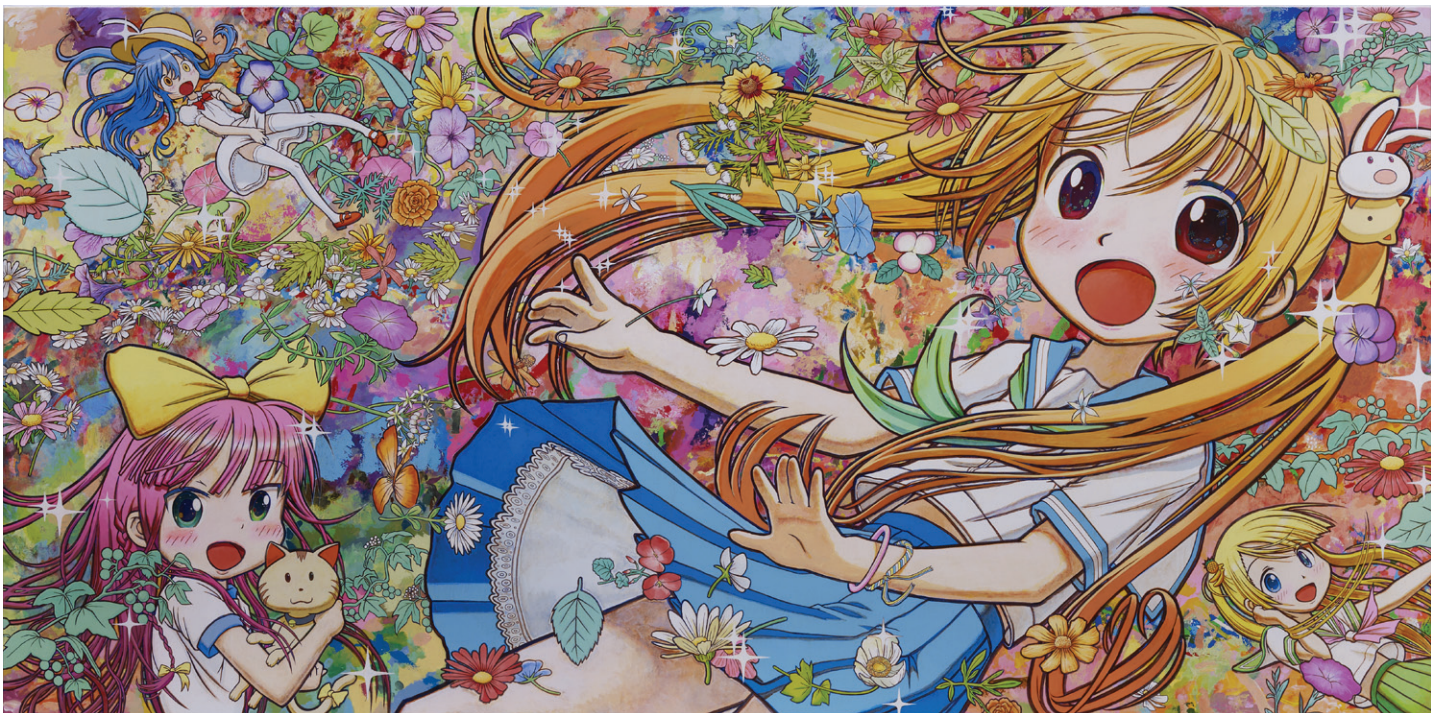
是次展覽在貝浩登(香港)舉行，日期由10月4日至11月9日，屆時會展示這位藝術家一系列新作品，讓觀者再次進入他的個人幻想世界。

This new painting series continues to employ a visual language that is communicated via *moe* – a Japanese slang word that characterizes fetishistic obsession with fictional preadolescent girls bearing physical features like large watery eyes, colorful hair with bangs, thin limbs and a flat face. The archetype is prevalent across Japanese sub-culture, from sci-fi literature to manga, anime and video games. Moreover, this time Mr. has taken the initiative to converse with the world by imbuing the canvas with suggestions of Western street art. He no longer confines himself to nostalgic Japanese graphics and achieves a breakthrough by including graffiti-like patterns which are familiar to a wider audience. The paintings transport us into a chaotic landscape populated with overlapping word posters, floating girl heads and clustered pop objects.

Mr. is an artist who builds his singularity by showing things that he is ashamed of: he projects his dark desire as an otaku and displays his discomfort through *moe* girls who are unblemished and untainted by the world. For Mr., value judgments should allow considerable latitude. If we ban everything that is thought to be morally corrupt, then we would lose a scope of our freedom and culture. Being a typical *lolicon*, a term derived from Vladimir Nabokov's protagonist who bears the 'Lolita complex', Mr. is drawn to the brilliant energy of young, untouched girls who are symbols of a childhood where nobody dies. Yet, he will forever be frustrated because his objects of desire are untouchable, as it is immoral to act upon such desire. Thus, *moe* becomes his artistic concept as much as an aesthetic principle, using young girls as a mode of expression. Mr. has supplemented the lack of *lolicon* qualities among his fellow Superflat artists. He overcomes his own awkwardness and human fragility through his creative expression. Wrapped under the delicate and adorable features of *moe* girls is the articulation of Mr.'s 'impossible love', a form of desire that can never gain acceptance. The frail and vulnerable appearance of the girls are simultaneously reflections of Mr.'s solitude and a shadow of the complex emotions that lingers in the artist's mind.

新畫作繼續以「萌」(moe)來傳達一種獨特視覺語言。「萌」是日本俚語，意謂對虛構女童的戀物式迷戀。水汪汪的大眼睛、染髮、額前劉海、手腳纖細、扁平臉，都是這些小女孩的外貌特徵，其原型常見於日本次文化，由科幻文學到動漫電玩，不一而足。為了與世界對話，Mr.特別加入了西方街頭藝術元素，突破懷舊日本圖像，以熟悉的塗鴉式構圖擴大其觀眾群。畫作引領觀者到一處混亂景觀——文字海報重疊，少女頭像在空中飄盪，周圍充斥着潮物。

Mr.的藝術特色，在於展現自己感到愧疚的事物。他把御宅族的陰暗欲望投射出來，通過天真無邪的「萌娘」(moe girls)表達自己的不安。他認為，價值判斷應有相當寬容度，否則禁絕了一切傷風敗德，最後只會損害自由與文化。作為典型的「蘿莉控」(lolicon，源自納巴科夫(Vladimir Nabokov)筆下患有蘿莉塔情意結(Lolita complex)的小說主角)，Mr.深受純真女孩的無比活力所吸引。她們是快樂童年的象徵，但作為欲望對象卻有違道德，不可觸及，令Mr.永遠無法如願。於是，「萌」不單是藝術概念，也是美學原則，一種借助女孩的表現模式。就「蘿莉控」而言，Mr.填補了部分超扁平藝術家的不足，展示如何以創新表達方式戰勝一己困窘與人性弱點。在纖弱可愛的「萌娘」背後，是Mr.那份「不可能的愛」，一種永不為人所接受的欲望。女孩纖弱的外表，同時流露了藝術家的孤單與內心複雜情感。



"Seven Colors In The Spectrum, Ten Colors In The Mind" 2011

Acrylic on canvas

150 x 300 cm / 59 inches x 9.80 feet

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Mr. was born in cupa in 1969. He is graduated from the Sokei Academy of Fine Art and Design, Japan

SOLO SHOWS

- 2013 "Sweett!", Galerie Perrotin, Hong Kong
2012 "Metamorphosis : Give Me Your Wings", Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
2010 "Solo Exhibition" Leeahn Gallery, Daegu, South Korea
2008 "Nobody Dies", Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France
Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
2007 Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
2006 "Mr.", Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon, Lyon, France
"NIN-Stealth", Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Miami, USA
2004 "Issey x Mr, Issey Miyake By Noaki Takizawa", Tokyo, Japan
"Thank You For Your Hard Work", Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2003 Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France
2001 Nano Galerie, Paris, France
2000 "Venus #2", Galerie Vedanta, Chicago, USA
1998 "Oh-Edo Kunoichi Ninpocho (Greater Edo Handbook of Female ninja techniques)", Shop33, Tokyo, Japan
"Mr., Painter of Alps", Galerie Tomio Koyama, Tokyo, Japan
1997 Aoi Gallery, Osaka, Japan
1996 "Frone & Perrine '97", Shop33, Tokyo, Japan

GROUP SHOWS

- 2012 "A Nightmare is a Dream", Kaikai Kiki, Tokyo, Japan
2010 "Kyoto-Tokyo: From Samurais to Mangas", Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
2009 "Neoteny Japan- Takahashi Collection", Yonago City Museum of Art, Yonago, Japan
"Animate", Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
"Sacred Monsters", Tufts University Art Gallery, Medford, USA
"VRAOUM", La Maison Rouge, Paris, France
2008 "KRAZY! The Delirious World of Anime + Comics + Video Games + Art", Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
"Kaikai Kiki Artists", Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
"Art Los Angeles", Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, Santa Monica, USA
2007 "RED HOT: Contemporary Asian Art Rising", Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA
2005 "Rising Sun, Melting Moon", Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
"Kaikai Kiki Exhibition", Aoi Gallery, Osaka, Japan
"Little Boy: The Arts of Japan's Exploding Subculture", Japan Society, New York, USA
"AniMate.", Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France
2004 Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Miami, USA
"T-Junction", Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris
"Fiction Love: Ultra New Vision in Contemporary Art", Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan
"Chiho Aoshima, Mr., Aya Takano", Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin at LFL Gallery, New York, USA
2003 "Hope-The-Future is in Our hands", LAFORET Harajuku, Tokyo, Japan
Opening Exhibition, Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
"Mr. vs. Shintaro Miyake Exhibition", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan
2002 "The Japanese Experience - Inevitable", Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, Austria
"Chiho Aoshima, Aya Takano, Mr., Takashi Murakami", Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France
"Coloriage", Fondation Cartier, Paris, France
2001 "My Reality : Contemporary Art and the Culture of Japanese Animation", Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, USA
"Hiropon Show", White Cube Gallery, London, UK; Shinsaibashi PARCO, Osaka, Japan
"Yokai Festival", Museum of Contemporary Art of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
"SuperFlat", MOCA, Los Angeles; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, USA
2000 "Superflat", Shibuya Parco Gallery, Tokyo; PARCO Gallery, Nagoya, Japan
1999 "Hiropon Show 32/80", NADiff, Tokyo
"Hiropon Show Vol.7", PARCO Gallery, Nagoya, Japan
"Sampling", Ronald Feldman Fine Arts Inc., New York, USA
"Attention Spam", Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
"Hiropon Show PO+KU Art Revolution", Logus Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
1998 "Hiropon Show", George's, Los Angeles, CA, USA
"Ero Pop Christmas", NADiff, Tokyo, Japan
1997 "Tokyo Sex", NAS, Tokyo, Japan
1996 "Pico Pico Show", Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

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Media Preview Invitation:

A media preview and talk with the artist will be taking place on Friday 4 October from 3pm to 4pm
Opening cocktail on Friday 4 October 2013 from 6pm to 8pm.

For more information and press enquiries, please contact:

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