



Dates: May 28 (Thu) – May 31 (Sun), 2026

Hours: 12:00–19:00

Venue: Minnano Gallery (4-14-3 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo, 2F)

Admission: Free

Exhibition page: <https://www.minnanogallery.com/masaya-yoshioka-staircase-en>

---

Minnano Gallery is pleased to present *The Staircase*, a solo exhibition by Masaya Yoshioka, from May 28 to May 31, 2026.

This exhibition consists of a body of paintings based on a staircase that the artist constructed himself in his studio. The works were produced intensively in early 2026, resulting in a large number of paintings within a short period of time. Although all of the works depict the same staircase, each painting is realized as a distinct image through variations in composition, distance, and lighting conditions.

Yoshioka has consistently worked with specific motifs over extended periods. Born into a family of temple carpenters, he learned painting through repetition and copying within an environment where technical skills are acquired through iterative practice. The methods developed through this process continue to inform his current work, and the repeated treatment of similar compositions and subjects is a defining characteristic of his practice.

One example is his long-term engagement with the motif of the convenience store, which he has explored since the mid-2000s. Through years of sustained production, a group of landscape paintings depicting convenience stores in regional areas was consolidated in 2025 under the title Fiftysix Convenience Stores.

These works do not present specific events or situations in a direct manner; instead, they engage the viewer's memory and experience, prompting individual interpretations. A similar structure can be observed in the staircase paintings, where repeated images give rise to differing perceptions.

While the staircase paintings can be understood as an extension of Yoshioka's ongoing practice, the intensity of their production over a short period and the particular nature of the staircase as a motif have also extended beyond the artist's studio. This has led to the emergence of related interests, as well as works and exhibitions that respond to this motif.

This exhibition returns to the stage prior to such developments, focusing on the initial phase in which the staircase paintings began to take form. It presents, within a single space, the differences generated through repetition over a short period of time and the changes that emerge through their accumulation.

---

## Masaya Yoshioka

Born in 1981 in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan. Raised in a family of temple carpenters, he mastered traditional craft techniques and became independent, while also studying Western painting on his own from an early age. His work depicts rural landscapes where contemporaneity and folk sensibilities intersect, rendered through a range of painterly styles.

Awards: Tokyo Wonder Wall Prize (2008); Toyota Art Exhibition '07 Jury Prize (2007); Shell Art Award, Jury Encouragement Prize (Mika Kuraya, 2006); Exchanging Seeds Vol.2 Advisor Prize (2006)

---

## Contact

Yoichi Tamori

Minnan Gallery / 2F, 4-14-3 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0015

Tel: 03-6268-9658 Mail: tamori@minnanogallery.com

<https://www.minnanogallery.com/>

