

# ANKOKU

Dark Matters



© Satoki Nagata, Experimental image, Chicago, 2014

November 8th through December 20th, 2014



Galerie Da-End | 17 rue Guénégaud | 75006 Paris  
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## Press release

In the same way as scientists try to determinate the fundamental laws of the Universe, the artists – through their aesthetic practices, dream and read into the world in order to re-integrate us into it as human beings. But can one make visible some complex elements whose physical reality remains unexplainable?

The enigma of **dark matter**, so far unsolvable, arouses the fascination of astrophysicists and could be an interesting theme for the artists, who give pride of place to metaphysical questionings. Considering that only 1% of the constituent matter of the Universe can be identified, how can we comprehend the unseizable dark matter and dark energy of which the remaining 99% are made of?

On the occasion of **Ankoku / Dark Matters**, its new group exhibition dedicated to Japanese creation, the Galerie Da-End invites nine contemporary artists to metaphorically illustrate this great mystery through their photographic and plastic works.

The photographers of this exhibition, **Daïdo Moriyama**, **Satoki Nagata**, **Satoshi Saïkusa**, **Takeishi Shikama**, **Daisuke Yokota** and **Minsa You** share a distinct taste for arduous manipulations, whether they use optical techniques during the photo-shoot or intervene directly on the photographic print. As a result, they create sensitive artworks, in which the perception of subjects is disrupted. Here, the matter defies the plain surface of the print.

More over, the stellar or organic-inspired canvases of painter **Mitsuru Tateishi** are created thanks to a skilful and secret technique invented by the artist, which can remind of the alchemists' ancestral experimentations.

Their dark and liquid-like texture echoes back to the ferrofluids that Sachiko **Kodama** places at the core of her artistic production. A captivating matter developed by NASA, ferrofluids refer to the domain of quantum physics, while evoking the subtle forms of Nature, that immutably disintegrate and regenerate.

Passionate about mathematics, for his part, **Toshimasa Kikuchi** reproduces thanks to traditional sculpture techniques the universal lines of 19th century geometrical models. He also creates startling wooden *Vanitas* that confront the human viewer to his mortal condition.

This ontological reflection about the cycle of Life is also present in the work of sculptor **Mihoko Ogaki**, who uses cosmical metaphors to objectivize her inner experiences.

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**Featuring the art of** Toshimasa KIKUCHI, Sachiko KODAMA, Daïdo MORIYAMA, Satoki NAGATA, Mihoko OGAKI, Satoshi SAÏKUSA, Takeshi SHIKAMA, Mitsuru TATEISHI, Daisuke YOKOTA, Minsa YOU.

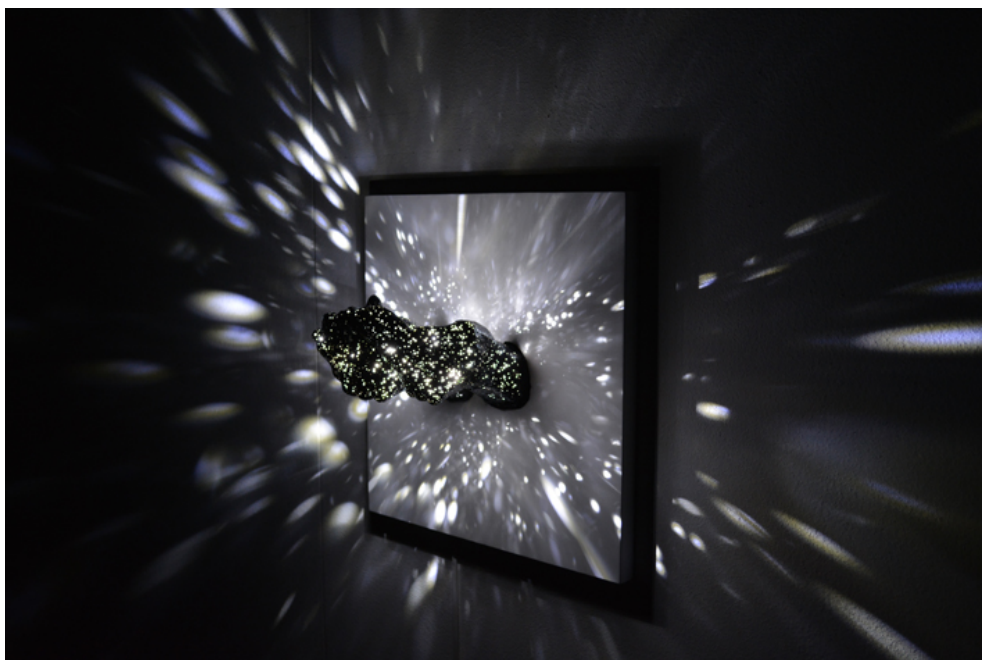
**In the project room :** Conceived in a palpable and ultra-colored material, the insallation of Japanese artist **Saeborg**, famous member of the *Rubber-furries* underground community, will drag us out of the black hole...

**Opening day on Saturday November 8th, 2014 from 2 to 8 pm**



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Available hi-res images:



© Mihoko Ogaki, Milky Ways, Hands 01



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