

SUSUMU SHINGU

Beyond Time

Opening on Saturday September 15th from 4 to 7pm

Exhibition from September 15th to December 1st 2012

"During my 40 years of work, I have always expressed through my sculptures, my exhibitions, my illustrated books and my theatre plays how much Earth is a wonderful and precious planet. Since man made disasters caused on our planet are reaching a critical level, I feel there is even more emergency to send my simple message to all the inhabitants of this planet, which is, what wonderful Nature we have on our planet (...). I believe men are benevolent. And I also believe in Art. Since the visible future is one for our children, I would like to address them this message." **Susumu Shingu**

Following the success of his two previous exhibitions at the gallery entitled *Sculptures du respir* in 2006 and *Planet of Wind and Water* in 2009, the gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition by the Japanese artist Susumu Shingu entitled *Beyond Time*. This exhibition, opening on Saturday September 15th from 4 to 7pm, will run until the end of November and introduce a dozen of his new mobile indoor sculptures as well as two sculptures for outdoor; the last coloured collages of the artist as well as his wonderful sculpture study drawings will also be shown on the occasion of this exhibition.

Sculptor, Philosopher of Nature and Humanist

Born in 1937 in Osaka, Susumu Shingu conceives sculptures with movements generated by the forces and flows of nature – wind, water, sunlight and gravity. His technical study drawings for sculptures, reminiscent of the detailed anatomical drawings of Leonardo da Vinci, are based on precise observation of the movements of natural elements – a flower, a bird, a cloud, a forest, a river, undulating seas, the gravitation of the planets...- just as his sculptures make skilful and scientific use of the most up to date materials.

His profound understanding of nature brings Susumu Shingu into harmony with what he considers to be the two fundamental rhythms of life: on the one hand, the powerful and mysterious, penetrating and unpredictable, grandiose and inexpressible, rhythm of the Nature surrounding us; and on the other the rhythm that moves and breathes, that varies with our inner development and the stimuli of the outside world, which animates us in the depths of our soul, but which we are losing through the



Wings of Time, 2010, Steel, stainless steel, aluminum., polyester cloth
h: 149.6 × Ø: 120 inches h : 380 × Ø : 305 cm

distractions and stresses of modern urban life. In all his work, Shingu emphasizes the need to submit to these rhythms in order to rediscover the accord between our innermost being and the planet and to ensure that they both retain their vitality. Shingu's life is entirely based on this principle and his works are its absolute outer manifestation. It is fascinating to note the extent to which the movement of these sculptures in space is almost always accompanied by the observer's sudden realization that he is himself is governed by and linked to the same forces as those of the sculpture, and is thus brought to reconnect with the most fundamental principle of life: breathing in and breathing out, that of the breath. The movement of the sculptures is thus generated by the same wind we feel, a guiding wind, absorbed by us as we move and transforming us perpetually: the elements and the sculpture are thus in perpetual interaction.

Bridges between different forms of Art

Throughout the years, Susumu Shingu collaborated with a great number of renowned creators in various artistic fields: architecture, fashion, dance, music...His collaborations with **Tadao Ando** or **Renzo Piano** with whom he has had eight collaborations, as well as with creators such as the fashion designer **Issey Miyake** or the choreographer **Jiri Kylian** have always been spectacular. His other contributions include some theater plays such as *Cat's Cradle of Stars* or his sculptures inspired by children's drawings in the *Hyogo Children Museum*.

A Breath of hope and life for the planet

The creations of Shingu are fundamentally about life and our planet is their exhibition space. Several hundred of his wind and water sculptures, all mobile, dancing, polyphonic, playful, sometimes kites, birds, flowers, trees, clouds... by Susumu Shingu have been installed throughout the world, sometimes even temporarily amongst primitive communities.

These sculptures echo the infinite beauty of the myriad forms present on our planet, whether plant, animal or human, and at the same time point invariably to the space we are in the process of discovering by evoking the shapes of stars or planets - as if to remind us that we are not alone in the cosmos and that we must consider both the Earth and the Cosmos in global harmony.

Each of his works brings a breath of hope and life for the planet: thus **the Wind Caravan**, an exceptional project consisting of 21 sculptures which the artist installed between 2000 and 2001 in six remote places across the planet, in a variety of windy climates with no electricity: from Japan to New Zealand, then to the north of Finland, in the Moroccan desert and in Mongolia, ending one year later in Brazil. The experiment revealed the intrinsic function of the sculptures, both creating bonds of cooperation with the local populations and generating energy at each site.

His latest project, entitled **Genki Caravan Yuriage**, consisted in the installation of these 21 same sculptures, this time covered with multicoloured wings, in a fisherman's village named *Yuriage* in the North of Japan, which was entirely decimated by the recent tsunami; in a now deserts landscape where the concrete still bears memory of the buildings which were once there, the 21 multicoloured sculptures of Shingu as well as the 120 *Genki Nobori* streamers carrying the joyful messages of the children for the site, float in the wind and diffuse freely their message of life.

A 10mn video of the **Genki Caravan Yuriage**, realised by the wife of the artist on the *Yuriage* site is projected at the gallery during the exhibition.



View of Shingu's sculptures on the *Yuriage* site, Japan.
Photographie of Susumu Shingu

Breathing Earth: an autonomous village regulated by natural energies

After the initial presentation of the *Breathing Earth* diorama – an autonomous village entirely regulated by natural energies – in the 2009 exhibition at the gallery, the artist has tested his 8m20 windmill prototype on a site near Kobé in Japan. If the velocity of the wind has not always been conclusive on the site, these tests have nevertheless allowed to bring forward several characteristics concerning the windmill: first of all, its capacity to generate energy with a minimum of wind. On the other hand, during strong gusts of wind, each wing starts to turn independently on a minimum surface, thus reducing considerably the wind pressure on each wing; no need to stop the windmills of Shingu during strong wind, contrary to traditional windmills which – in their rigid form - must be stopped. Another characteristic revealed during these tests is their silence, thus rendering life possible at their side. This long experience amongst natural elements has thus lead Shingu to fulfill his deepest wish, one which has marked all his artistic research since the origin and which animates his wildest dream: creating an autonomous village operating from the surrounding natural energies, with structures which will be topped by his artistic windmills. This village would be the symbol of a durable life, the result of multiple collaborations in the fields of environment, agriculture, science, art, technical engineering, astronomy, oceanography...which go way beyond the borders of countries, identities or belongingness to specific fields. The windmills would not only be beautiful artworks pleasing to the eye, they would also be artworks capable of generating energy for each independent structure. Just like totems, these sculptures become emblematic of a consciousness of the fundamental natural rhythm and movement necessary for our planet Earth; With the rhythm of a *Breathing Earth*, these sculptures bring us back to our most fundamental human values and to the necessary respect we must have of the planet on which we are born and which we have wildly mistreated these last decades. If we manage, like these sculptures, to live in perfect harmony with the natural environment which surrounds us, we will then enter in a permanent dance with the elements for the best of our planet and all the living beings inhabiting it.



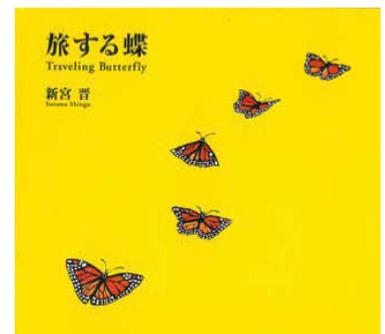
Windmill prototype, Japan.
Photo of Yasuko Shingu

Breathing Earth Portfolio

This exhibition will also be the occasion to introduce the new *Breathing Earth* portfolio which includes 5 prints realized in photoetching, numbered at 50 and signed by the artist; this portfolio has been printed in Japan by Ritsuwo Kanno and co-published by the gallery and the artist studio.

Illustrated books full of teaching and wisdom

Susumu Shingu has conceived a great number of illustrated books, for children and adults, of which some of them have been translated in several languages : *Strawberries, Spider, Whale Shark, Little Pond, Planet of Wind, Little Birds...* These books reveal infinite wisdom as well as the depth of Shingu's knowledge and open the paths for a Renaissance in Art. The recent discovery of the *Monarch Butterfly* in Mexico has inspired the artist for a new illustrated book entitled ***Traveling Butterfly***, published in 2012 in Japan. The French version of the book published by Gallimard during Shingu's exhibition is available for sale at the gallery and at the bookstore *La Hune*.



Illustrated book's cover

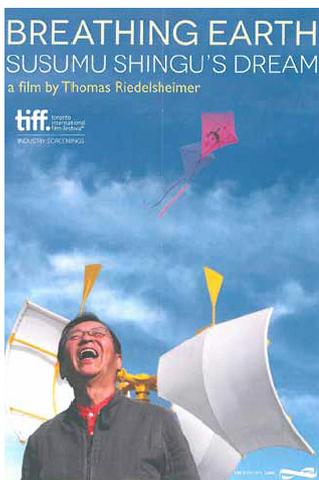
A poetic installation in the large octagonal pool of the Tuileries

From October 10 to 30th, an installation by Susumu Shingu will be presented in the large octagonal basin of the Tuileries, on the occasion of FIAC. Entitled *Sinfonietta of Light*, this wind and water sculpture is composed of 10 pairs of white wings dancing in the wind, just like birds flying delicately on the water surface. With the gracefulness and poetry which characterize Shingu's sculptures, this new installation should bring delight to the visitors of the Tuileries Garden.



Project of *Sinfonietta of Light* in the the large octagonal basin of Tuileries

Exclusive Presentation of the film *Breathing Earth: Susumu Shingu's Dream*



Planned since the exhibition of Susumu Shingu at the gallery in 2006 and the subsequent meeting with the German filmmaker Thomas Riedelsheimer, this movie follows for 1h30min the lifelong dialogue of Susumu Shingu with the natural elements of wind and water, which has given the world uniquely beautiful works of fluid, unpredictable and ever-changing movement. Throughout the movie, the artist renders visible the veiled and the unseen and opens new perspectives for the future. Thomas Riedelsheimer accompanies this quiet and unassuming man in pursuit of a dream, a quest to create an awareness of our planet, our *Breathing Earth* and our human values. *Breathing Earth* is a film about the wind, the philosophy of a wise man, about art, love and dreams. Thomas Riedelsheimer has studied at the Academy for Film and Television in Munich. Since 1986, he is a free-lance author, director and cameraman in Germany and abroad. He has founded with Stefan Tolz the German production company *Filmpunkt GmbH*. This film is also his fourth collaboration with Leslie Hills and Skyline Productions. Many film and television international distinctions and awards have been granted to him. His previous films include *Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time*, *Touch the Sound: A sound journey with Evelyn Glennie* and *Soul Birds*. **This film will be exceptionally presented on the occasion of FIAC, in the auditorium of the Grand Palais on Sunday October 21st at 3pm (104 seats) as well as during a second private screening organised by the gallery in the Salle du Pantheon in Paris during October 2012.**

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We strongly recommend that you reserve your seats in advance by sending us a mail before October 8th to the attention of Pernille Grane or Anitra Delmas at contact@galeriejaegerbucher.com. We will thus guarantee 50 seats by leaving your name at the entrance of the Grand Palais Auditorium.



A TRILINGUAL (French, English and Japanese) CATALOGUE of 108 pages including full colour reproductions of the sculptures and works on paper presented in the exhibition is published. It includes texts from Takeshi Umehara, Philosopher and researcher of Japanese culture, of Susumu Shingu on *Breathing Earth* and of Véronique Jaeger on the work of the artist. **Available for sale during the exhibition.**

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1.



2.



3.

1. *Night Flight*, 2012
Stainless steel, aluminum,
polyester cloth
h: 67.7 × Ø: 51.9 inches
h : 172 × Ø : 132 cm
1 / 5
Photo Hervé Abbadie

2. *Legend of Light*, 2012
Stainless steel, aluminum,
polyester cloth
h: 88.5 × Ø: 86.6 inches
h : 225 × Ø : 220 cm
1 / 5
Photo Hervé Abbadie

3. *Astral Rhythm*, 2012
Stainless steel, aluminum,
polyester cloth
h: 72.4 × Ø: 62.2 inches
h : 184 × Ø : 158 cm
1 / 5
Photo Hervé Abbadie

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Friendship, 2012
Collage and acrylic on paper
h: 13.2 × w: 12.4 inches
h : 33,7 × l : 31,5 cm
Photo Jean-Louis Losi



Wings of Time, 2010
Steel, stainless steel, aluminum,
polyester cloth
h: 149.6 × Ø: 120 inches
h : 380 × Ø : 305 cm
Photo Hervé Abbadie



Secret Door, 2012
Collage and acrylic on paper
h: 12.5 × w: 12.4 inches
h : 31,9 × l : 31,6 cm
Photo Jean-Louis Losi



Small Banquet, 2012
Collage and acrylic on paper
h: 12.1 × w: 12.1 inches
h : 30,8 × l : 30,8 cm
Photo Jean-Louis Losi

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

GALERIE JAEGER BUCHER

Susumu
Shingu
*Beyond
Time*

GALERIE JEANNE-BUCHER

Piza
Dream Catcher



**Exhibition from September 15th
to December 1st 2012**

Opening on Saturday September 15th
from 4 to 7pm

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Opening hours :
Tuesday-Saturday 11am - 7pm

**Exhibition from September 27th
to November 17th 2012**

Opening on Thursday September 27th
from 6pm to 8pm

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Opening hours:
Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 6:30pm
Saturday 10am-12:30pm and 2:30pm-6pm

FIAC GRAND PALAIS
From October 17th to 21st 2012
Booth O.D24

contacts : Véronique Jaeger
Camille Nau / Pernille Grane