

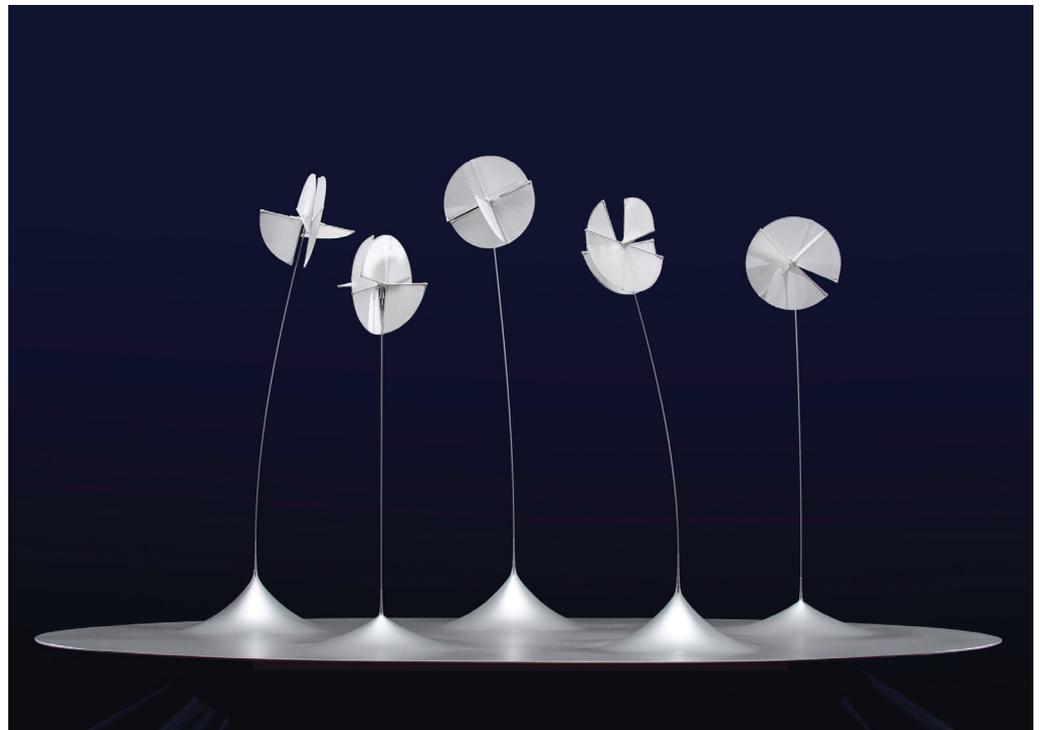
COSMOS

Susumu Shingu

May 16 - July 21st, 2018

Jeanne Bucher Jaeger | Paris, Marais

Opening May 15, 6-9 pm



Attentive to nature, Shingu has perceived its inexhaustible potential for variation, and this is probably what explains the delightful freshness of his work, its surprising capacity for renewal. The wind is everywhere, all the time. It is a movement of the atmosphere, invisible; nevertheless, it makes its mark in its own way. It rises, it falls. Elusive and changeable. But if there is nothing to meet it, the wind remains an abstraction. Shingu's sculptures materialise the wind without reducing it to the simple role of an Aeolian force. The breath of the air plays with the elements as it sees fit and is constantly modifying them. An inert body suddenly comes alive, is gifted with soul, and reminds us of the films of Yasujiro Ozu, of Good Morning for example, in which a colourful piece of linen on a clothesline is discreetly buoyed by the breeze. Time suspended in space, not flowing but repeating itself. This infinite succession of moments offers as many fleeting poems that convince us of the cyclical character of life and of its eternal return. This is the revelation in Shingu's works.¹

Astral Forest, 2013
Aluminum, carbon fiber and polyester
78 x 150 x 90 cm
© Yoshiyuki Ikuhara
Courtesy Jeanne Bucher Jaeger, Paris

¹ Marie-Noëlle Farcy and Clément Minighetti
Excerpt from the catalogue for the exhibitions *Spaceship* et *Cosmos*, may 2018



From May 15 to July 21, 2018, the gallery is hosting a solo exhibition of the Japanese artist **Susumu Shingu**, entitled *COSMOS*, in an echo of the important retrospective *SPACESHIP* that the **Mudam Luxembourg – Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean** has dedicated to his work from May 18, 2018 to January 6, 2019. This exhibition has been presented in three Japanese museums, and will now be seen for the first time in Europe. It will present, among other works, *Wind Caravan*, an ensemble of 21 sculptures animated by the wind, in the Dräi Eechelen Park.

Following from his preceding exhibitions at the gallery, *Sculptures du respir* in 2006, *Planet of Wind and Water* in 2009, and *Au-delà du temps* in 2012, *COSMOS* assembles a selection of the artist's sculptures from 2006 to 2017, as well as recent collages and paintings, and some of his most exceptional sculptural studies.

Sculptor of wind, water, and gravity, **Susumu Shingu** has regularly collaborated with the greatest talents of his era, such as Renzo Piano, Tadao Ando, Issey Miyake, and Jiří Kilián. Throughout the years, he has refined the materials of his sculptures, favoring high-tech materials that grasp the smallest breeze... to create works in harmony with the secret rhythms of our planet. The art of **Susumu Shingu** could not exist without wind. His elegant sculptures are animated by the smallest movement of the air, and reveal the intangible but omnipresent existence of breath. This "atmospheric" material, which he makes visible and sculpts, underlines his relationship with the world, his ecological consciousness. His entire oeuvre is undergirded by his harmonious research into the rhythms and infinite vibrations of nature, and by a force that is most fundamental to our planet – gravity. Without gravity, Susumu's sculptures cannot blossom, as they are inseparable from their movement. After having travelled throughout the world with his sculptures, **Susumu Shingu** recently created his Museum of the Wind with 12 water and wind sculptures in the Arimafuji Park near Osaka, Japan. Currently, his energy is entirely dedicated to the great work of his life, *Breathing Earth*, the dream of a society living off of the planet's natural energies.

Susumu Shingu was born in 1937 in Osaka. He lives and works in Sanda and Hyogo in Japan, and in Paris. After earning his diploma from the University of the Arts in Tokyo in 1960, **Susumu Shingu** studied painting at the Academy des Beaux-Arts in Rome. Painter, sculptor, maker of drawings, "researcher and philosopher" of nature, the Japanese artist soon dedicated himself to sculpture and movement. In 2014, the *Susumu Shingu Wind Museum*, designed by Tadao Ando, was opened in the Arimafuji Park in Sanda, near Osaka, Japan. This open-air museum presents 12 kinetic sculptures that undulate according to water and wind. In 2017, three sculptures from the artist have been set in the **Stavros Niarchos Fondation Cultural Center** in Athens, Greece, conceived by Renzo Piano.

Wind Caravan
Park Dräi Eechelen, 2018
©Susumu Shingu
Courtesy Jeanne Bucher Jaeger, Paris



Saturday, May 26, 4.30 pm : exclusive meeting with the artist at the gallery in the Marais, under the auspices of the **Paris Gallery Week-End**.

The artist will sign his last three books, published by Gallimard Jeunesse in March 2018: *Avec le soleil*, *Le voyage du vent*, and *La fraise*.



The exhibition *Cosmos* is part of the associated program Japonismes 2018.