

## UTOPIAN WORLD

A showcase of new floral works by Japanese painter Kyosuke Tchinai  
10 June – 2 July 2016



**Tchinai's paintings engage in the dialogue between Japan and the West, with influences ranging from Klimt and Cézanne to Japanese masters such as Hokusai and Sotatsu Tawaraya.**

Gallery Elena Shchukina is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by critically-acclaimed Japanese artist **Kyosuke Tchinai**. Gallery Elena Shchukina is the only art gallery in Britain to have shown Tchinai's work, and his return to the Gallery follows a triumphant first exhibition in November 2013.

Kyosuke Tchinai has referred to painting as 'the great weightless world,' and his work showcases art's ability to liberate from the mundane. His paintings depict a natural world untainted by corruption and populated solely by beautiful creatures. In *Utopian World*, enormous flowers hang suspended in mid-air, butterflies flutter on the lunar surface, and waves crash in outer space.

**In Tchinai's painted utopias, the beautiful things of the natural world share a mystical relationship that defies formal logic.**

Tchinai's delicate line has its roots in Edo-era *ukiyo-e* prints, and his use of gold and silver leaf employs a technique dating back to the opulent silk screens of the Momoyama period. His practice is not merely traditional, however – Tchinai translates Japanese motifs into a modern, international idiom. As a youth, he nurtured a love for European painting, which led him to study Oil Painting at university. Tchinai's work draws particularly on that of the Impressionists, many of whom were devoted admirers of Japanese visual culture.

Kyosuke Tchinai was born in Ehime Prefecture in 1948, and began his study of Oil Painting at Tokyo University of the Arts in 1967. He eventually grew dissatisfied with Western-style artistic technique, leading him to abandon oil on canvas entirely. Creating his own artistic medium, Tchinai now works in acrylic and precious metals on Japanese *washi* paper. His mature style reflects his immersion in two of the great canons of art history.

His paintings hang in museums throughout Japan, and he has been featured in numerous exhibitions in Europe. His work has been purchased for a number of prestigious private collections, including that of the Rothschild family. Gallery Elena Shchukina will also be presenting a selection of Tchinai's paintings in the Asian Art in London pavilion at Masterpiece London (30 June – 6 July) during the exhibition.

---

ENDS

---

For high-resolution images and further information, please contact Annie Werner: [annie@elenashchukina.com](mailto:annie@elenashchukina.com).

[Gallery Elena Shchukina](#)

10 Lees Place, Mayfair

London W1K 6LL

+44 (0)20 7499 6019

### Editor's Note:

- Gallery Elena Shchukina is a contemporary art gallery located in Mayfair that draws from a pool of established and emerging international artists exhibiting identifiable or innovative techniques.
- The Gallery offers a stimulating schedule of art and cultural events, workshops and lectures, and has an e-commerce platform offering work by a set of primarily UK-based artists.
- Gallery Elena Shchukina will be presenting Tchinai's work in the Asian Art in London pavilion at Masterpiece London during the exhibition.