

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Frieze Masters Booth E07

Space in Two Dimensions: Jiro Takamatsu and his Contemporaries

Frieze Masters
The Regent's Park,
London
NW1 4HA

Wednesday: Preview by invitation
only 11am–7pm
Thursday: Preview by invitation only
11am–1pm, VIP from 1pm–7pm
Friday to Saturday: 11am–7pm
Sunday: 11am–6pm



For the 2021 edition of Frieze Masters, Stephen Friedman Gallery brings together a group of historical works from the 1970s through 1990s centred around the work of Japanese artist Jiro Takamatsu in relation to his contemporaries. Positioning his work alongside key examples by Richard Diebenkorn, Agnes Martin and Anne Truitt, the presentation looks at their shared exploration of two-dimensional space across a range of media including painting, works on paper and sculpture. As evident in the works by Takamatsu featured in the exhibition, these artists favour muted, often monochromatic, palettes and geometric forms, which function together to establish a spatial play across one or more flat planes. This play ranges from the coloured bands in Takamatsu's spare paintings, which hug the edges of the canvas to bend and warp space, to the subtlety of Truitt's quietly shifting close-valued tones. These works engage with the flatness of the two-dimensional plane, whether that of the singular surface of a painting, or the oscillation of multiple planes in space in Takamatsu and Truitt's sculptural work. On the other hand, Martin and Diebenkorn set up a different relationship to space, one that uses a soft, hand-rendering of geometric forms, and especially the grid, to dissolve the surface of the canvas or sheet of paper, beckoning the viewer into a shimmering pictorial field. Altogether, this group of works allows the viewer to assess a range of formal possibilities that arise from the kinds of graphic pairings of form and colour manifested by Takamatsu's work.

The presentation is accompanied by an essay written by Alex Bacon, an art historian based in New York City who regularly writes criticism and organizes exhibitions of both contemporary and historical art. Until recently he was a Curatorial Associate at the Princeton University Art Museum.

About Stephen Friedman Gallery

Stephen Friedman Gallery represents exceptional emerging and mid-career artists from around the world. Since its inauguration in 1995, the gallery has been based in Mayfair on Old Burlington Street. The gallery now has three spaces in which it hosts solo and group exhibitions throughout the year. Additional works can be viewed by appointment in private rooms and office spaces. There is also a facility to exhibit outdoor sculpture in a landscaped private garden.

Social Media

Facebook: /Stephen-Friedman-Gallery
Instagram: @stephenfriedmangallery
Twitter: @SFGalleryLondon

Contact Us

For sales enquiries please contact:
sales@stephenfriedman.com
For further details please contact:
info@stephenfriedman.com
For press enquiries:
Carlotta Dennis-Lovaglio at
carlotta@scott-andco.com
Communications Manager:
Alana Pryce Tojcic at
alana@stephenfriedman.com