Shinro Ohtake

7 September – 6 October 2022



greengrassi is pleased to announce Shinro Ohtake's first solo exhibition at the gallery. The show will feature a series of recent pasted pictures from 2022, and a selection of gelatine silver prints from the first Retina/Dark Fever series (1988-91).

The Retina series explores how technology has changed painting from the inside-out. In these works, Ohtake first makes experimental images by manually altering Polaroid film, which he subsequently enlarges to canvas size using a transfer process. The film transfer then provides the foundation for abstract mixed-media compositions. Ohtake made the first Retina works in 1988-91, then, after an interval of more than two decades, he revisited film that he had stored from the original period. Where previously he manually altered the film, in the recent Retina works the effects also come from the accidental deterioration of the film over time.

Shinro Ohtake was born in 1955 in Tokyo Japan. Major solo exhibitions of his work have been held at the Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto / Contemporary Art Gallery, Art Tower Mito (2019); Parasol unit, London (2014); Takamatsu Art Museum (2013); Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, Kagawa (2013); Art Sonje Center, Seoul; Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art / Fukuoka Art Museum (2007); and the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (2006). Group exhibitions include the National Museum of Art, Osaka (2018); the New Museum, New York (2016); and Barbican Art Gallery, London (2016). Among the many international art festivals in which Ohtake has participated are Hawai'i Triennial (2022), the 9th Asia Pacific Triennial (2018), Yokohama Triennale (2014), the 55th Venice Biennale (2013), documenta 13 (2012), the 8th Gwangju Biennale (2010), and The Setouchi Triennale (2010, '13, '16, '19', '22).

The artist's major retrospective at The National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo will open on November 1st 2022.