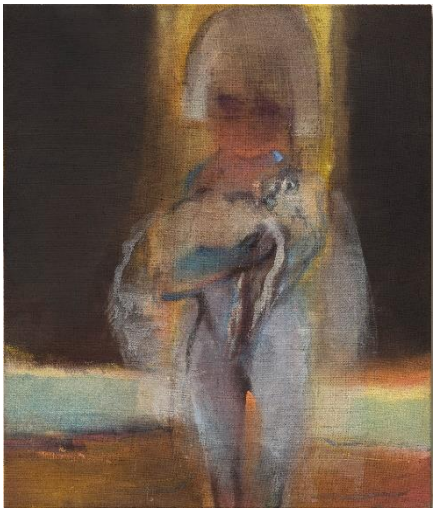
Four monumental panoramic paintings of indistinct figures in misty lake and mountain landscapes, rendered in radiant washes of turquoise, ochre, crimson, and charcoal will be juxtaposed with the artist's new translucent colored glass sculptures on the upper floor of the gallery. While there are references to the German Romantic tradition in these works, it is important to acknowledge that Ikemura grew up nearby the Ise Jingu shrine in Mie Prefecture; which is the sacred and spiritual home of Japanese Shinto. Ikemura states that her hope is "to visualize the cosmos beyond time and border, beyond gender, and to accentuate the vulnerabilities and the strength of female beings and nature." The transparency of the glass and the translucent ethereality of Ikemura's brushwork underlines an existential blurring of the distinction between being and non-being, and organic and inorganic matter; reflecting the animism of Shinto and the Buddhist inflected philosophy of the great Japanese thinker Kitaro Nishida.

Leiko Ikemura, *Mask,* 2022. Cast glass

Selected solo museum exhibitions include: Museum of Contemporary Art, Kunstmuseum Basel (1987); Musée Cantonal des Beaux Arts, Lausanne (1988, 2002); The Haggerty Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI (1999); Morat-Institut, Freiburg (2000); Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota (2000); Kunstmuseum Lichtenstein, Vaduz (2002); Kunsthalle Recklinghausen (2004, 2019); Ulmer Museum (2005); KOLUMBA, Cologne (2005, 2012); Kunstverein Bonn (2006); The Vangi Sculpture Garden Museum, Mishima (2006, 2014); Langen Foundation, Neuss (2007); Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen (2008); The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (2011); Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (2012, 2022); Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe (2013); Staatliches Museum für Kunst, E D Art Center, Tokyo (2019); Kunstmuseum Basel (2019); Nordiska Akvarellmuseet, Skärhamn (2019); Centro de Arte Contemporáneo de Caja de Burgos (2019); CAC La Ciutat de les Arts i les Ciències Valencia (2021); Sainsbury Center for Visual Arts, Norwich (2021); and Herbert Gerisch-Stiftung, Neumünster (2022). Forthcoming solo museum in 2023 include: the Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin, the Museo de Arte Zapopan in Guadalajara, Mexico The artist lives in Berlin, after having settled there in the beginning of the the 1990s.



Leiko Ikemura, *Difficult Girl,* 2022 Tempera and oil on nettle

The gallery's exhibition is an opportunity for the American audience to familiarize themselves better with this visionary artist's work.

Please contact press@fergusmccaffrey.com for further information and images.