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keiko kurita photo exhibition 'tree/sleep'

at ASI Art Museum (Reykjavik, Iceland)
4 April - 26 April 2009



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Keiko Kurita is an emerging, Japanese photo-based artist. Kurita has a photo exhibition titled "tree/sleep" at the ASI Art Museum from 4-26 April 2009 subsidized by the Nomura Cultural Foundation. The exhibition consists of 10 pairs of c-type photographs on the subjects of "tree" and "sleep" taken over a period of 4 years.

For Kurita, a common sensibility can be felt between two psychological states: "the mind felt when in a loophole between sleep and awakening" and "the mind felt when trees branch overhead like monsters." Through her photographs, Kurita hopes viewers will be able to perceive some of the ambiguous and exquisite relationship between the two apparently unrelated subjects of "tree" and "sleep."

Kurita had a solo exhibition of the same name at Monogram gallery in Tokyo in August 2008. Since then, the featured work has been expanded and elaborated upon to form the current exhibition at the ASI Art Museum.

Kurita has another exhibition from 12 March to 5 May 2009 at Reykjavik Museum of Photography. Titled "innocent water," this exhibition consists of 10 c-type prints and a bound book of 43 photos depicting distinctively Icelandic winter scenes, the surreal quiet of the landscape and fragments of winter life enshrouded in a delicate "whiteness." While the "tree/sleep" project features a different color palette with many greens, Kurita's interest in sensitive transparency is still appreciable.

tree/ sleep

the wind blows a quiet note on tree leaves
light dazzles as the wind sounds
the light filters through from there
the wind passes through from there
the wall of the room absorbs the light
as if it is breathing quietly
i relax a slightly tired body
my senses are joining with the wind
the five senses become sensitive
i hear the deep sound of air
the mind felt when in a loophole between sleep and awakening
the mind felt when trees branch overhead like monsters
i feel a common sensibility between these two states
strangeness in relief / relief in strangeness

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keiko kurita
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