## Artist statement: "Fog"

One morning a few years ago,I found a huge fog.Very at close range at me,it was covered buildings,high-rise apartments,roads,cars,trees,etc in white fog.It was like I was in a cloud.Since 2010,I am creating paintings with "fog" as the theme.This fog episode,it was suggestive for me associated with my artworks.

For example in the "Flowers" series, when drawing flowers, I collect information on flowers, classify, observe, sketch, and then I decide the process of drawing with simplification. And It is possible to draw by the memory (drawing process). Many of the motifs I draw are, I am inspired by Odilon Redon's method of "observing nature and applying it". The motif is, the symbolism and allusions of the gods of Greek mythology: for example it implies (Kyane is the "Fountain Nymph", Morpheus is the "god of dreams", Orpheus is "death"). I present the ancient and forgotten gods to the modern age. I combine in the "fog" the method of Redon, the gods of Greek mythology, the study of colors and forms, the mystique, the combination of different elements, etc.

My artworks which is a mixture of these(ancient forgotten gods,fog expression,etc):it can be associated with many things. As in Kyane's example, we can discover the universality inherent in modern society.

Shuji Fukushima, August 2023