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Rising international artists' first exhibitions in Korea

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By Park Han-sol



With the year nearing its end, Seoul has invited a number of notable rising international visual artists for their first solo exhibitions in the country, largely through globally renowned galleries that have begun expanding their presences in the region.

Other shows in Seoul include “Ensuenos en el Amanecer (Daydreams at Dawn)” and “Walking” at Ilwoo Space in central Seoul, which has invited two young, emerging artists — Paolo Salvador from Peru and Shota Nakamura from Japan, now both based in Germany.

Salvador’s illusory paintings, where wild creatures and humans often appear together, draw from ancient, mythic themes. However, he observes and interprets them from a distance — reflective of the memories of his past in Peru, as a descendant of the South American people but also an artist who went on to graduate school in London and now lives and works in Berlin.

Nakamura’s colorful dreamscapes are languid and relaxed, as people are either walking in the lush green forest, looking pensively ahead, or sitting down on a chair, drooping. “These works on canvas manifest a rejection of the rigidity of contemporary Japanese society and are grounded in an ecofeminist perspective,” Berlin-based gallery Peres Projects writes, “a vision of ecosystemic balance that serves as a model for our societies.”