

FRIEZE

The Best Shows to See During Art Week Tokyo

From Ei Arakawa-Nash's first Asian museum survey to a show of Maureen Gallace's lean landscape paintings, here's what to see in Tokyo now

T BY TARO NETTLETON IN CRITIC'S GUIDES | 7 NOV 24

Maureen Gallace | Misako & Rosen | 26 October – 24 November



Maureen Gallace, *Riverbank Road*, 2024, oil on panel, 2 × 25 cm. Courtesy: the artist and Misako & Rosen

At around 25 centimetres square, Maureen Gallace's oil paintings are small, while her motifs – New England coastal views and rural scenes of houses in warm autumnal light, cool winterish blues and summery greens – are largely unremarkable. Yet, the six canvases in this exhibition command our attention, skirting the humdrum to exude grace and presence. There's tension in their toying with kitsch. It's hard to know whether they're modest or outrageous. What will keep viewers going back and forth between the paintings is their economy, achieved through an impeccable palette and abbreviation of forms, as well as the repose they offer. Though not minimal, these are lean paintings; all distractions have been removed. Gallace's works are a masterclass in brevity and style.

Main image: Ei Arakawa-Nash, NEMESIS PAINTING (PURR ... formance!) (detail), 2022, David Zwirner, New York. Courtesy: the artist and David Zwirner, New York; photograph: Santiago Felipe