



Ryosuke Harashima Solo Exhibition

# Secret Garden

Location: Shurinkan 2F  
4-33 Ikedamachi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa

Date: 30 July – 2 August 2021

Open: 13:00 – 19:00 (Last day – 17:00)

No Close

We're holding a solo exhibition "Secret Garden". Please take a look at the new expression of Ryosuke Harashima, who added color to old tools with the concept of Flower Gene. The venue, Shurinkan, was originally a dressmaking school, and is an old Japanese Western-style architecture that looks like a hideaway. We hope you enjoy the " Secret Garden" that stand quietly away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

This new work will be exhibited by Micheko Galerie at POSITIONS Berlin Art Fair, September 9-12.



かれきに花を咲かせましょう  
Hope you bloom

photo by Nik van der Giesen

Concept since 2021

## Flower Gene

Draw colors while imagine beyond

Touch the sense what I yearn

Now here drawing air without you but

Hope you bloom

In the face of the beauty of decaying things, I am tempted by the desire to add layers of color. "Just as Japanese Old tale "The old man who made flowers bloom" made a dead tree bloom, I thought that by painting flowers on objects, they would take on a life of their own and sophisticate more in their existence.

The onslaught of COVID-19, which occurred from 2020, has brought about major changes in the world. It has negated our previous way of life and has prompted us to innovate to a new world. Is the new world we should be welcoming a neo-city with high levels of safety and convenience, or a utopia where humanity and essential richness are pursued?

Either way, I would like to continue creating Flower Gene as a tool or device that can enrich our humanity, without disposing behind the things that have been created by us in this world.

The works presented in this solo exhibition "Secret Garden" do not abandon their usage as tools, but exist as functional objects. This is due to my production style, which is not only art work, but also has a design approach.





Flower Gene No.1

title: **Before You Know It**

size: W260 × D260 × H125 mm

unique

An old lacquered paulownia box for storing tea utensils. A secret garden is hidden in the box.



Flower Gene No.2

title: **Lady Primula**

size: W340 × D250 × H152 mm

unique

This is an old lacquerware bowl with grips, one of the cosmetic tools used in wedding ceremonies. The bowl is a modest piece of equipment for a bride, but its dignified black shine reminds me of the secret affairs of the woman who owned it.



Flower Gene No.3

title: **Lost in Reflection**

size: W445 × D355 × H840 mm

unique

A black lacquer box as a table. At first glance, it's just like a piece of furniture, but when you aware of the hidden garden will change the way you interact with the object.

The top surface of the table, which was originally the bottom surface, is upholstered and lacquered, and its dull reflection is reminiscent of the shimmering surface of a lake.



※Images of this work will be uploaded and updated after the exhibition. For more information, please refer to the link in the press kit on page 7.





Flower Gene No.4

title: **My Little Bunny**

size: W510 × D500 × H1320 mm

unique

This is a lacquered 7-tier stacked box. I drew flowers blooming along the inside of the stacked boxes. You can see the changing expressions of the flowers depending on the light situation that comes through the gaps between the boxes. It is not only for viewing, but also as a functional object for storage.



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Flower Gene No.5

title: **Noto Narratives**

size: W370 × D265 × H182 mm

unique

This is a bowl of Japanese lacquer ware that was in a storehouse and was given to me when I visited a house in the Noto Peninsula, Japan. Inspired by the experience of directly experiencing the satoyama culture of Noto, I tried to create a more Japanese expression.



## Ryosuke Harashima root design office

### Designer

Ryosuke Harashima was born in 1980 in Tokyo, Japan. After graduating from the Kanazawa International Design Institution (KIDI) in 2002, he studied product and furniture design at Parsons The New School for Design in New York City in 2003. In 2004 he began working at a design office in Kanazawa, Japan, while also researching traditional Japanese craftsmanship. During this period much of his inspiration came from crossing the cultures of the East and West. He founded his own office 'Root design office' in Kanazawa in 2005. Since then he focuses on collaborating with Japanese artisans and manufacturers to create an innovative aesthetic that is both Japanese and international.



<https://ryosukeharashima.com/>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/ryosuke\\_harashima](https://www.instagram.com/ryosuke_harashima)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ryosuke.harashima.5>

### ■ Press Kit

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5s7sca6tqvvggio/AAAT78rmuH2brlfn7MBs6oLWa?dl=0>

01\_ pressRelease\_English.pdf

02\_ work photos

### 【Contact】

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