

## **SADAMASA MOTONAGA** **THE ENERGY OF INFANCY**

**Location:** Repetto Gallery, 23 Bruton Street, 2nd floor, London W1J 6QF, United Kingdom  
**Opening reception:** Champagne Brunch June 28th from 12 am  
**Opening times:** June 29th – July 29th 2016, Mon – Fri 11 am – 5 pm, Saturday by appointment



Repetto Gallery is glad to announce the opening of their new location with a solo show dedicated to the Japanese artist Sadamasa Motonaga. On show about 40 works among which acrylic canvases, paper-based works and sculptures from 1966 to 2009. All the works will be illustrated in the exhibition catalogue, with texts by Paolo Repetto and a contribution by Takesada Matsutani.

Among the leading protagonists of the joyful and restless Gutai group, Motonaga has always been pervaded by the magic of childhood. Like all the components of that famous group, he has always sought out new things, unprecedented forms, freeform and cheerful experimentation.

When in 1966 Motonaga arrived in New York, supported by Martha Jackson, he started painting again in a 'traditional' manner, discovering acrylic paints and the airbrush, and limiting his inspiration to classical two-dimensional surfaces. Thus he went back to conceiving shapes once more: those shapes that come before colour, the shapes that can withhold red and green, his favourite hues.

The energy of infancy is always decisive in the various pictorial outlines in which the organic is transformed into mineral and the mineral dissolves into the vegetable; an extreme imagination is always paramount, one in which the vision of metamorphosis is captured in both real and impossible forms and presences.

An uninterrupted metamorphosis, through vivid phosphorescence and timbral drips; a close interchange between likely and impossible shapes; an intimate dialogue between dreams and geometry, the unconscious and the defined, game and reason. For "the universe never ceases for a single instant to change and we experience this. Transformation is nothing other than renewal, so it is only natural that we should try to create new phenomena or that we discover these with astonishment" (Motonaga).

Text by Paolo Repetto

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