

SHANE CAMPBELL GALLERY

Artforum
November 2015

Yui Yaegashi

MIDWAY CONTEMPORARY ART

527 2nd Ave SE

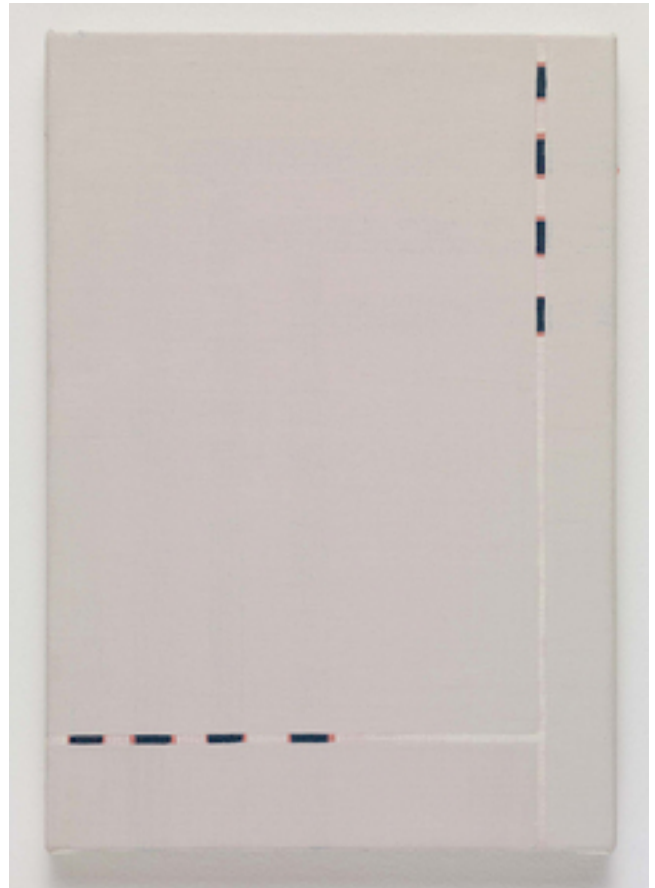
October 24, 2015–December 19, 2015

Yui Yaegashi's paintings are small, but despite their size, they own the gallery. Their humble presence fills the white walls with rectangles of muted colors. Their intricacy demands intimacy. Up close are minute topographies: Here, a ridge captures the edge of a delicate movement; there, lines weave into a texture reminiscent of upholstery fabric. In two untitled pieces (all works 2015), muted beige fields cover up the gridded interactions of blue brushstrokes, but slivers of color peek out at the margins, as if to illustrate the difficulty of seeing what hides underneath the blanket of the familiar. Rooted in the domestic, this exhibition, titled "To and from Home," offers painterly poems marked by delicate restraint.

Yaegashi is devoted to precision. In each work, the sum of many formal choices accrues in a meticulous set of material mathematics. Her titles reflect some of these variables, such as *Brush No. 15 of Sekaido* or *MPCG*, the latter a Japanese acronym of her green, red, yellow, and gray palette. A quasi-phenomenological inquiry, the twenty-two paintings here reveal an economy of attention that deliberately attends to what is closest and hence perhaps most easily overlooked.

Studying the home with the twin perspectives of distant observer and intimate familiar, Yaegashi seems to say: This can be found in the space that holds me. How very odd. In a chronicle of formal particularities, her work advocates the discipline of looking closely to create small and surprisingly tender works.

— *Christina Schmid*



Yui Yaegashi. untitled. 2015. oil on canvas. 11 x 7 1/2"

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