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PRESS RELEASE



Is this it 2005

NOBUKO TSUCHIYA

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There are three elements to this exhibition, two here in the gallery and one at the Arnolfini in Bristol. Tsuchiya's work has always been concerned with passages of time and shifting consciousness. There is an extraordinary thought process at work here which cannot be simply classified as poetic, or formal, or contextual but while it is all of these it seems to have a more direct link with the nervous system. It elicits a response that has no obvious recourse to language while stimulating a rich contemplation of sensation.

"It's important to play with the materials until I reach an intuitive response to them. When I play with an idea I put forms together and then I separate them, and try many permutations; it's right when I feel it with my body, not only my conscious self, something deeper than purely emotional. To begin with you use your mind, to think about the past, about the future, then it almost gets down to instinct."

In *This storm is what we call progress*, the opening exhibition at the newly and magnificently re-formed Arnolfini, Tsuchiya is showing a large and extremely beautiful work entitled *8 legged hypnotic witness*. Through it, she says, we are rendered into music, music that is then stored within the large piece in the upstairs gallery in London, *Jukebox blanket*. This work consists of a sparse array of different elements, soft and hard, straight and curved, sitting, floating, condensed and spreading which nevertheless form a coherent whole, a container for a state of being. Downstairs, gathered together in a compound in one part of the gallery, six different works are assembled, each one a song played out from the 'jukebox' upstairs. Just as the disparate elements upstairs so clearly belong together, the closely gathered works downstairs assert their independence. Tsuchiya has an understanding of materials and sensibility of line, colour and form that hot-wires these most original of confections direct to our cognitive self.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND IMAGES PLEASE CONTACT MARCELO SPINELLI AT THE GALLERY

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