

## Yasui Tomotaka



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Braverman Galleries

Yasui Tomotaka is a promising young Japanese sculptor who lives and works in Tokyo. Like many of his fellow artists in the land of the rising sun, Tomotaka relates in his works to the dichotomy of opposite feelings – attraction on the one hand and hostility on the other – felt by the Japanese towards the penetra-

tion of Western culture into daily life. Unlike others though, he does not adopt manga and anime as his sources of inspiration and does not use dynamic extremes to express his feelings towards the situation. For his sculptures, Tomotaka chose to use the traditional lacquer skill that has been well maintained in Japan for millennia by masters of the complicated technique. In spite of the use of such an ancient technique, Tomotaka remains in the context of contemporary art, and creates works which are quite unique.

Yasui Tomotaka's sculptures depict people, animals and day-to-day objects from his immediate surroundings. With this information, one is evoked by the artist's choice of presenting them frozen and motionless, silence coming to fore as a central feature in their appearance. The figures are highly stylized; on the one hand presented as one mass with little involvement in space, but on the other, displaying endless finesse and grace. "Silence" is Yasui Tomotaka's first exhibition in Israel, and it is sponsored by The Jerusalem Center for Visual Art and the Pola Art Foundation.