



## **The World of Takami Sakurai's Paintings 9**

**by Osamu Fukano**

The Paris-based Lambert Gallery has contracted with five Japanese painters. They are Tsunetzaku Maeda, Junzo Watanabe, Takashi Hiraga, Akira Terakado, and Takami Sakurai. This agreement is tangible proof of the power of the Parisian art world to responsibly deliver works to the international market.

Sakurai also has a similar agreement with Vorpai Gallery in the U.S., which has a network of galleries in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and Laguna Beach. The gallery recently sent Sakurai a notice of a sale that had been concluded. Takami Sakurai is now stepping out into the international community with a strong sense of reality.

If it is said that mentioning the contract with the gallery is too much of an endorsement of his paintings, I will accept the blame. While I think it is enough to talk about the expressive power of a single artist, this is only a small explanation to let as many people as possible experience the charm of his paintings.

Takami Sakurai repeatedly states that Kyushu and Fukuoka are his basis. And he is probably right. So much so that we would like to discuss the fact that we have a painter

with a large presence right at hand, in the context of his work. We must not make the mistake of allowing Gauguin to die on an isolated island in the South Seas without a proper understanding during his lifetime.