

## From nothing

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I stayed Waria Art Break residency in II Village in North of Finland for 3month. Waria Art Break is in a silent forest, and surrounded by the river. Residence owner took me to some nice places, went hiking, bird watching, picking berry and mushroom. They know about nature very well, I learned a lot of things from them.

I introduce my works I made for Valo-Hikari Exhibition. These motifs are tree and waterfall. At first I decided the shape of the tree's work. I took a walk in the Finnish forest over and over. And I felt 3 big differences between Japanese nature and Finnish nature. The softness of the ground in the woods. point of view, and sunlight. Finnish Forest ground is very soft, because of moss, lichens. And berry. And, Finnish land is very flat, so our point of view is always tree trunk receding. But Japanese land has ups and downs, So We can see the tops of the trees as they go up the mountain. It's more like mountain than forest. We often see the shape of the mountains in Japan Finnish sunlight is soft, subdued and white. The Shadows are deep blue. I decided the shape to emphasize these 3 elements.

Next, waterfall work. I stayed in Australia for 6 month. 6 years ago as an exchange student. This time there were many differences I noticed, comparing Australia in the Southern Hemisphere and Finland in the Northern Hemisphere. Australian animals are colorful and unique. They were bigger than I expected. And it's easy to find them because they are not afraid of people. I felt special kind of life force in their various designs. In contrast, Finnish animals are simple and shy. And they are very vigilant and will run away if I get closer. They were smaller than I expected. So It was difficult to find them in the forest. I often had the experience "I feel something in the forest, but I can't tell what it is" The forest is coniferous forest with very tiny leaves. That is also one of the reasons that makes it difficult to find animals. I felt as if the forest was hiding some special existence. In this way, I felt something invisible, not found and not known existed hidden in the forest. So I decided to make my work based on the theme of "nothing" I decided to make something that was in Japan but not in Finland. So I came up with a waterfall. Aactually There are waterfalls farther in the north Finland, but It's not common. Some University students have never seen a waterfall. I thought it was good motif to show the differences in the geography of Japan and Finland.

Both of forest of Japan and Finland are mysterious, Japanese mountain make me feel awe. But Finland forest I felt were friendly and benign.

