



Chiharu Shiota, 2015. Photo: Sunhi Mang
Installation view (detail) 'In the beginning was...', Fundació Sorigué,
2015
Courtesy of the artist, Fundació Sorigué and Anna Schwartz Gallery

ANNA SCHWARTZ GALLERY
185 FLINDERS LANE, MELBOURNE
TUE 4 OCTOBER - SAT 5 NOVEMBER

FREE

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Japan // Visual Arts

Australian Exclusive

CHIHARU SHIOTA

Melbourne, Australia: Anna Schwartz Gallery is delighted to announce its first major exhibition with the internationally acclaimed artist **Chiharu Shiota** from 4 October to 5 November 2016. For this inaugural exhibition, the artist will create a new body of work transforming the Melbourne gallery space into a sculptural field.

Chiharu Shiota is best known for large-scale installations and sculptures that explore complex relationships between body and mind. Shiota's work evokes memories: a house, a piano, suitcases, keys - objects suspended in time and space by a web of three-dimensional lines.

"My creations with thread are reflections of my own feelings. A thread can be a cut, a knot or a loop, or can be loose or sometimes tangled. A thread to me is an analogy for feelings or human relationships," says Chiharu Shiota.

At Anna Schwartz Gallery, the exhibition will reflect the central ideas to Shiota's practice: the question of existence, the awakening of consciousness to silence, to the traces objects and subjects that are no longer present.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Anna Schwartz Gallery and Melbourne Festival will present a new public art work, The Home Within, to be unveiled at Federation Square on 6 October and which will travel to emblematic locations in the city for the duration of the festival, ending at the Melbourne Town Hall for the Festival finale on 23 October.

Chiharu Shiota has a long-standing relationship with Australia dating back to her experience as an exchange student at the Australia National University of Canberra, School of Art in 1994. More recently, Shiota created major installations: In Silence at DETACHED, Hobart in 2011, and Conscious Sleep, for the 20th Biennale of Sydney, Cockatoo Island, in 2016.

Chiharu Shiota has been represented by Anna Schwartz Gallery since 2015, following the artist's seminal installation The Key in the Hand, 2015 presented at the 56th Venice Biennale. This

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acclaimed installation is now permanently installed at DETACHED in Hobart, further cementing Shiota's engagement with Australia.

Chiharu Shiota was born in 1972 in Osaka, Japan. She lives and works in Berlin. Her exhibitions include: Accumulation: Searching for a Destination, Art Basel Unlimited, 2016; Letters of Thanks, 2016, KØS Museum for Art, Denmark; Conscious Sleep, 20th Biennale of Sydney (2016), The Key in the Hand, Japanese Pavilion, 56th Venice Biennale (2015); Seven Dresses, Stadtgalerie, Saarbrücken (2015); Le Fil Rouge, Espace culturel Louis Vuitton, Paris (2015); Inhabiting the World, Busan Biennale (2014); Progress and Hygiene, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw (2014); Over the Continents, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. (2014); Home of Memory, La Maison Rouge, Paris (2011); and Breathe of Spirit, The National Museum of Art, Osaka (2008); Inner Voices, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (2011); and Walking in My Mind, Hayward Gallery, London (2009).

The Chiharu Shiota exhibition will be on view from 4 October until 5 November 2016 at Anna Schwartz Gallery, 185 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, Australia.

- Ends -

Notes to Editors:

For further information and/or images please contact Rhiannon Broomfield on 0410 596 021 or rhiannon@articulatepr.com.au, Kym Elphinstone on 0421 106 139 or kym@articulatepr.com.au, or Liberty Scott at on 0400 815 746 or liberty@articulatepr.com.au.

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