

KOIAS ART PROJECT #1 | AKIRA MIZUNO

Residency in Kobe

As part of KOIAS Art Project #1, Gunma-based painter Akira Mizuno stayed in Kobe to collaborate with our Institute. Although it was Mizuno's first extended stay in the city, he had previously visited nearby areas, including trips to see his mentor Tsuyoshi Isoe and painting camp on Mt. Rokko, when he was younger.



Upon arriving at AiRK (Artist in Residence KOBE), Akira Mizuno began by working on a sketch. His watercolor depiction of a fish looked simple, yet it was imbued with a sense of mystery. Rather than a picture replicating reality, it felt like the fish had just appeared on the piece paper, which was blank just a moment before.



On the second day, we visited the coast in Kobe, immersing ourselves in the unique smell, wind, and humidity of the sea – a refreshing experience for Mizuno, who is from the inland Gunma Prefecture. Later that night, he stayed up late, preparing for and discussing the next day's talk.

