



Friend of The Artist
Fall 2017

- Kieran Riley Abbott
- Patrick Brien
- Ani Collier
- Austin Furtak-Cole
- Dara Engler
- Philip Gerald
- Juan Granados
- Nicole Havekost
- David Heo
- Gabrielle Jones
- Katie Kameen
- Mya Kerner
- Gemma Lopez
- Lara Nasser
- Esteban Pulido
- Mary Raap
- Anya Rosen
- Hyunjung Rhee
- Anna Rotty
- Rajab Sayed
- Evan Sheldon
- Wei Tan (Tatawa)
- Sarah West
- Ken Wood

Wei Tan (Tatawa) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tatawa (Wei Tan, b. Malaysia, 1991) is a mixed-media abstract artist. With a background in music composition, she completed her Master's degree in Music Technology at New York University. In summer 2015, while developing work on image-based experimental sound art, Tatawa started exploring the world of abstract painting - first collaborating with her teacher Gina Bonati and then experimenting on her own, drawing inspirations from the great Abstract Expressionists to today's cross-disciplinary, multimedia artists. Since then she has become a full-time artist and has exhibited in New York, London, Florence, and Berlin.

Tatawa's art is an act of self-revelation through improvisation. Each artwork is a journal entry where outer influences are purged and inner responses are confessed. Like making soup, materials are thrown onto the canvas and mixed together through spontaneous gesture. Often a period of mindless doodling is carried out before the painting emerges with an unexpected coherence. Influences of sight and sound are exposed: the colour of a coffee mug, the shape of a distant hill, the meow of a cat, the piano playing next door. The process of improvisation allows each layer of influence to be shredded until the limitation of habit is revealed. This limitation is then

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challenged so that each painting is a set of broken habits. Tatawa's commitment to authenticity results in an inconsistency in style. Each day a new character emerges and the old one disappears like shredding skin. The only constant is the desire to truthfully express the fluctuation of current states.



Wei Tan (Tatawa)
Late for the Dentist, 2017
Mixed media on canvas
31 x 39in.



Wei Tan (Tatawa)
The Mechanics of Play, 2016
Mixed media on canvas
30 x 40in.



Wei Tan (Tatawa)
Abdomen, 2017
Mixed media on canvas
30 x 40in.