

Midway Contemporary Art

Yuki Kimura

Des Treize

September 19–November 1, 2025

Door Closers, 2021/2025

Steel

Dimensions Variable

Courtesy Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris

Des Treize, 2025

Plexiglass globes, plastic wheels, roller ball bearings, geared motors, ESP32 microcontroller, motor driver controller board module, battery

Dimensions Variable

Midway Contemporary Art is pleased to present a new installation, *Des Treize*, by Kyoto-based Yuki Kimura. Upon entering the exhibition, two double doors fall closed behind the viewer under the weight of wrought iron antiquated mechanisms. This portal frames a new, now closed off gallery space with transparent spheres of various sizes navigating steadily around the concrete floor. Stored for years in a surplus warehouse, these thirteen mundane Plexiglas forms were gathered together by Kimura into a comedic choreography. The title is borrowed from Honoré Balzac's three short novels, *Histoire des Treize*, depicting a secret society of thirteen men. A partial selection of the thirteen spheres are visible at Midway, soon to be dispersed to other locations.

While Kimura has consistently used found objects and images in her exhibitions, this is her first time incorporating kinetic energy. In collaboration with a group of students, these robotic devices were developed as prototypes —motorized air-filled spheres— meant to alternate between circulating randomly and organizing into formations. The space fills and empties as the globes move throughout the gallery and resolve into a visual illusion. This ebbing and flowing manifests the input of invisible data and information controlling their movement and the antagonistic relationship with tangible objects. Forms are set to emerge and dissolve, move in and out of focus, and the opportunity to see the complete whole is left unfulfilled.

Special thanks to Amelia Dyrstad, Jackson Goodrich, Caleb Li, Calvin Mumma, and Ben Lampe-McCoy of Breck School's Robotics program for their partnership in realizing this exhibition.

Yuki Kimura lives and works in Kyoto. Kimura has presented recent solo exhibitions at Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris (2024); The Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen-Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf (2022); Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo (2019); Jenny's, Los Angeles (2019); Oracle, Berlin (2018); and CCA Wattis Institute, San Francisco (2016). Her work has been included in many group exhibitions, including *Fake Barn Country*, Raven Row, London (2025); *Mimesis*, Galerie Barbara Weiss, Berlin (2023); *Paradis*,

Maison R&C, Marseille (2021); *DANICA BARBOZA, JASON HIRATA, YUKI KIMURA, DUANE LINKLATER*, Artists Space, New York (2019); and is in the permanent collections of Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi; Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas; Kadist Art Foundation, San Francisco; Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo; The National Museum of Art, Osaka; and The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Kimura is a Professor in the Department of Fine Arts (Concept and Media Planning) at the Kyoto City University of Arts in Kyoto, Japan. She has a solo exhibition opening at Jenny's New York in September 2025.

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Andy Warhol

The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts



**1509 NE Marshall Street
Minneapolis
Minnesota 55413**

**T 612 605 4504
E info@midwayart.org
www.midwayart.org**