



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Clearing

Curated by Ekow Eshun

November 3 – December 26, 2025

Part of Art Week Tokyo (November 5–9)

Artists: Nengi Omuku, Sola Olulode, Okiki Akinfe, Arthur Timothy, Kwesi Botchway

With special thanks to Gallery 1957; Ginny on Frederick; and Pippy Houldsworth Gallery

Space Un is pleased to present **The Clearing**, a group exhibition curated by writer and curator **Ekow Eshun**, bringing together contemporary artists from across the African diaspora. Centered on painting, the exhibition explores the memory and imagination of Black communities, creating a contemplative space that reflects on healing, belonging, and creative resistance.

The title *The Clearing* is drawn from a pivotal scene in Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*, where a secluded forest space becomes a sanctuary for the Black community — a place to heal, love, and momentarily escape the hostile gaze of the outside world. In this spirit, the exhibition approaches gathering not merely as social exchange, but as an act of **resistance, restoration, and creation**.

Through the work of **Nengi Omuku, Sola Olulode, Okiki Akinfe, Arthur Timothy, and Kwesi Botchway**, *The Clearing* envisions Black subjectivity beyond the binary of “seen” and “unseen.” Instead, it presents Black life as expansive — dreaming, transforming, and connecting to the possibilities of new worlds.

Within a quiet, care-filled environment, the exhibition gradually brings into view what has too often been overlooked, revealing the emotional and spiritual depth of Black life.

Special Event

- **November 6 (Thursday):** Conversation with Ekow Eshun (at space Un)
A public dialogue on the themes of the exhibition, the representation of the Black diaspora in contemporary art, and perspectives on curating across cultures.

space Un
TOKYO

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About the Curator — Ekow Eshun

Ekow Eshun is a London-based curator, writer, and cultural critic, internationally recognized for his work on the history, culture, and visual art of the African diaspora. He has curated exhibitions at major institutions including the Barbican Centre, Serpentine Gallery, and Tate Britain, and is the author of *In the Black Fantastic* (Tate Publishing, 2022). His writing appears in the BBC, *The Guardian*, and leading art publications. Eshun's work examines race, identity, and the imagination, exploring the intersections between contemporary art and society.

Exhibition Details

- **Dates:** November 3 – December 26, 2025
- **Venue:** Space Un, Aoyama, Tokyo
- **Curator:** Ekow Eshun
- **Artists:** Nengi Omuku, Sola Olulode, Okiki Akinfe, Arthur Timothy, Kwesi Botchway
- **Special Program:** Part of Art Week Tokyo (November 5–9)

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