

CHRISTOPHER CUTTS GALLERY

DAISUKE TAKEYA
RESIDENTS c PASSENGERS





DAISUKE TAKEYA
RESIDENTS \subset PASSENGERS
MARCH 1 - MARCH 22ND, 2025

*“空” means ‘empty’ in Japanese, pronounced “Kara”
The character 空 also represents the word ‘sky’ in Japanese, pronounced “Sora”*

The Christopher Cutts Gallery is pleased to present Daisuke Takeya’s “RESIDENTS \subset PASSENGERS”, premiering ten new iterations of his signature *Kara* landscapes, depicting sites around the world. The *Kara* series is characterized by expansive, abstract skies that meet exceptionally detailed horizons only a few inches from the bottom of the canvases.

For the first two decades of the series, the *Kara* paintings were almost entirely sky – some over 6 ft tall, with the titular landscapes only an inch or two in height. But 2025’s “RESIDENTS \subset PASSENGERS” sees the series evolve as Takeya turns the canvases on their sides, boundless skies now sprawling out widthwise as the horizon creeps higher into the compositions. The cityscapes have grown larger in the foreground, still incredibly intricate with Takeya’s masterful rendering of architecture, infrastructure, and nature.

Just as 空 represents two equally relevant words at once, this series explores double meanings and juxtapositions. The *Kara* paintings are landscapes with minimal land. The skies are *empty*, but rich in atmosphere and colour. The bold, expressive layers of impasto meet the constrained, detailed, and diminutive settings at their base with tension.

In this new collection of paintings, as the skies are shortened and the landscapes below them expand, it becomes apparent that not only the skies, but even the vividly illustrated urbanscapes and topographies below them are unusually unoccupied. Despite the artist’s experience and education in portraiture, Takeya’s meticulous environments, depicting even individual train cars and streetlights intricately, never include the presence of people. Both the skies and land remain peculiarly *empty*.

CHRISTOPHER CUTTS GALLERY

21 Morrow Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6R 2H9
www.cuttsgallery.com
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[@cuttsgallery](https://www.instagram.com/cuttsgallery)

ABOUT DAISUKE TAKEYA

Interdisciplinary artist Daisuke Takeya has been living and working between Canada and Japan for the past 25 years. Takeya obtained a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Graduate School of Figurative Art at the New York Academy of Art and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. Based on critical observation, his praxis explores nature and plausibility in contemporary society, hinging on different layers of double meanings. Daisuke has had numerous international solo and group exhibitions. Venues have included the Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto, Nuit Blanche (Toronto), SVA Gallery (NYC), Wagner College Gallery (NYC), Kyoto Art Center, Saison Art Program, Roppongi Art Night 2013, Fukushima Contemporary Art Biennale, Canon New Cosmos Exhibition (Tokyo), Yamagata Biennale, the Prince Takamado Gallery at the Embassy of Canada (Tokyo), the Japan Foundation, Toronto. Daisuke is also the curator of *Multi Layered Surfaces*, *Anonymous Women*, and *Field Trip Project/Field Trip Project Asia*, the director of *Responding Performance Art Initiative*, and co-founder of *Transnational Coalition for the Arts (Transnation)*, and *DAIS Ishinomaki*.

CHRISTOPHER CUTTS GALLERY



south gallery, north wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

You are fired! (Work in Progress)

2025

oil on canvas

84 x 36 inches (213.5 x 91.5 cm)

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south gallery, east wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Passengers

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Q.E.W.

2024

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Half Moon (homage to my painting "Deer Junction (homage to Christopher Pratt)")

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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south gallery, south wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

3 + ONE

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

The Canadian Parliament Building

2010

oil on canvas

36 x 12 inches (91.5 x 30.5 cm)

CHRISTOPHER CUTTS GALLERY



south gallery, west wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

O Canada

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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north gallery, north wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

The Rosedale

2024

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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north gallery, east wall

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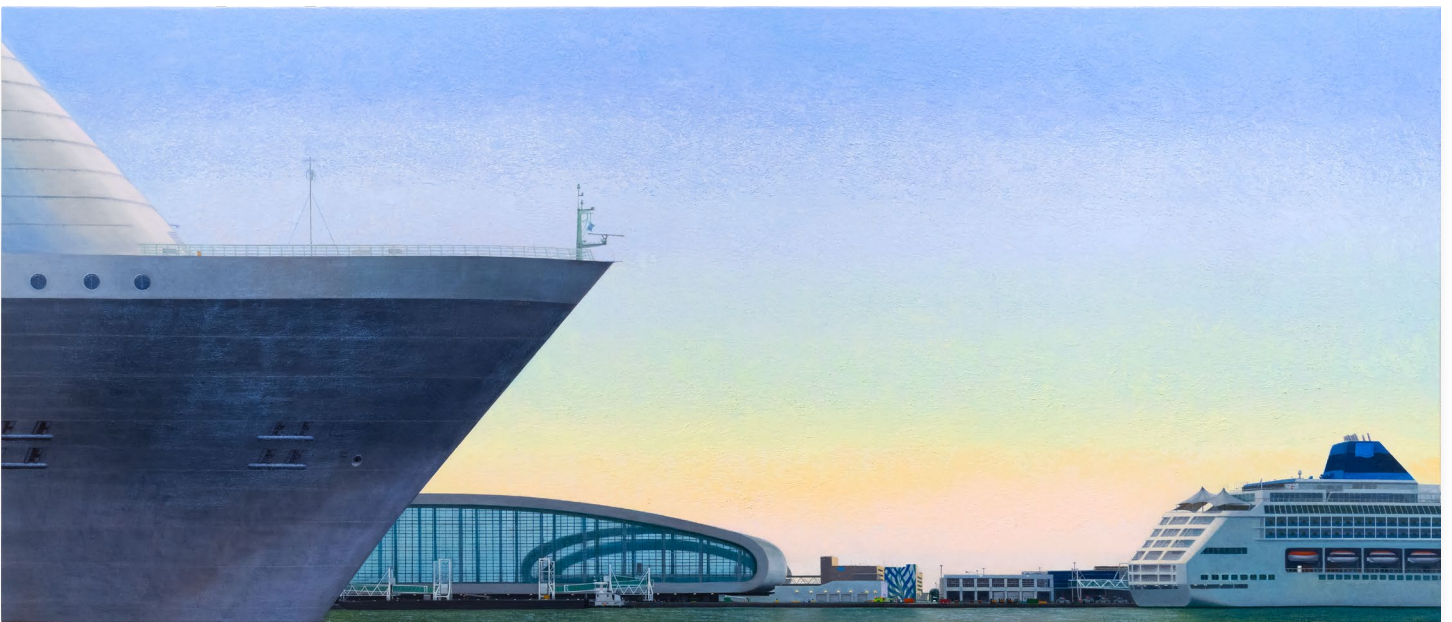
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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Miami Vice

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Top of the World

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

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north gallery, south wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Pink

2025

oil on canvas

36 x 84 inches (91.5 x 213.5 cm)

CHRISTOPHER CUTTS GALLERY



north gallery, west wall

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DAISUKE TAKEYA

Vancouver International Airport

2009

oil on canvas

36 x 48 inches (91 x 121.9 cm)