

## Designer Sho Shibuya's Paintings Displayed at the Saint Laurent Waterfront Showcase in Miami

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Saint Laurent engaged designer and artist Sho Shibuya for an exhibition on the beaches near 17th Street during Miami Art Week. Anthony Vaccarello, the creative director of the French luxury label, commissioned Shibuya to present a series of painted newspapers from his “Sunrise from a Small Window” series.

Last year, Shibuya, the founder of the creative agency Placeholder in New York, began the project in reaction to the pandemic. As tales of crises and social unrest became more ominous in tone, he began painting over the front pages of the newspaper in April 2020. The contrast between the stable morning sky and the increasingly tumultuous news was mediated by painting the sunrise over grim reports of the day.

Shibuya incorporated elements of the environment with a large-scale minimal structure that sits on the shorefront housing the paintings on its walls for the exhibition in Miami related to Saint Laurent's Rive Droite concept—which embraces contemporary art and design that follows in the legacy of the brand's limited-edition wares made with artists in ways that merge luxury and street style—and incorporated elements of the environment with a large-scale minimal structure that sits on the shorefront housing the paintings on its walls. Shibuya and Vaccarello attempted to capture the shifts of light across the horizon line at twilight and daybreak with the temporary area. To emphasize Shibuya's scrupulous documentation of each day through his tonal gradients, the paintings are shown in chronological order.

Shibuya follows the path of a long line of artists who have used the New York Times as a medium to respond to current events, including Ellsworth Kelly (see his 2003 collage *Ground Zero*) and Lorraine O'Grady (see her 1977 work *Cutting Out the New York Times*), as well as Fred Tomaselli and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

Curating a display based on pictures created in the last two years—many of which have caught public attention—is Vaccarello's way of staying on top of the pandemic zeitgeist. It's not the first time he's looked to artist collaborations to boost the label's production as creative director of Saint Laurent. He recently staged a show of Jeanloup Sieff's photographs at the Paris Photo fair and commissioned Doug Aitken to create a runway stage installation in Venice in July.