

TETSUYA ISHIDA
Japanese artist

TETSUYA ISHIDA is a Japanese surrealist painter, born in Yaizu, Shizuoka, Japan, in 1973. He died prematurely in a train accident in 2005 at the age of 31. With cumulative sales of \$1,037,213, he ranked 169th in the Artprice 2017-2018 Ranking (Art sales Products) of the art market worldwide. In April 2014, a painting by the artist "Earthquake / Terremoto" was sold at Christie's for about \$350,000, 10 times its estimated price, demonstrating his continued popularity. His work 'Prisoner' was sold to the United Asian Auctioneers 'United Asian Auctioneer Evening Sale' in 2012 for nearly \$820,000.

Artwork

Tetsuya Ishida explores the dark side of modern life, the dehumanization of a society in favor of mechanization. He paints humanoid characters in surreal environments, reflecting on uncertainty and evil being. He started with a portrait of himself who used absurd humor to talk about his emotions. "I tried to make of myself, my weakness, my sad state, my anxiety, a joke or something funny that you can laugh at," the artist said. In "Waiting for a Chance" (1999), for example, Ishida paints a hospital room in which the characters present melancholy and restless faces. Patients sit or lie on abandoned cars instead of beds: a way to connect this emotional atmosphere to questions about the uncertainty of Japan's future, both industrial, economic and social. His deeply unhappy characters are often entangled in constructions or machines, they are representative of his vision of Japan as a soulless, mechanized society.