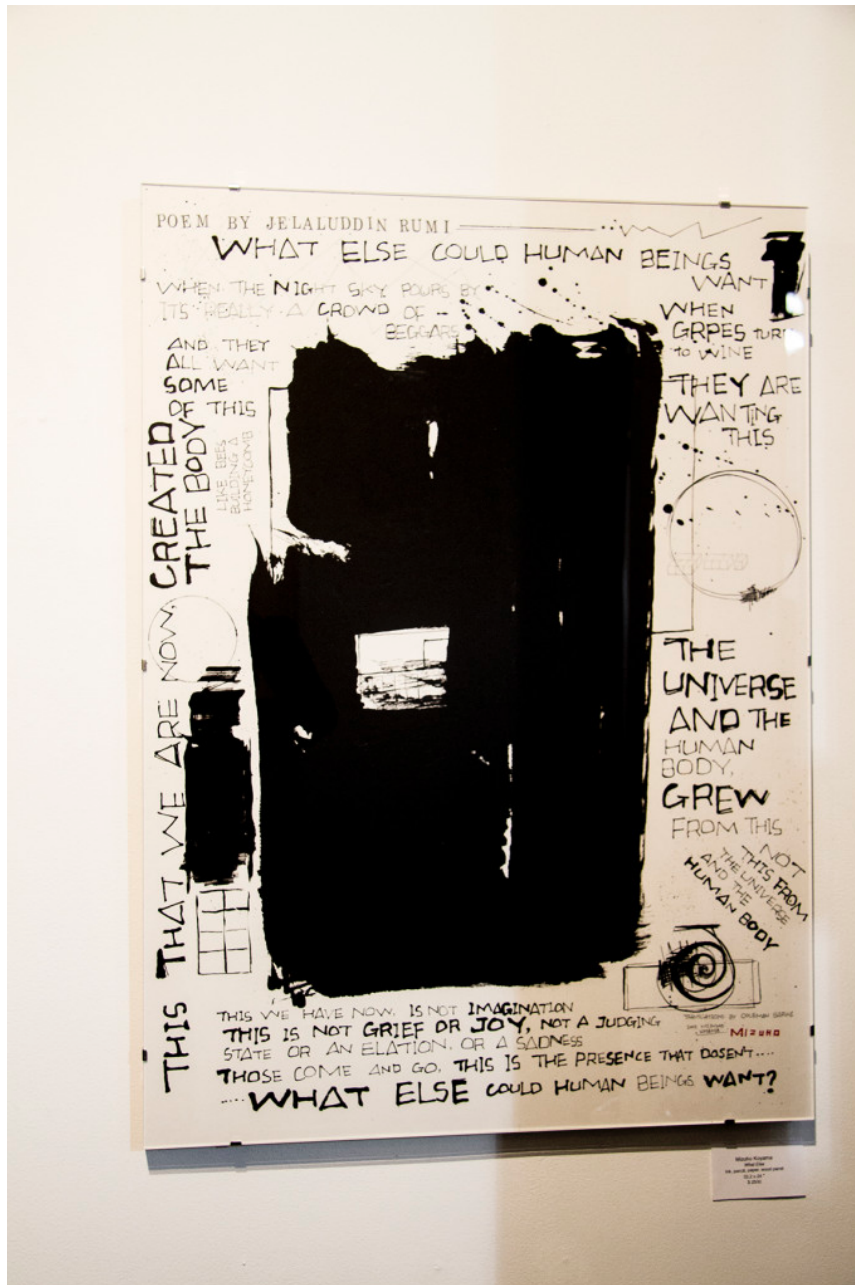


Artists such as **Mizuho Koyama**, who combines her traditional training in classical Japanese sho (calligraphy) with graffiti art, sends both literal messages through the frenzied lettering in her art, as in *What Else*, which includes a poem by Rumi, but



also shocks us by placing thick blocks in the center of the canvas. The black shapes seem to cover up possible lettering underneath, thereby concealing a message and thus forcing our eyes to look away from the center to the bordering disorder. But the eyes cannot help but to be drawn back to the center. The black shape is not completely solid, there are scratches of white from underneath. To what extent will that darkness spread from the center? Or has it only covered the unnecessary to illuminate the essential message?

Koyama's *What Else* painting is the first work you will encounter in the *Grayscale Wonderland*, and its concept sets the tone for the entire show. By removing color and working with shadows, the artists are not only concealing less important information for our minds to process, they are highlighting the essence of the images they have captured. The darkness takes, but it also gives.

**bG Gallery**

## Grayscale Wonderland

2525 Michigan Avenue Space G8A  
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Exhibition Dates:

Feb 7, 2015- late Feb 2015