

Masami Teraoka

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Masami Teraoka at Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco

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By Blouin Artinfo

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By appointment only

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Installation image from Selected Works (1972-2002) from Private Collections, 2017

Catharine Clark Gallery is hosting “[Masami Teraoka](#): Select Works (1972 – 2002) from Private Collections” at the gallery’s San Francisco location.

The exhibition features over 40 works by Japanese artist Masami Teraoka (b.1936, Onomichi, Hiroshima-ken, Japan). Graduating in 1959 with a B.A. in aesthetics from Kwansei Gakuin University, Hyogo Prefecture, Nishinomiya, Uegahara Ichibancho, Japan, Teraoka continued his

education in the United States, earning a Bachelor of Art and a Masters of Art from Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, California in 1968. Teraoka's approach to content and composition in his watercolors and paintings integrates reality with fantasy, humor with social commentary, and the historical with the contemporary, often fusing his Eastern and Western cultural influences. His works has been the subject of more than 70 solo exhibitions, including the 2017 solo survey "Floating Realities: The Art of Dr. Masami Teraoka" at California State University, Fullerton; as well as been represented in more than 50 public collections worldwide, including the Tate Modern; the Art Gallery of New South Wales; the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution and many more.

On view is a stunning survey of major works from some of Teraoka's most important series, including selections from "Venice Nude Beach", "New Views of Mt. Fuji", "McDonald's Hamburgers Invading Japan" and the "AIDS Series", among others. Highlights include "AIDS Series/Makiki Heights Disaster" (1988), an outstanding folding screen with mounted watercolor panels that depict an overgrown forest people with ukiyo-e style figures combatting a monstrous serpent and frog, fantastic and insidious creatures that represent agents of infection in a startling visual narrative about disease and its various means of transmission, embodying the artist's early commitment to addressing the subject of AIDS in art, as well as an introduction to the later AIDS Series.

The exhibition is on view through September 2, 2017 at Catharine Clark Gallery, 248 Utah Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, USA.