

Masami Teraoka



Sex and Violence: Masami Teraoka Explores Classic Themes

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By Noe Tanigawa

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Artist Masami Teraoka with one of the paintings in his series, "Feast of Fools: The Triptych Paintings of Masami Teraoka"

In the gallery at the Honolulu Museum, a chat with artist Masami Teraoka about his monumental series, "Feast of Fools: The Triptych Paintings of Masami Teraoka"

Masami Teraoka is one of Hawai'i's few internationally recognized contemporary artists. His highly charged works are a combination of traditional forms and often scandalous imagery. HPR's Noe Tanigawa visited with him in his new exhibition at the Honolulu Museum which represents a project he has been working on since 1990. Teraoka traces the roots of his interest in the Catholic church sex abuse cases to the furor over the Clinton/Lewinsky affair. As a Japanese national with a more

permissive attitude toward sex, and a veteran of the 60's sexual revolution, Teraoka was mystified over the American public/media response to what he saw as the President's private behavior. Teraoka says he was moved to seek out the origins of Americans' attitudes toward sex. Ten years later, the clergy sex abuse scandals became public, and in his series of triptychs, Teraoka explores the political, economic, religious, historical and social forces involved in the issue.



From Masami Teraoka's series, "Feast of Fools: The Triptych Paintings of Masami Teraoka"



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"Feast of Fools: The Triptych Paintings of Masami Teraoka" continues at the Honolulu Museum of Art through August 30th. Teraoka will be available in the gallery from 1-2:45 daily through July 3rd.