

For Immediate Release

SACHIKO MORITA | *Gelatin Silver Prints on Watercolor Paper*

May 18 – July 2, 2021

[Exhibition catalog available](#)

VICTORIA MUNROE
fine art

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Kohlrabi, 7 ½ x 5 ½" edition of 5



Oyster Mushroom, 3 ¾ x 2 ¾" edition of 5



Poppy, 5 ½ x 3 ¾" edition of 7

Opening May 18 through July 2, 2021, Victoria Munroe Fine Art is pleased to present concurrent exhibitions of photography: **Sachiko Morita**: *Gelatin Silver Prints on Watercolor Paper* and **Charles Jones** (British, 1866-1959): *early 20th century of gold-toned gelatin silver prints*. A separate press release is available for Charles Jones.

This exhibition is the first one-person exhibition in America of **Sachiko Morita**, the Japanese-born photographer living in France. Growing or finding flowers, vegetables, and fungi in her village garden or market in the small town of Angers, Morita has focused her work for years on fresh produce. Back in her studio, she isolates a freshly picked blossom or root vegetable to study its structure in an intimate portrayal enriched by her painterly photographic process.

Using natural light and a film camera, Morita photographs each plant specimen against a black or white background. After developing the film, she paints the photosensitive emulsion with a calligraphic gesture on absorbent matte watercolor paper. She then processes the print under her antique enlarger. Her technique highlights the artist's hand. Each print is unique with tonal variations modulated from the thickness and spread of the emulsion she applies. Characteristic of East Asian ink brush painting, Morita's process explores the infinite shades of black.

As a naturalist-gardener Morita documents a wide variety of horticultural forms under gentle light. Under her lens, a fennel bulb, a single dandelion, or lily of the valley become subjects of their own dramas. Shooting each specimen up close Morita choreographs a branch of artichokes, a peony, and a poppy in balletic poses. The hydrangea and hollyhock perform startling silhouettes of Noh actors on the dark stage.

Born in Fukui, Japan in 1973, Sachiko Morita now lives and works in Angers, France. She first trained as a sculptor and graduated from Musashino Arts University in Tokyo in 1997. She then moved to France to study at Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Nantes from 1999 to 2002, before being awarded a one-year residency at Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris from 2002 to 2003. Her photographs and sculptures have been shown across France and Japan.

For further information and reproduction-quality images, please contact Margo Hudson
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