

DINA MITRANI GALLERY | MIAMI

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image: Kanako Sasaki, *Ambassador*, from the series *Wanderlust*, 2004.

Dina Mitrani Gallery is pleased to present *Wanderlust*, a solo exhibition by Kanako Sasaki (Japan, 1976) opening on Saturday, September 11, 2010 at 7pm and on view through October 30.

“ . . . So we should cast off all gloomy thoughts about our earthy lot and enjoy the pleasures of snow, moon, flowers and autumn leaves and drinking wine; living our lives like a gourd bobbing buoyantly downstream. This is the floating world.” From the novels of c. 1665, Ukiyo Monogatari, “Tales of the Floating World.”

In her series *Wanderlust*, Kanako Sasaki explores her own imaginative world influenced by traditional Japanese novels, Ukiyo-e paintings and childhood memories. Within her surreal and eccentric settings, Sasaki’s characters, usually herself, evoke ideas of isolation, escape and uninhibited freedom. The juxtaposition of bleak emotion within a fantastical landscape leaves the viewer mesmerized with wonderment. Sasaki’s work also comments on issues such as the female experience, loss of innocence, hopeless romance and how Japanese culture is viewed from the outside.

Kanako Sasaki was educated at the Royal College of Art in London and received her MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York. She has had solo exhibitions in the US, Japan, Bolivia and Hungary and has been included in many international group exhibitions. She has participated in artist residencies in Iceland, Paris, Estonia, Vienna and New York and been awarded many fellowships and grants. She has also taught photography at CUNY Staten Island, NY and the International Summer School of Photography in Latvia.

Dina Mitrani Gallery opened in November 2008 and specializes in international contemporary photography. The gallery currently represents ten emerging and mid-career artists and is committed to promoting its artists, as well as working with independent curators to produce unique group exhibitions.

For more information, please contact dinamitrani@gmail.com.

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