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Hermitage Museum Showcases Work of Contemporary, Female Japanese Artist in Upcoming Exhibition: *Kazuko Mukoyama: Contemporary Perspectives, Ancient Traditions*

Norfolk, VA – This winter, the Hermitage Museum & Gardens, in collaboration with Old Dominion University, presents [Kazuko Mukoyama: Contemporary Perspectives, Ancient Traditions](http://www.hermitagemuseum.org). The exhibition showcases the work of this significant, contemporary, female Japanese artist in the United States for the first time. The exhibition is on display from December 11th through February 26th.

Contemporary Perspectives, Ancient Traditions focuses on the juxtaposition of old and new cultural perspectives in Mukoyama's paintings. The artist has been described as a modern practitioner of a venerable painting tradition in Japanese art. Her works draw on the distinguished tradition of Japanese ink painting and reflect its most profound principle; direct and honest self-reflection.

The paintings selected for this exhibition were created in response to the trauma of the Kobe earthquake of 1995. Mukoyama's paintings do not show the tragic aftermath of the disaster. Instead, she reaches to the subconscious with dreamlike imagery. Working with harsh, raw lines, she stabs the paper with dry brushes creating images of sharp mountain crags. The intensity and the humanity of Mukoyama's work extends across cultures.

A members-only opening reception will be held Thursday, December 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Visit www.thfm.org for more information on Museum membership.

For additional information on the exhibition, *Kazuko Mukoyama: Contemporary Perspectives, Ancient Traditions*, contact Kate Gebler, Public Programs Manager, at 757-423-205 x207 or kg@thfm.org.

The Hermitage offers 45-minute guided tours, on the hour, of fifteen galleries filled with the Sloane family world-wide art collection, furniture, and history in this Norfolk historic home. The Visual Arts School houses classrooms, a complete ceramics studio, and darkroom photography facilities. Open daily 10-5, Sundays 1-5-closed Wednesdays and Thursdays. Free for Museum Members, children under 6, and Active Duty military. Admission: \$5 for Adults, \$2 for ages 6-18, and \$3 for students. For more information on the museum and membership offerings call 757-423-2052 or visit www.thfm.org.

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For high resolution images contact Matt Serino, Marketing Manager, at 757-423-2052 x 208 or ms@thfm.org.