

HAWAII'S LUXURY



SHOPPING DESTINATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NASHIMOTO & ASSOCIATES
1833 KALAKAUA AVENUE, SUITE 201
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815
PHONE: (808) 955-9361
FAX: (808) 955-9742
EMAIL: INFO@NASHIMOTO.COM

Luxury Row

2100 Kalakaua Avenue
Waikiki

SAVE THE DATE

**LUXURY ROW
AND
SATORU ABE**

PRESENT

**SATORU ABE
72 YEARS OF CREATIVITY**

AT
**LUXURY ROW
2100 KALAKAUA AVENUE
WAIKIKI, HAWAII**

**FROM WEDNESDAY, JULY 24TH, 2019, 5:00 PM OPENING RECEPTION
THROUGH THURSDAY AUGUST 15TH, 2019**

THE EXHIBIT WILL BE OPEN DAILY TO THE PUBLIC FROM 12:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

LUXURY ROW — “WHERE FASHION MEETS ART” - AT 2100 KALAKAUA AVENUE
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE ARTS IN WAIKIKI

WAIKIKI, HI — THE OWNERS OF **LUXURY ROW** ARE PROUD TO HOST A LIFETIME RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBIT FOR WORLD-RENOWNED ARTISTIC LEGEND **SATORU ABE**, FROM JULY 24 TO AUGUST 15, CELEBRATING **72 YEARS OF HIS CREATIVITY**, SPANNING FROM AGE 21 TO 93. KNOWN AS “THE GODFATHER OF HONOLULU’S ART SCENE,” MR. ABE WILL WORK AT LUXURY ROW DAILY, GIVING GUESTS THE RARE OPPORTUNITY TO WITNESS MR. ABE CREATING NEW WORKS OF ART AND TO MEET MR. ABE IN PERSON, WHILE THEY TOUR THE EXHIBIT.

IN 1950, AT AGE 24, **SATORU ABE** HELD HIS FIRST SOLO SHOW AT THE HISTORIC **GIMA’S ART GALLERY** AT 2141 KALAKAUA AVENUE, DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM **LUXURY ROW**. NOW, AT AGE 93, HIS LIFE HAS COME FULL CIRCLE WITH HIS LIFE’S RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBIT BACK IN **WAIKIKI**. MR. ABE HAS ALSO BEEN EXHIBITED AT WORLD-RENOWNED MUSEUMS INCLUDING MOMA, THE WHITNEY MUSEUM, TOKYO CENTRAL MUSEUM, CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM, HONOLULU AND VIRGINIA MUSEUM, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

“IT SEEMED DESTINED THAT MR. ABE SHOULD RETURN TO THE LOCATION OF HIS FIRST SHOW 69 YEARS AGO, JUST ACROSS THE STREET FROM LUXURY ROW. WE ARE HONORED TO HOST THIS LIVING LEGEND’S LIFE RETROSPECTIVE. I WAS ENTHRALLED TO MEET MR. ABE AT OUR 2009 EVENT AND EVEN MORE EXCITED TO EXPERIENCE HIS CREATING NEW WORKS OF ART AT **LUXURY ROW**”, SAYS LUXURY ROW’S CO-OWNER, **ROBERT SIEGEL**. **LUXURY ROW** CELEBRATED **SATORU ABE IN 2009, TOGETHER** WITH ARTISTS, **ROBERT KOBAYASHI** AND

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HARRY TSUCHIDANA AT LUXURY ROW'S **CHANEL BOUTIQUE'S MODERN MASTERS SHOW**. OTHER LOCAL ARTISTS WERE ALSO FEATURED IN THE OTHER FASHION BOUTIQUES, INCLUDING **GUCCI** AND **SAINT LAURENT**. THE OWNERS OF LUXURY ROW SEEK TO FURTHER STIMULATE CULTURAL AWARENESS OF HAWAII'S ART BY COMBINING FASHION AND ART WITH "FASHION MEETS ART".

BORN IN HONOLULU, MR. ABE STUDIED UNDER **SHIRLEY RUSSELL** AT MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL; STUDIED AT **CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS**; THEN THE **ART STUDENTS LEAGUE** IN NEW YORK CITY, AND STUDIED UNDER **GEORGE GROSZ, AND LOUIS BOUCHE**. THERE HE MET HIS WIFE, **RUTH TANJI** OF WAHIAWA.

IN 1950, HE RETURNED TO HONOLULU WHERE HE HAD HIS FIRST EXHIBITION, AND HIS DAUGHTER, **GAIL**, WAS BORN. THAT SAME YEAR, HE MET HIS MENTOR, THE OLDER ACCOMPLISHED ARTIST, **ISAMI DOI**, AND FELLOW ARTISTS **BUMPEI AKAJI, TETSUO OCHIKUBO, JERRY OKIMOTO** AND **TADASHI SATO**, WHO WOULD BECOME LIFE-LONG FRIENDS.

IN 1951, MR. ABE LEARNED WELDING FROM AKAJI, CREATED HIS FIRST SCULPTURE, AND PARTICIPATED IN A THREE-PERSON EXHIBITION AT **THE HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ART**.

MR. ABE SPENT THE FOLLOWING YEAR IN JAPAN, STUDYING HIS ROOTS, PAINTING AND EXHIBITING AT **KOFU-KAI** AND **TAKEMIYA** GALLERIES IN TOKYO. HE RETURNED TO HONOLULU, AND DEVELOPED HIS FIRST BODY OF WORK, *WHITE PAINTINGS*.

IN 1954, AKAJI, WITH ABE, RENTED A HOUSE SLATED FOR DEMOLITION ON METCALF STREET IN HONOLULU, TO STAGE THEIR JOINT ART EXHIBIT AMONG SEVEN FRIENDS--ALL ASIAN AMERICANS.

THEY PROUDLY CALLED THEMSELVES **METCALF CHATEAU**, WHOSE MEMBERS, ALONG WITH MR. **ABE** AND **AKAJI**, WERE **OCHIKUBO, OKIMOTO, SATO, EDMUND CHUNG, AND JAMES PARK**. THE EXHIBITION WAS SEEN BY **ROBERT GRIFFIN**, DIRECTOR OF THE **HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS** (NOW **HONOLULU MUSEUM OF ART**) AND, WITHIN TWO MONTHS, THE **METCALF CHATEAU** HAD THEIR SHOW AT THE **HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS**.

IN 1956, MR. ABE RETURNED TO NEW YORK AND BEGAN A LONG-TERM ASSOCIATION WITH **SCULPTURE CENTER**, WITH FOUR SOLO EXHIBITIONS THERE OVER THE DECADE.

1959 WAS A MONUMENTAL YEAR. MR. ABE WAS SELECTED FOR THE **NEW TALENT** EXHIBITION BY **ART IN AMERICA**. HIS SCULPTURE WAS ON THE COVER OF **ART IN AMERICA MAGAZINE**; HIS WORK WAS ACCEPTED IN THE **MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (MOMA)** AND WAS FEATURED IN **TIME MAGAZINE**.

IN 1961, THE **WHITNEY MUSEUM** IN NEW YORK PURCHASED MR. ABE'S SCULPTURE, *TWIN TREES*, FOR THEIR PERMANENT COLLECTION. HIS PIECES ARE IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS WORLDWIDE, AND HIS COMMISSIONED WORKS CAN BE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS AND IN HIROSHIMA, JAPAN.

IN 1970, A GRANT FROM THE **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS** ALLOWED MR. ABE TO BECOME THE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE IN WAIANAE, HAWAII, AND WORKED ON HIS FIRST **STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND ARTS (SFCA)** COMMISSION FOR NANAKULI HIGH SCHOOL. HE LIVED IN WAIANAE FOR THE NEXT FOURTEEN YEARS AND WAS FILMED FOR ARTISTS IN HAWAII - SATORU ABE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **HAWAII'S PUBLIC TELEVISION** IN 1984.

IN 1986 MR. ABE EXHIBITED HIS FIRST SERIES OF 200 MINIATURE COPPER CUTOUTS AT BISHOP SQUARE IN HONOLULU AND BEGAN HIS MASTERPIECE SERIES.

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MR. ABE OPENED HIS OWN GALLERY, "**SATORU'S ART GALLERY**," IN DOWNTOWN HONOLULU IN 2003. THEN, IN 2006, HE MOVED IT TO MO'ILI'ILI UNTIL IT CLOSED IN 2014.

HIS LIFETIME OF ARTISTIC GENIUS WAS HONORED IN 2013 AT THE ANNUAL **ART AT THE CAPITOL** IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE **HAWAII STATE ART MUSEUM**.

"**WHEEL No 2**" FROM THE WHEEL SERIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY FROM THE COLLECTION OF CLAYTON AND LYNETTE HONBO AS WELL AS HIS SCULPTURE, "**WEBBED TREE**" THAT WAS FEATURED AT **MoMA** AND **TIME MAGAZINE** IN 1959. THE 1984 VIDEO, **ARTISTS OF HAWAI'I - SATORU ABE** WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EXHIBIT FOR VIEWING AS WELL.

OTHER SOLO SHOWS:

- SCULPTURE CENTER, NYC (1956-1965)
- VIRGINIA MUSEUM, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA (1962)
- CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER (1982)
- TOKYO CENTRAL MUSEUM (1986)
- THE CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM, HONOLULU (1988)
- 50-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE, THE CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM, HONOLULU (1998)
- SCULPTURE EXHIBITION, JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER OF HAWAII (2010)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

"GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP", 1963; "LIVING TREASURE", HAWAII HONPA HONGWANJI (1984); MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL "HALL OF HONOR" (1987); "KOA OUTSTANDING ARTIST", KOA GALLERY (1997); "HONOR OF A LIFETIME OF ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE", HONOLULU JAPANESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (2006); "ALFRED PREIS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS", ARTS ALLIANCE, (2007); "CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD", JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER (2010)

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

SATORU ABE; ROBERT SIEGEL - LUXURY ROW CO-OWNER; JOHN KOGA - CURATOR; JOYCE OKANO - EXHIBIT CO-ORDINATOR



SATORU ABE, AGE 93, WORKS DAILY AT HIS STUDIO, CUTTING AND WELDING COPPER AND BRONZE FOR HIS SCULPTURES

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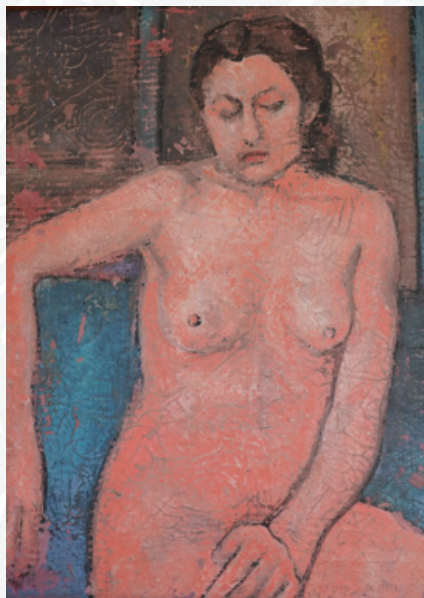
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WHEEL NO 5 FROM THE WHEEL COLLECTION, STATE FOUNDATION OF CULTURE AND ARTS
WELDED COPPER AND BRONZE; 1979; PHOTO CREDIT; FRANK SOJKA



UNTITLED 1948

OIL ON CANVAS

SIZE: 19"(W) X 25"(H)

PAINTING OF A STUDENT MODEL WHILE AT ART STUDENT'S LEAGUE

PHOTO CREDIT: GAIL GOTO

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THREE MOURNERS
1955

OIL ON CANVAS
SIZE: 56"(W) x 38-1/1"(H)
PHOTO CREDIT: GAIL GOTO



REACHING UP
1948

PAINTED IN SF
20" x 24"
OIL PAINTING

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