

# RH GALLERY

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**ORANGE SKY** and **THE SALON**

January 19 – March 1, 2011

Opening Reception to be held on Tuesday, January 18, 6-9pm

137 Duane Street, New York, NY 10013



**New York** - RH Gallery is pleased to present *Orange Sky*, featuring new works by Atsushi Fukui, Hideaki Kawashima, Naoki Koide and Katrina Vonnegut. Concurrently, *The Salon* will be on view in the back room with works by Lynn Chadwick, Alex Katz, Henry Moore, Robert Motherwell, Muntean / Rosenblum, David Nash and Tony Scherman.

Atsushi Fukui, born in 1966, is based in Tokyo. Inspired by renowned comic artists Moebius and Richard Corben, Fukui paints scenes where in the atmospheric landscape is the protagonist. Rendered with a flat graphic light, the images reflect a subconscious exploration of the world expressing meaning in surprising elements of color, movement and form. This exhibition is named after the orange sky in Fukui's *Untitled* painting from 2009, pictured above, because it represents the sense of both spirituality and playfulness intrinsic to the works in the show.

Also from the same generation and based in Tokyo, Hideaki Kawashima was born in 1969. Influenced by his studies with Yoshitomo Nara, Kawashima created his own style and population of characters recognizable foremost for their deep, haunting eyes. Recently, however, Kawashima has transformed his figures. Their previously amoebic bodies have become more figurative and their features more defined, yet they still appear to be descending from another world. The two years Kawashima spent serving as a Buddhist monk inspired the reverence with which he crafts these beings that are perhaps part human and part Buddha.

Naoki Koide was born in 1968 in the Aichi Prefecture and currently lives in Chiba, Japan. In *Orange Sky*, Koide presents *Pine* from 2010, a ceramic sculpture depicting a figure embedded in a pine tree. This work is from a recent series of ceramics depicting people, animals and nature present in the artist's own life. Rather than simply recreating his own surroundings, Koide renders them universally familiar by playfully invoking a childlike innocence in their form and expression.

Katrina Vonnegut was born in 1986 in Vermont and currently lives in Brooklyn. Vonnegut, like Fukui, Koide and Kawashima, playfully strips down the layers of her subjects to create imaginative, other-worldly forms. Inspired by the qualities of space-dyed textiles, chain, concrete and wood 2x4s, her new series of furniture and sculptures emphasizes the raw expression of materials. A room divider, a chair and various abstract sculptures are constructed with metal and knitted dyed rope or yarn. Her transformable coffee table is built with ash partly dyed with a translucent black pigment that reveals the grain even as it transforms the wood into an abstract ink painting.

In the back room, RH Gallery is proud to present a selection of modern masters and contemporary artists in *The Salon*. Spanning the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, this exhibition includes painting, photography, sculpture and works on paper by a selection of artists from China, Europe and North America. This unique exhibition encourages dialog between artists never before seen in the same space creating new meaning and understanding.

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**RH Gallery:** 137 Duane Street New York, NY 10013. Tuesday – Saturday: 11am-7pm, Sunday 12pm – 6pm.

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