



## BUN, Kyoto

Roger Ballen/ Adam Fuss/ Jonathan Hammer/ Kanjiro Kawai/ Klara Kristalova  
Carol McNicoll/ Myriam Mechita/ Vik Muniz/ Maria Murayama/ Aiko Tsumori/ KazuoYagi

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 13, 2019, 4:30-6:00 PM

Saturday, April 13 - May 11, 2019

381-2 Motomachi, Higashi-iru, Yamato Oji, Furumonzen-dori, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto

Myriam Mechita, *Bunny eyes*, 2018, Ceramic and glass, H20 x W25 x D30 cm, Courtesy Sokyo Gallery

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April 10, 2019

Press Release

Sokyo Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition *BUN*, a group show exploring the potent symbolism and imagery of the bunny rabbit. Artists on exhibition include Roger Ballen, Adam Fuss, Jonathan Hammer, Kanjiro Kawai, Klara Kristalova, Carol McNicoll, Myriam Mechita, Vik Muniz, Maria Murayama, Aiko Tsumori and KazuoYagi.

Some of the artists will be the first time to show in Japan. With artists from Japan, France, Czechoslovakia, the United Kingdom, the Americas and Brazil, the exhibition takes a cross-cultural look beyond the traditional notions of innocence and fertility into each artist's highly specific meaning.

Adam Fuss provides a meditation on fertility and death, beauty and disgust, as his photographic plate decorated with rabbit entrails creates an undeniably aesthetic and sensual image. Indeed, the rabbit's traditional associations with childhood, shyness and sexuality serve as fodder for a wide range of artistic explorations. BUN aims to articulate a collective portrait of the rabbit by exhibiting the diverse approaches of artists to the subject matter.

Representation of the rabbit has a long history, stretching back to its foundational modern image created by Albrecht Dürer. Dürer's rabbit has a mysterious, grounded gaze, focused down at the worldly rather than up toward transcendence in the sky. It is connected to the land, an herbivore embedded in, not atop, the food chain. Yet the rabbit is frequently anthropomorphized as an animal of civility. Many of the strongest associations with rabbits are forged in childhood, through stories like *Alice's Adventure in Wonderland*, Brier Rabbit, the Easter Bunny and the Tortoise and the Hare. However, rabbits are killed and eaten as game animals, while simultaneously representing maternal power.

In the exhibition, the viewers join and create a part of the show by bringing objects and thought that associate with rabbits.

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Gallery hours: 10:00 AM-6:00 PM