

BURNABY ART GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2014

OFFSITE EXHIBITION



Linda Ohama

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
6450 Deer Lake Ave
May 7-June 2, 2014

Works Shown:

Obachan's Smile, screenprint, 1981, 50 x 32 cm
Inherited Gifts, screenprint with chine colle, 1981, 57 x 76.5. Both are from the Malaspina Printshop Archives of the City of Burnaby Permanent Art Collection. Gift of Milton and Fei Wong.

Obachan's Garden, 2001, 94 minutes, colour, super-16mm with 35 mm blow-up, the National Film Board of Canada.

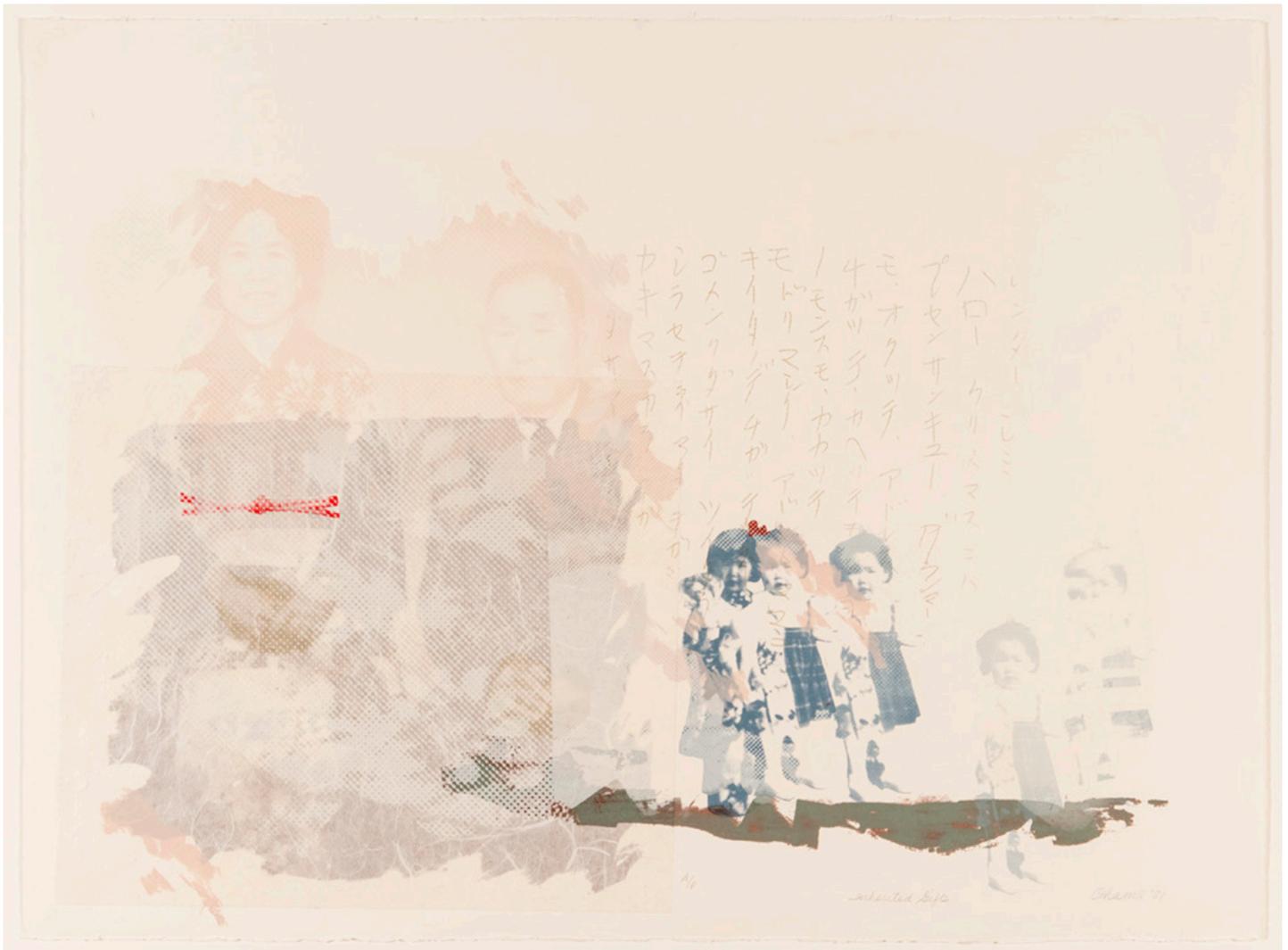
Linda Ohama, *Obachan's Smile*, screenprint, 1981, 50 x 32 cm. From the Malaspina Printshop Archives of the City of Burnaby Permanent Art Collection. Gift of Milton and Fei Wong.

BURNABY, BC – Celebrating Asian Heritage Month, the gallery is proud to exhibit two works by award winning director/producer and visual artist, Linda Ohama. Born and raised on a potato farm in Rainier, Alberta, Ohama is a third generation Japanese-Canadian. Many of Ohama's works focuses on the themes of cultural heritage and family, like *Watari Dori (A Bird of Passage)* a print made in support of the Redress campaign for Japanese Canadians. The two featured works, *Obachan's Smile* and *Inherited Gifts* tell the story of her grandmother Asayo Murakami, the central narrative of Ohama's 2001 documentary, *Obachan's Garden*.

"In 1923, Asayo Murakami left Hiroshima and settled in a fishing village in Steveston, BC. Her family remembers a happy woman who sang, danced and nurtured a colorful flower garden, but underneath, the memory of what she left in Japan haunted her deeply.

Delicately peeling back the layers of her grandmother's life, filmmaker Linda Ohama discovers a painful, buried past. In poignant interviews, Asayo, now 103 years old, recalls life in Japan, her arrival in Canada as a "picture bride", her determination to marry a man of her choice, the bombing of Hiroshima and the forced relocation of her family during World War II." – *Obachan's Garden*, 2001.

The documentary film will be shown at the Burnaby Art Gallery's turret room starting May 24 to June 2.
www.lindaohama.com



Linda Ohama, *Inherited Gifts*, screenprint with chine colle, 1981, 57 x 76.5. From the Malaspina Printshop Archives of the City of Burnaby Permanent Art Collection. Gift of Milton and Fei Wong.

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The Burnaby Art Gallery's Offsite Exhibition Series showcases artwork from local, emerging artists, as well as nationally-known, established artists. For additional artist's talks and events in this series visit: www.burnabyartgallery.ca

MEDIA CONTACT

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The Burnaby Art Gallery is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting a contemporary and historical visual art program by local, national and internationally recognized artists. As the stewards of the third largest public art museum collection within the Province of British Columbia, the Burnaby Art Gallery cares for and manages over 4,000 works of art. The Burnaby Art Gallery is a nationally recognized leader in print culture dedicated to showcasing original hand-pulled prints and ephemera related to printmaking in Canada.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, and tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit www.burnabyartgallery.ca. Located in the beautiful surroundings of Deer Lake Park, the Burnaby Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am to 4:30pm, Saturday and Sunday, 12noon to 5:00pm, closed Mondays. Exhibitions and public programs are by donation; suggested donation is \$5. Parking is free.

The Burnaby Art Gallery acknowledges the generous support provided by: the City of Burnaby; the British Columbia Arts Council; the Province of British Columbia, its patrons and visitors.