

Yamamoto Masao
Kawa
May 8 - June 21 2009
Opening: May 7 18-21h

Fifty One Fine Art Photography is pleased to present to you the new solo exhibition by photographer **Masao Yamamoto**, titled *Kawa*.

The title of the series, *Kawa*, means flow and covers the idea of the world we are in now and the world we will know in the future. The artist uses as titles for his shows consequently words from the Japanese Buddhism, which can be seen as the basic idea for his artworks.

The photographs in this exhibition display images of sudden encounters and mysterious phenomena we could come across on a walk through the woods. The artist captures images of an enchanted world that evokes dreams and memories. The real power of the works by Yamamoto Masao is that they make dreams possible.

Yamamoto Masao (°1957, Japan) is known for his experimental, blurred photographs with tenderly frayed edges, rips and bent corners that make every image look like an aged and damaged yet unique photograph.

He is clearly not interested in conveying optical information with the highest technical standards, since his photographs are an ideal example for the refusal of this standardised perfection.

Originally, he is a trained painter. However, now he uses only photography as a tool for arresting and manipulating time to poetic images that evoke nostalgic memories with the viewer. His pictures look simplistic and well balanced but occasionally they push these formal elements successfully to the edge.

As can be discovered in previous work by the artist, each image has a very autonomous touch but at the same time it seems to be inherently part of a universal visual language. Masao Yamamoto finds it difficult to describe his artworks; he wants the viewer not to understand the work but just to experience its formal qualities and references.

Although the work of Yamamoto Masao has already been shown in a group exhibition in the gallery, this is the first time Fifty One Fine Art Photography exhibits a solo show by this artist.

Fifty One Fine Art Photography kindly invites you to the opening on Thursday the 7th of May.

