

Monica Jahan Bose

Tokyo Scenes: Intersections, Balconies, and Interiors
Acrylics on Paper

Ever since her first trip to Tokyo in 1994, Monica Jahan Bose has been fascinated with the visual stimulation of this jumble of odd-shaped buildings, overhead bridges, protruding telephone poles, hanging wires, narrow alleys, and angled roads that make up this city we live in. She sees bright, energetic colors in the patterns and shapes of this complex metallic and concrete jungle interspersed with pockets of greenery in surprising niches. Monica's paintings play with the urban landscape as she records the vi-



which time she often painted out of doors. Finally, Monica went to law school at Columbia University, and has worked as an attorney, both in the U. S. and in Japan. But painting is what she always does.

In Tokyo, Monica has chosen to work only part-time in the

law pro-

fession to allow herself more time for painting. Here she has been recording scenes of Tokyo's cross-roads: bridges, intersections, and busily patterned streets. With her multiple-culture eyes, Monica observes that pedestrian bridges are found commonly in cities throughout Asia, but not often in Western countries. From the height of these bridges for people, street scenes look different. Traffic flows underneath, not alongside, the pedestrian. Her paintings present this slightly distant view of the pavements and all the clutter and movement in sight.

Monica likes to paint with acrylics on paper because of its absor-

b e n c y . These materials allow her to express herself immediately. "Acrylics dry quickly and can be layered to give me a variety of textures and results," she explains. Her landscapes and still-lives are filled with the interplay of light and shadow, repetitions of regular but altered patterns, and

Hisaya Ide
Ceramics
February 7-20
Reception: Monday, February 7, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

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February 21 - March 5, 2000
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Sales start at 6 p.m. on the first day of each exhibit.

Genkan Gallery



strong contrasting colors juxtaposed as if with abandon. Her paintings also shine with brightness of the sun as well as the strong colors she endows to spaces. Here Monica admits to the influence of the plethora of rich colors she came across in India.

Having recently become a mother, Monica's hands are full, not only with the loving care of her beautiful daughter, but quite likely she is also busily painting portraits of little Tuli, named after the Bengali word which means "artist's paint brush".

Please join the Genkan Gallery to warmly welcome one of its own committee members at the Opening Reception of Monica Jahan Bose's exhibition on February 21, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

brant life of the Big Mikan.

Born in England, but raised in the United States as well as in Bangladesh, Monica has always loved to paint. At the age of 7, she won a United Nations sponsored children's art competition in Bangladesh for her painting of a women's rights rally. She continued painting throughout her high school years in Bethesda, Maryland, and then at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, she majored in Art. She also attended graduate school in art at Viswabharati University in India, during

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