

Sharon Yamamoto

HER NEW EXHIBITION DEBUTS IN NOVEMBER



Looking, Listening II, oil on canvas, 54" x 72". All images courtesy of and © Sharon Yamamoto.



top: *Nesting, Flying*, oil on canvas, 46" x 34".
bottom: *A Changing Wind*, oil on canvas, 18" x 24".

When viewed at length, Sharon Yamamoto's one-dimensional, sometimes misshapen people and animals begin to seem less like naive folk art and more like Jungian symbols stolen from a fever dream. Her archetypal images invite the viewer to participate in the creation of a narrative of her work. In one painting, a blockish woman looks wistfully after a graceful swan, recalling the story of *The Ugly Duckling*. In another work, a solid woman cradles her fragile child as a bird of portent flies away overhead. Yamamoto's a mother herself — she lived in London, England from 1969-1995 and raised her kids there — and in her art she's cap-

tured that universal fear and pride that every parent feels when their progeny leave the nest. Yamamoto is an old friend of — and her work is a personal favorite of — Art Connoisseur publisher Avi Amiel.

-- Stephen Johnson

See Sharon Yamamoto's work at Ryals's Gallery, Boca Raton, Fla., November 1-30, 1999, and attend a reception for the artist on November 6, 5-8pm. For more images and information, see Yamamoto's web site www.artist-miami.com