

ARTSCENE™

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Jun Kaneko: *Mirage*

By Genie Davis

Jun Kaneko's *Mirage* appears to be just that, images so impossible and arresting that we stop to take it all in. One of the most visually pleasurable and immersive exhibitions I've seen recently, Kaneko's large-scale works are astonishing in their complexity. This represents the first solo exhibition of both painting and sculpture by the Japanese born, Omaha based artist who is well-known for his acceptance of visual challenges in both his paintings and ceramic works.

The large scale *Mirage* consists of nine acrylic on canvas works displayed in on continuous, sinuous curve. A site specific installation, this piece covers 63-feet with arrangements of 9-foot-tall paintings. As we walk into the gallery's long display space, the immediate impact of color is powerful, a world based on a vivid palette of reds, oranges, yellows and golds, with color deepening toward reds as the installation proceeds. Also featured are black and white ceramic sculptures. One piece, *Untitled, Dango*, towers alongside *Mirage*, the juxtaposition creating the feeling of a monolith from an ancient civilization. Smaller ceramic works, still powerful given the diminished scale, are also on display.