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OFFICE OF  
COMMUNICATIONS

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## **The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs Announces *We Were Made from Shadows* Exhibition by Hirona and Riki Matsuda**

**Charleston, S.C.**—The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs presents ***We Were Made from Shadows***, featuring large-scale installations and assemblage works by artists Hirona and Riki Matsuda, on view August 23 through September 10, 2023, at City Gallery, located at 34 Prioleau Street.

The public is invited to attend a complimentary reception celebrating the opening of the new exhibition on Thursday, August 31 from 5 to 7 p.m. at City Gallery.

***We Were Made from Shadows*** is a body of site-specific installation and assemblage works using primarily found and salvaged objects that highlight the balance between light, shadow, texture and scale. The exhibition is based on a project the artists, sisters Hirona and Riki, have been developing for more than a decade rooted in themes they observed growing up together in their Charlotte, NC childhood home.

This exhibition focuses mainly on Hirona's interpretation of these childhood themes and her relationship to growing up in a house where the family business was the central focus of daily life. Several of the concepts were created by Riki and Hirona while living together in Charleston and Ireland, and most of the works feature found materials from personal collections of objects taken from their childhood home.

Those interested in viewing the upcoming exhibition are invited to visit City Gallery Wednesday through Sunday between 12 and 5 p.m. Gallery admission is free, and walk-ins are welcome.

For more information on the gallery and other upcoming exhibitions, please visit [www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery](http://www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery) or call 843-958-6484.

### **About the artists:**

#### **Hirona Matsuda**

Hirona Matsuda is an Irish-Japanese artist living and working in Charleston, SC. Her work focuses on our relationship to the environment in which we exist. Her found object miniatures capture a visual experience while her kinetic work and installations aim to recall a felt moment by enhancing the space using sound, light and movement.

#### **Riki Matsuda**

Riki Matsuda is a Japanese-Irish artist based at Sample-Studios in Cork, Ireland. Her work plays with miscommunication, and utilizes minimal linework and text to create visual poetry. Matsuda has built an approachable language based on the limitations she experienced being raised in a culturally mixed environment. Her work is a recording of these observations and her newfound awareness of the nuance and humor found in misunderstanding.

## **About City Gallery**

City Gallery, located at Joe Riley Waterfront Park, is owned by the City of Charleston and operated by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs. It presents an annual program of exhibitions and events featuring the finest contemporary art from local, regional, national and international artists, with a focus on the Lowcountry. City Gallery is located at 34 Prioleau St. in downtown Charleston, and gallery hours of operation are noon until 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. For more information and holiday closures, please visit [www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery](http://www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery) or call 843-958-6484.

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