

The Boston Globe

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ARTS

Theater • Dance • Galleries • Museums

FRI 11·25

ALISON MORITSUGU: NATURAL PERSPECTIVES

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art, 14 Newbury St.,
Boston. Through Dec. 3. 617-424-8468.
www.judygoldmanfineart.com

Alison Moritsugu seeks to reclaim landscape painting for the land in her show at Judy

GALLERY PICK Ann Goldman Fine Art. In her artist's statement, she argues that Hudson River School painters and their ilk politicized landscape by portraying it as bountiful, limitless, and made for the poaching. Moritsugu's landscapes echo those ideas while cleverly subverting them, as when she steps out of the frame and paints directly on tree slices edged with bark (including "Large Catalpa Slice II," at right). Most of her landscapes are assembled out of many small painted disks, arrayed in circles and figure eights to convey a fragmented picture where familiar things end up in unfamiliar places – like the sky at the bottom. Yet she never loses her sense of the whole, effectively placing the viewer between the metaphorical forest and the trees. She doesn't exactly take back the land – no artist could ever do that – but she makes you think about it.

CATE MCQUAID

