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BLOSSOMING CHERRY TREES PHOTO: NIZUHO MATSUMIYA. PAPER CHERRY BLOSSOMS PHOTO: JUDIE HELL.



FULL BLOOM

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY BRITTANY S. CHEVALIER

"BETWEEN OUR TWO LIVES THERE IS ALSO THE LIFE OF THE CHERRY BLOSSOM." THIS STATEMENT MADE BY 17TH-CENTURY JAPANESE POET MATSUO BASH CONVEYS THE SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE OF THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE, REFERRED TO AS SAKURA, TO THE PEOPLE OF HIS NATIVE COUNTRY. EACH YEAR, INDIVIDUALS GATHER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TO WITNESS THESE TREES' BRILLIANT YET EPHEMERAL BLOOMS, WHICH SERVE AS A REMINDER OF NATURE'S EXQUISITE, ALBEIT FLEETING, BEAUTY. IN HONOR OF SPRING'S RETURN, THE PIECES FOUND ON THIS PAGE CELEBRATE THESE PRECIOUS BUDS AS WELL AS THEIR EMBLEMATIC TIES TO THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND RENEWAL.



Clockwise from top left: Pagoda Earrings with Pink Opal Set in 18K Rose Gold / \$6,800 / mishnewyork.com. Balbec Fabric / Soleil Bleu Collection / thomaslavin.com. Blossoming Cherry Trees in Kitanagoya, Japan. Small Cherry Blossom Top-Handle Bag by Nancy Gonzalez / \$2,950 / neimanmarcus.com. Paper Cherry Blossoms by Livia Cetti / thegreenvase.com. Cherry Blossom Viewing (Part of Triptych) by Katsukawa Shunchō (ca. 1780-1795) at the Arthur M. Sackler and Freer Gallery of Art: the National Museums of Asian Art at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. / asia.si.edu. Falling Branch Credenza / \$6,750 / johnrichard.com.