



**Notre Dame** | CHIZURU MORII KAPLAN

Transparent watercolor with body color 555-lb. (1170gsm) rough paper  
29" x 41" (74m x 104cm)

Most of my work focuses on old European architecture. I am captivated not only by the beauty, but by all of the human conditions that echo in these buildings—glory, suffering, creation, sacrifice, joy, mystery, wisdom and dreams. I created a small, rough pencil sketch on site and worked from a photograph in the studio. For the dark shadows, I used many layers of watercolor to express the accumulation of history over the centuries. Where the strong sun was hitting, I simply left the paper white to express the contrast between the past (shadow) and present (sunlight). Both are alive in that moment.

*“To find an alternative approach,  
I splattered, dripped, glazed  
and layered watercolor paint.”*

—Chizuru Morii Kaplan