

Tamura Akihide Exhibition: Light of Dreams

Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, 2F Gallery

Period: Saturday, July 21–Sunday, September 23, 2012

The Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography is delighted to mount *Light of Dreams*, a solo exhibition by Tamura Akihide, a prominent photographer who has continued to exercise a significant influence on the history of contemporary Japanese photography since the 1970s.

Tamura Akihide (1947 –) is a photographer whose genius was recognized by Shigemori Koen, a photography critic who was also head of the Tokyo College of Photography, while Tamura was still a student there. His *BASE* series, composed of photographs of American military bases in Japan from the latter half of the 1960s and the first half of the 1970s, attracted early notice as utterly sensual images, free of social or political context. From that beginning, he went on to publish his work in camera magazines and other media.

In 1974, Tamura's *House* series, photographed using fixed-point observation, was included in the *New Japanese Photography* exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and selected by John Szarkowski, head of its Department of Photography, for the permanent collection. Today his work is in the collections of museums throughout the world.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Tamura energetically published a body of serious work documenting cityscapes in cities undergoing transformation. He has remained active at the forefront of contemporary photography in Japan throughout his career. This exhibition traces his creative achievements through 114 works, including his iconic masterwork, *BASE*, with its images of American bases in Japan, and unpublished work as well. It is a superb opportunity to experience Tamura's photographic world, unfading and vigorous now and into the future.

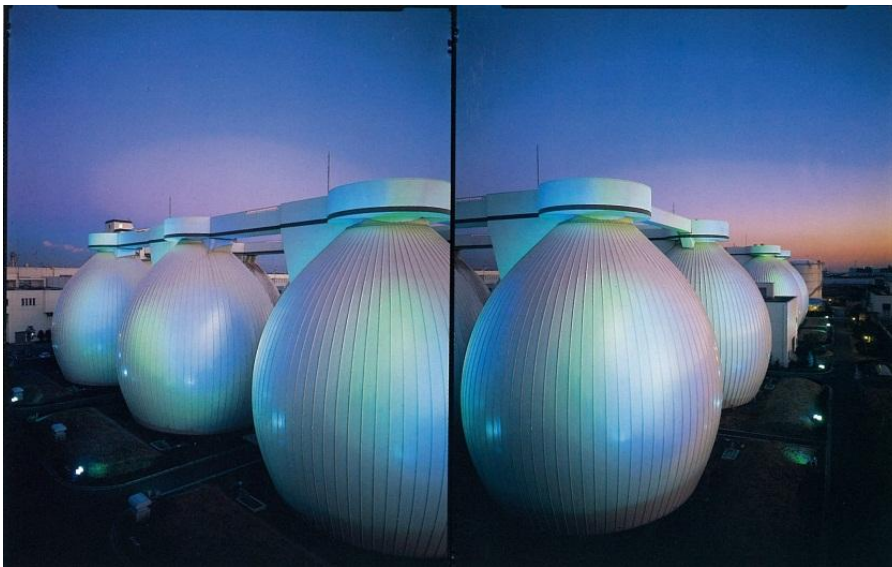
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- With the cooperation of Nippon Camera



from House, 22 June 1968, TMMP collection



from BASE, 2005-2012 Atsugi, 2009, private collection



From Wangan Tsurumi, 1992, private collection

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The museum is a 7-minute walk from the East Exit of JR Ebisu Station and a 10-minute walk from Ebisu Station on the Hibiya Line (Tokyo Metro). The museum does not have its own parking facilities. We ask that you not arrive by private automobile.

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