

Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography Special Exhibition for 2014-2015

Sato Tokihiro: Photo-Respiration (tentative title)

Dates: May 13 to July 13, 2014

Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography 2F Exhibition Gallery



From the Photo-Respiration series, 2013

Overview of the exhibition

Sato Tokihiro creates his work, taking light, time, space, and the body as his themes, using the pinhole camera, camera obscura, and long exposures. In his *Photo-Respiration* series, one of his masterworks, the artist himself walks in the scene opening out before the camera—the sea, a forest—carrying a mirror, and the light reflected from the mirror and faint traces of his own movements are captured on film or digital media. The specks of light in these landscapes, recorded using long exposures, create the world of mystery that is among the elements making this photographer a peerless presence in the visual arts.

Sato's domain includes not only two-dimensional works but also scenes changing with the passage of time or through movement, presented as installations, created using structures or vehicles modified to serve as camera devices. He is also deeply focused on the optical and chemical aspects that are indispensable in relation to the medium of photography, carrying out various explorations of them in order to turn his themes into works.

This exhibition will present a large number of new, two-dimensional works, mainly prints. In them we see Sato's continued development of the creative philosophy that he has engaged with and cultivated since the beginning of his career. In addition to works newly added to the Tokyo

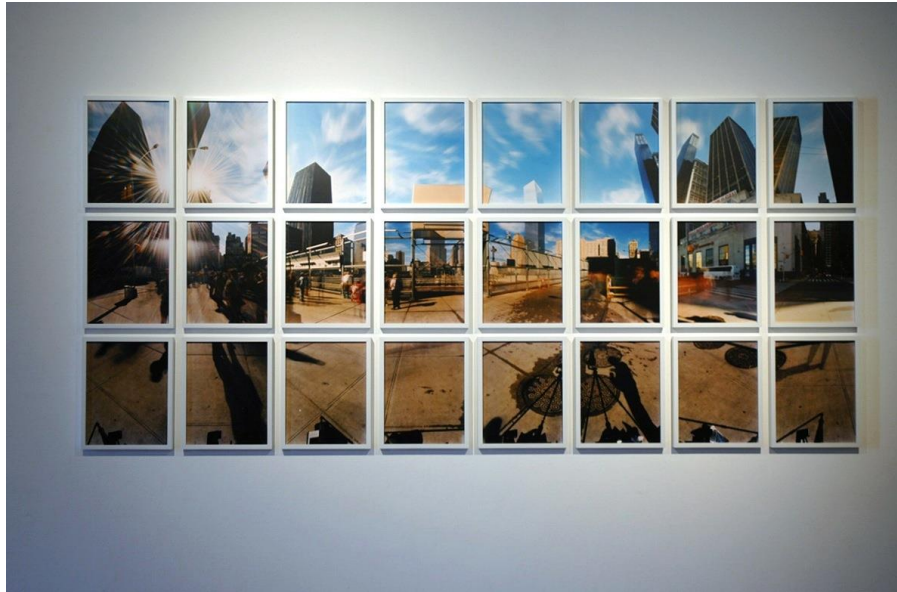
Metropolitan Museum of Photography collection, this ambitious exhibition will include the *Photo-Respiration* series and his latest work created using a digital pinhole camera.

Artist's biography

Born in 1957 in the city of Sakata, Yamagata Prefecture, Sato graduated with a major in sculpture from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Tokyo University of the Arts. In 1984, he completed a master's degree in sculpture at the same university. Given his university studies of sculpture, Sato's interest was directed, from early on, to light and space and three-dimensional spatial compositions using luminous bodies. After experimenting with painting and sculpture, he turned to photography. His highly distinctive work, in which he captures light and his own movements on film, using a penlight or a mirror, and long exposures, garnered considerable attention. In 1990, he received the sixth Higashikawa New Photographer Prize and was awarded three prizes at the 18th International Art Exhibition (the Tokyo Biennale): the Japan Association for Promotion of Arts Prize, the Iwaki City Art Museum Prize, and the Museum of Modern Art, Saitama, Prize. Highly regarded overseas as well, he has been invited to participate in the 5th Busan Youth Biennale, in 1990, the 1st Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (Brisbane, 1993), and the 6th Havana Biennale (1997). He has shown work in many major international exhibitions, including *Liquid Crystal Futures* (1994) and *Photography and Beyond in Japan* (1995). (Biography translated from Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, 328 *Outstanding Japanese Photographers* (Tokyo: Tankosha, 2000), p. 157.)



(Upper and lower images: from the *Photo-Respiration* series, 2013)



From the *Greening Light* series, 2004

Summary

Organizers: Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture; Yomiuri Shimbun-sha; the Japan Association of Art Museums

Dates: May 13 (Tuesday) to July 13 (Sunday), 2014

Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography 2F Exhibition Gallery

Sponsors: Lion Corporation, Shimizu Corporation, Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd., Sompo Japan Insurance, Inc., Nippon Television Network, Epson Sales Japan Corporation, and Friends of the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography

Tickets: ¥700 (¥560) general admission; ¥600 (¥480) university students; ¥500 (¥400) high school and middle school students and seniors (65 and above). (Figures in parentheses are for groups of 20 or more and for Friends of the Museum.) Free for elementary school aged and younger children and for persons with certified disabilities and their caregivers. Admission is free for seniors on the third Wednesday of each month.

Hours: 10:00 to 18:00 (until 20:00 on Thursdays and Fridays); last admission is 30 minutes before closing time.

Closed: Mondays (Tuesday if a holiday falls on a Monday)

For additional information

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