

TOP 30th Anniversary Takano Ryudai: kasubaba Living through the ordinary

Feb. 27, 2025 – Jun. 8

2002.09.08.M.#b08 from the series *Stand up, Kikuo!*,
2002 ©Takano Ryudai, Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba



The Tokyo Photographic Art Museum is pleased to present a solo exhibition of the photographer Takano Ryudai.

Since receiving the 31st Kimura Ihei Award in 2006 for his photo collection *IN MY ROOM*, Takano Ryudai (b. 1963) has presented numerous works through books and exhibitions, earning critical acclaim internationally as well as in Japan. In parallel with his explorations on the theme of sexuality, most prominently *IN MY ROOM*, Takano has also undertaken a series of ordinary snapshots known variously as his *Daily Snapshots* or *kasubaba*. Since the Tohoku earthquake of 2011, he has also been interrogating the roots of photography, using shadows as his subject. This exhibition follows the trajectory of Takano's career from early years up to the present, including works on public display for the first time.

The *kasubaba* of the title is a term coined by Takano. In 1998 he set himself the task of taking at least one photo every day, and he continues to point his camera at scenes encountered in daily life. From among these photos Takano presented a number taken in urban spaces as the *kasubaba* series. In *kasubaba* Takano accepts the quotidian settings of our everyday existence as indispensable elements of our lives, and commits to actively scrutinizing them, offering the viewer everyday unadorned scenes as raw, candid images.

Takano believes that turning our gaze to the ordinary and taking an interest in the little things outside ourselves, may be one approach to adopt for living through this world. Carefully studying the everyday, where everything is by no means beautiful, affirms the present in which we ourselves live, and confirms this moment of life. Hopefully this exhibition will offer some hints for making day-to-day life better as we live through an “extraordinary-adjacent ordinary” marked by major natural disasters, the spread of unforeseen infections, and rapidly changing social conditions.



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[1] 2015.10.28.#a28 from the series *kasubaba 2*, 2015

[2] 2023.03.24.sc.#048 from the series *CVD19*, 2023

[3] 2012.08.12.#b30 from the series *Daily Snapshots*, 2012

[4] 2019.12.31.P.#03 (*Distance*) from the series *Red Room Project*, 2019

[5] *Wearing a purple camisole with lace* (2005.01.09.L.#04) from the series *In My Room*, 2005

*All Works ©Takano Ryudai, Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates

Outline of exhibition

Exhibition Title: TOP 30th Anniversary Takano Ryudai: *kasubaba* Living through the ordinary

Dates: February 27, 2025 – June 8

Closed: Mondays (except when May 5), May 7.

Venue: 2F Exhibition Gallery, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum

Yebisu Garden Place, 1-13-3 Mita Meguro-ku Tokyo 153-0062

Open Hours: 10:00–18:00 (Thu. / Fri. 10:00–20:00) *Final admission 30 minutes before closing.

Admission: Adults ¥ 700/ College Students ¥ 560 / High School and Junior High School Students, Over 65 ¥ 350

*Admission is free for children in elementary school or younger; junior high school students living or attending schools in the Tokyo metropolitan area; holders of Japanese disability identification cards (*shogaisha techo*), along with up to two caregivers; and holders of the museum’s annual passport.

*Multiple discounts do not apply.

Curated by Miyuki Endo (Curator, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum)

Organized by Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

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For Press

If you have any press enquiries about this Exhibition, please contact our Department of Public Relations.

High-resolution images for publication are also available by e-mail.

press-info@topmuseum.jp

<https://topmuseum.jp/e/contents/index.html>