

- Where are you currently based and what themes do you usually explore within your work?

I am currently based in Tsudanuma, a town in Chiba prefecture about 30 minutes away by train from Tokyo. My themes are based on my wonder towards 'invisible border lines.' There are places where people can enter, and cannot enter in cities which human live. Where are those borderlines? Who makes them? Are we not making limits to the daily landscapes ourselves? What does 'common sense' mean?

- Can you tell us a bit about this series? How did it begin and what gave you the idea?

I originally was a climber. The first camera I bought was to document my free climbing activities, which then I found out that the photographs I take as a climber taken through my physical senses of a climber, were different from those taken by an ordinary photographer who do not do climbing. But I also noticed that photographs only capturing were difficult to explain that difference, when I showed my photographs to my friends and my family. Therefore, I decided to change my photographic objects from rocks to motifs in the public including lampposts and monuments, I could connect the gaps in between.

- Where and when were the images taken? Are they self-portraits?

I cannot precisely inform its locations, but some are in Chiba and some are in Tokyo. For people from overseas, Narita and Tokyo is the same (*1), and there also are areas which the local people of Chiba call as part of Tokyo too. Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu is located in Chiba, Lalaport Tokyobay (shopping mall) in Funabashi, Chiba, has Tokyo in its name, and IKEA Funabashi is not really Chiba anymore in the sense that everyone in Tokyo uses. The intention for myself is to expand the area of my hometown Tsudanuma in my own map, through my photographic practices.

- Is there anything you want the viewers to feel or take away after seeing your images?

Nothing in particular. I'm happy to be laughed and be told it looks silly, or be questioned whether it is a CG or not.