

Shinichiro Uchikura Solo Exhibition “The Sea of Oblivion”

- Period August 5th (Saturday), 2023 - September 9th (Saturday), 2023
- Venue KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY
2-7-5-5F, Nishiazabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0031 / Tel: +81 3 5843 9128
- Hours Wed - Fri 13:00-20:00 | Sat 12:00-19:00 (closed on Suns, Mon, Tue, and National Holidays)
**summer holidays: August 16 (Wed) - 19 (Sat)*
- Cooperation Akaaka Art Publishing, Inc.

▼TALK EVENT

- Date & Time: August 5th (Saturday), 2023 | 17:00-18:00
- Venue: KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY
- Speakers: Michiko Kon (photographer) × Hikari Machiguchi (art director) × Shinichiro Uchikura

admission free | no reservation required

**Kindly note the talk will be held in Japanese language only.*



Globe, from the series *The Sea of Oblivion*

2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura, courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

■Please contact below for any image enquiries■

KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY will celebrate the publication of Shinichiro Uchikura's monograph "The Sea of Oblivion" (Akaaka Art Publishing, Inc.) on August 5, 2023, with a solo exhibition featuring new works from the series.

Shinichiro Uchikura is a photographer from Nobeoka City, Miyazaki Prefecture. After studying photography in Osaka, he began his career by presenting street snapshots and self-portraits. Since taking over his father's photo studio in 2009, he has been based in Miyazaki Prefecture, creating various photographic works. His portrait works, which led to the monograph "My Portrait" (2020, Akaaka Art Publishing, Inc.), won many awards and acclaim; and his previous work "Collection," in which he photographed various abandoned objects in Nobeoka, won the 41st Canon New Cosmos of Photography Award for Excellence and was selected for the "Tokyo Photography Month 2022" organized by the Japan Photographic Society and the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography.

For "The Sea of Oblivion," Uchikura says he was absorbed in walking around the seashore with a camera in his hand, where many plastics, daily necessities, and unexpected debris had washed up. Scooping up the voiceless voices of the things that have ceased to exist, the images are as though the last portraits of such objects. By taking a bird's-eye view of the traces of human activity, the work transcends time and even evokes a sense of awe. We warmly welcome all to this occasion commemorating Uchikura's new monograph.



Mona Lisa and Mirror, from the series The Sea of Oblivion

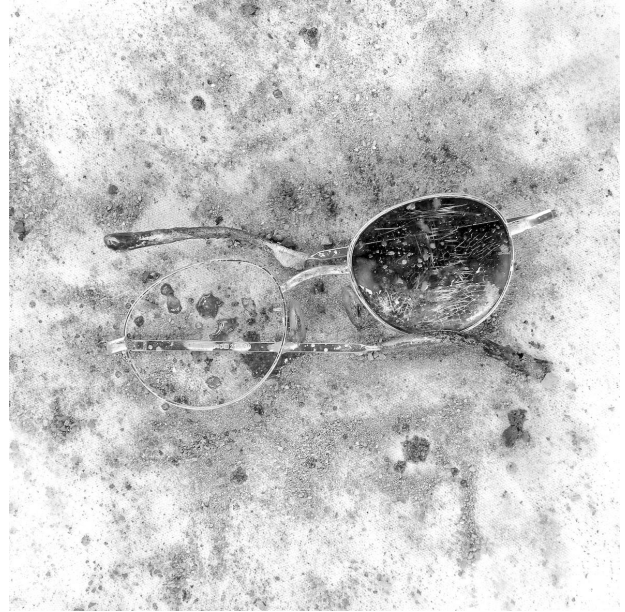
2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura, courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

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Crow Deterrent

2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura,
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY



Glasses

2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura,
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY



Watch

2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura,
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY



Plastic Bottle

2023 | archival pigment print | © Shinichiro Uchikura,
courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

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Artist Statement

I live and work in Miyazaki Prefecture. Everywhere I look, it is surrounded by the sea. The shore continues with beautiful beaches well-cleaned by the government and volunteers. A little further out, however, is the opposite world. The seashore as it is in today's society, where debris and jetsam have been dumped and forgotten, and no one even enters.

Plastic, gloves, toys, fish, and bird carcasses with empty bright colors have become trash. Things have been tossed about by the waves of time from afar, dried up by the sun, and transformed into new forms. These are the traces of human involvement in the past, evoking a strange sensation that does not seem to belong to this world.

I collect the debris one by one, absorbed, looking only down. I feel the discarded objects speaking to me. Someone made them, had them, and came with the waves to the beach. And then, they met me. This series is the last portrait that records their final state.

Shinichiro Uchikura

Artist Profile

Shinichiro Uchikura was born in 1981 in Miyazaki, Japan, and currently resides there after graduating from the Japan Institution of Photography and Film (Osaka).

His major solo exhibitions include “The Sea of Oblivion” (2023, GALLERY NEUTRAL, Kyoto [KG+ pick up]; 2022, KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY, Tokyo; 2022, BLOOM GALLERY, Osaka), “The Floating Portrait” (2022, KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY, Tokyo; 2022, BLOOM GALLERY, Osaka), “My Portrait” (2020, KANA KAWANISHI PHOTOGRAPHY, Tokyo; 2020, BLOOM GALLERY, Osaka), “Star of November” (2018, EMON PHOTO GALLERY, Tokyo), “Dog Warriors” and “Star of November” (2018, Kyogeirou G.GALLERY, Taipei), and “PORTRAIT” (2017, BLOOM GALLERY, Osaka).

Major group exhibitions include “The Month of Photography Tokyo 2022” (2022, Higashikawa Bunka Gallery, Hokkaido), “2019 Dali International Photography Exhibition” (2019, Dali, China), “My Body, Your Body, Their Body” (2019, KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY, Tokyo), and “The 2nd Ningbo International Photography Week” (2017, Ningbo, China), and “YP” (2017, Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts, Yamanashi).

Uchikura received the Excellence Award at the 41st New Cosmos of Photography (selector: Tomoko Sawada, 2018), and was selected as the Excellence Award finalist for the 33rd, 34th, 36th New Cosmos of Photography (selector: Minoru Shimizu, 2010; Katsumi Omori, 2011; and Noi Sawaragi, 2013), and the Grand Prize for the 7th EMON AWARDS (2018), Wonder Foto Day Curator's Award (selector: Kana Kawanishi, 2019; and Joanna Fu, 2018), Konica Minolta Photo Premio (2016), Nikon Juna 21 (2008) among more others.

In addition to his latest monograph *The Sea of Oblivion* (2023, Akaaka Art Publishing), his major publications include *My Portrait* (2020, Akaaka Art Publishing), *Early works 1: Street*, *Early works 2: Portrait*, *Kako*, *Dog Warriors*, *Star of November*, and *Collection* (all 2022, KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY).

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