



# ARAI, Takashi

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## SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Takashi Arai (1978-) is a Kawasaki / Berlin-based visual artist, photographer, and filmmaker. Arai first encountered photography while he was a university student of biology. To trace photography to its origins, he encountered daguerreotype, and after much trial and error, mastered the complex technique. Arai does not see daguerreotype as a nostalgic reproduction of a classical method. Instead, he has made it his medium, finding it a reliable device for storing memory that is far better for recording and transmitting interactions with his subjects than modern photography. Since the beginning in 2010, when he first became interested in nuclear issues, Arai has used the daguerreotype technique to create individual records—micro-monuments—touch upon the fragmented reality of events in the past. His encounters with surviving crew members, and the salvaged hull, of the fallout-contaminated Daigo Fukuryūmaru fishing boat led him to photograph the deeply interconnected subjects of Fukushima, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki.

His major projects include *Here and There - Tomorrow's History*: documentary-style daguerreotypes created in Fukushima after the triple disasters in 2011, *Exposed in a Hundred Suns*: the series of historical monuments in the Atomic Age, *Tomorrow's History*: teenager's portraits and interviews collected in historically stigmatized cities, and *Daily Daguerreotype Project* among others.

Arai's work has appeared in numerous exhibitions at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mori Art Museum, Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Modern Museum of Art, Tokyo, among other international venues.

In 2016, Arai received the 41st Kimura Ihei Award for his first monograph, "MONUMENTS" (PGI, 2015). His recent short film, "Oshira Kagami (The Mirror of the Oshira Deity)," won the category prize at the 72nd Salerno International Film Festival in 2018.

Arai's works are held in the Smithsonian Institution collections, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, and Musée Guimet, among others.

Since 2017, Arai has been actively working as a researcher for interdisciplinary studies, such as "Interdisciplinary Studies of Radiation Effects on the Everyday Life of Victims" (National Museum of Ethnology) and "Anima Philosophica: Nature, Disaster, and Animism in Japan" (Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University).

## EDUCATION

- **Tokyo College of Photography**, Yokohama

Area of Specialization: Photographic Art

Enrolled: April 2002 to March 2004 | Graduate Date: March 2004

- **International Christian University**, Tokyo

Area of Specialization: Biology

Enrolled: April 1998 to November 2001

## TEACHING / RESEARCHING POSITIONS

**2019-present** Researcher at Tono Culture Research Center, Tono

**2019-present** Guest researcher at Anima Philosophica, Institute for Research in Humanities,  
Kyoto University

**2017-2019** Affiliated researcher at National Museum of Ethnology (MINPAKU), Osaka

**2014-2017** Lecturer at Wako University, Tokyo

**2012-2014** Lecturer at Nippon Photography Institute, Tokyo

**2010-2011** Lecturer at Tokyo Collage of Photography

**2009-2013** Lecturer at Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto

## AWARDS

**2019** The Tono Educational and Cultural Special Award

**2018** The 72nd Salerno International Film Festival: Category Prize for the short film "Oshira Kagami"

**2017** The 66th Yokohama Cultural Awards: Incentive Prize

**2017** The 46th Kawasaki City Cultural Awards: Azalea Prize

**2016** The 41st Kimura Ihei Award, Japan.

**2016** Photographic Society of Japan Awards: Newcomer's Award

**2016** 65th Future Prize of Kanagawa Cultural Award

**2014** First Prize, The Source-Cord Prize, UK.

**2013** First Prize, Image Object Exhibit, The Center for Alternative Photography, NYC.

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

- The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

- The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

- Musée Guimet

- Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo

- The Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography

- Musée de l'Elysée

- MAST Foundation

- The Peabody Essex Museum

- Musée Français de la Photographie

- Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art

- The Kawasaki City Museum

- Musée Adrien Mentienne, Bry sur Marne

## MAJOR SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2020**

- *1000 Days / 1000 Mirrors*, Purdy Hicks Gallery, London.

**2019**

- *Imago*, PGI, Tokyo.

- *Tomorrow's History*, Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Germany.

#### **2017**

- *Tomorrow's History*, Gallery Off Grid, Fukushima.

- *Cent Soleils*, Galerie Camera Obscura, Mois de la Photo 2017, Paris.

- *Bright was the Morning*, Yokohama Civic Galley Azamino, Yokohama.

#### **2016**

- *MONUMENTS: 41th Kimura Ihei Award Exhibition*, Konica Minolta Plaza, Tokyo.

#### **2015**

- *The call of Tono*, Timeless Gallery, Beijing.

- *Dragon's Scales - Our Monuments for the Atomic Age*, Tokyo Metropolitan Daigo Fukuryu Maru Exhibition Hall, Tokyo.

#### **2014**

- *Silverplated*, Artpace San Antonio, TX.

- *EXPOSED in a Hundred Suns*, Photo Gallery International, Tokyo.

#### **2013**

- *D-type Story*, Timeless Gallery, Beijing.

- *Exposed in a Hundred Suns*, Amagasaki Cultural Center, Hyogo. Sponsor: Amagasaki Cultural Center

- *Flowers in Equinoctials*, Kurenbo, Tokyo. Sponsor: Chohouin Buddhist Temple

- *Here and There - Ashita no Shima (Tomorrow's Islands)*, Meijokan Gallery, Minamisoma, Fukushima.

Sponsor: Minamisoma City

- *Expose 2012: Exposed in a Hundred Suns*, Ken, Tokyo. Sponsor: Awazu Design Room

#### **2012**

- *Eyes of Fukushima - Mirrors Half Asleep - Takashi Arai Contemporary Daguerreotypes*, Maruki Museum (The Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels), Saitama. Sponsor: Maruki Museum

- *Here and There - Ashita no Shima (Tomorrow's Islands)*, Nikon Salon, Tokyo, Osaka. Sponsor: Nikon.

#### **2011**

- *Dream of Image*, Timeless Gallery, Beijing. Sponsor: Timeless Gallery.

- *Mirrors in Our Nights*, Kawasaki City Museum, Kawasaki. Sponsor: Kawasaki City Museum.

- *Lights, Water, Conglomerate*, Meiji University Gallery Zero, Kawasaki. Curator: Shino Kuraishi, Meiji University.

#### **2009**

- *Flawless Lakes*, Project Basho, Philadelphia. Curator: Tsuyoshi Ito

#### **2007**

- *Toward Lakes*, engawa, Hayamamachi, Curator: Hitomi Kintani, Roundish inc.

- *Half Mirror*, Space Gallery Roundish, Osaka, Curator: Hitomi Kintani, Roundish inc.

#### **2006**

- *Rendezvous on Mirror*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama, Curator: Junichi Seki, Yokohama Museum of Art

#### **2001**

- *Ocean Distilled*, Cafa Cabiria, Tokyo

### **MAJOR GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

#### **2021**

- *Photographic Occurrences*, Cook Center Process Gallery, Indiana University.

#### **2020**

- *AFTERGLOW: Yokohama Triennale 2020*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama.

#### **2019**

- *Feel the Sun in Your Mouth: Recent Acquisitions*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC.

- *Visible Memories of Technologies*, Natural History Museum of Chombook University, Jonju, Korea.
- *VOCA 2019*, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo.

#### **2018**

- *SAN (Three)*, Gallery Intersection 611, Hiroshima.

#### **2017**

- *DAY TO DAY*, Gallery Forest, Space 56, Tokyo Collage of Photography, Yokohama.
- *KAERU*, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei.
- *The Power of Images: MAST Collection. An iconic selection of photographs on industry and work*, MAST Foundation, Bologna.
- *Photobook Phenomenon*, Centre de Cultura Contemporània, Barcelona.

#### **2016**

- *Unclear Nuclear*, URANO, Tokyo.
- *The 11th Shanghai Biennale*.
- *Japanese Photography from Postwar to Now*, The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.
- *The Image as Question: An exploration of evidential photography*, Michael Hoppen Gallery, London.
- *In the Wake: Japanese Photographers Respond to 3/11*, Asia Society, Houston.
- *A New and Mysterious Art*, Howard Greenberg Gallery, NYC.
- *Photo Shanghai*, Shanghai Exhibition Center, Shanghai.
- *Samuel F. B. Morse's Gallery of the Louvre and the Art of Invention*, The Peabody Essex Museum, Salem.
- *Paradise Lost*, Museum Villa Rot, Ulm.
- *Memory of the Future: Photographic dialogues between past, present and future*, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne
- *Festival Photo La Gacilly*, Brittany, France.
- *ALPAD 2016*, Park Avenue Armory, NYC.
- *In the Wake: Japanese Photographers Respond to 3/11*, Japan Society, NYC.
- *Dubai Photo*, D3 Design District, Dubai.
- *Imagine Fukushima*, Court Gallery Kunitachi, Tokyo. \*Hosted by Watermark Arts & Crafts

#### **2015**

- *To What End?*, Camera Austria, Graz.
- *In the Wake: Japanese Photographers Respond to 3/11*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

#### **2014**

- *Photography Will Be*, Aichi Prefectural Museum, Nagoya.
- *Words and Photographs: the Seeds of Remembrance*, Setagaya Lifestyle Design Center, Tokyo.

#### **2013-2014**

- *Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo.

#### **2013**

- *IO-1: Image Object Exhibit*, The Center for Alternative Photography, NYC.

#### **2012**

- *OVER THE REALITY*, Gallery Terra Tokyo.
- *Photography Today 4*, MOMAT (The National Museum of Modern Art), Tokyo. Sponsor: MOMAT.

#### **2011**

- *EXPOSE / FALLOUT*, KEN, Tokyo. Sponsor: KEN / Awazu Design Office.
- *Portrait Studio in Museum*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama. Sponsor: Yokohama Museum of Art, CP+2011. Cooperation: Photographers' Association of Yokohama City.

#### **2010**

- *Immemorial Foreseeing*, Fellini Gallery, Shanghai, China.

#### **2009**

- *Héritages de Daguerre, Exposition en France de Daguerrotypes contemporains internationaux et Diorama de Bry-sur-Marne*, Bry-sur-Marne, France. Curator: Marc Kereun, Association Louis Daguerre.

#### **2007**

- *City Panoramic*, san art, Ho Chi Minn City.

#### **2004**

- *Yojo no Uki, Hanano Ikada Buoys on the Water, Rafts of Petals*, Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse, Yokohama.

#### **2003**

- *Aria*, Hiyoshi Art and Performance Project, Keio University, Yokohama.

### **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMS**

#### **2014**

*Fall 2014 International Artist-in-Residence Program*, Artpace San Antonio, TX

#### **2006**

*Artist in Museum Yokohama 2006 - The 3 Artists*, Yokohama Arts Foundation, Yokohama

### **FILMOGRAPHY**

#### **2021**

*To the Land of Mothers: The Hiroshima Panels 2021* (60min/Color/CDP/5.1ch)

#### **2018**

*Oshira Kagami* (20min/Color/CDP/5.1ch)

#### **2014**

*49 PUMPKINS* (12min/Color/H.264/Stereo)

### **MONOGRAPHS**

- *MONUMENTS*, Photo Gallery International, 2015.

- *EXPOSE Issue1*, 2014.

- *Here and There, Ashita no Shima (Tomorrow's Islands)*, KAGAMI, 1 July 2012.

- *Shujitsuroku Lori*, Private Edition, 2012.

### **SELECTED JOINT WORKS**

- *言葉をもみほぐす (Kotoba wo Momihogusu / Kneading Words)*, Iwanami, 2021.

- *災害とアートを探る (フィールド科学の入口) / Introduction to Field Science: Researching Disasters and Art*, Tamagawa University Press, 2020.

- *3.11を心に刻んで 2018 (3.11 wo Kokoro ni Kizan de / Remembering 3.11, 2018 issue)*, Iwanami, 2018.

### **TREATISES**

- *Science Fiction Films and the Repose of Souls: Narratives and Images of Government, Scientists, Media, and Citizens, in First Godzilla and Shin Godzilla*, Anima Philosophica: Nature, Disaster, and Animism in Japan" (Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University, 2021).

- *A Brief History of Portrait Photography and Today's Practice: For the Partage of Others' Memories*, Japan Oral History Review (16), Japan Oral History Association, 2020.

### **SELECTED CATALOGUES**

- *Bright was the Morning*, Yokohama Arts Foundation, 2017.

- *?The Image as Question: An exploration of evidential photography*, Michael Hoppen Gallery, 2016.

- *Memory of the Future: Photographic dialogues between past, present and future*, Musée de l'Elysée, 2016.

- *DUBAI PHOTO*, 2016.

- *In the Wake: Japanese Photographers Respond to 3/11*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 2015.

- *Photography Will Be*, Aichi Prefectural Museum, 2014.

- *Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT*, Mori Art Museum, 2013.
- *Exposed in a Hundred Suns*, Amagasaki Cultural Center, 2013.
- *Photography Today 4*, MOMAT, 2012.
- *Immemorial Foreseeing*, Fellini Gallery, Shanghai, 2010.
- *Héritages de Daguerre*, Association Louis Daguerre, France, 2010.
- *Koganecho Bazaar Guidebook + Text Book*, Koganecho Bazaar, Yokohama, 2008.

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES

- 連載：陽の光あるうちに (Serial Essay: Hi no Hikari Aru Uchini / Before the Sun Goes Down), 現代詩手帖 (Gendaishi-techo / The Modern Poetry Magazine), Shicho-sha, Tokyo. January 2017- November 2019
- 連載：別腸日記 (Serial Essay: Betchō Nikki / A Drunken Diary), 水牛のように (Suigyū no Youni) <http://suigyū.com>. 2017- present.
- 連載：百の太陽を探して (Serial Essay: Hyaku no Taiyō wo Sagashite / Searching for the 100 Suns), 小さな雑誌 (Chi-sana Zasshi), ed. OKAMURA, Yukinori (chief curator of the Maruki Gallery of Hiroshima Panels). 2013 - present.
- *Sharing Individual Memories on Micro-Monuments: Daguerreotype and New Narratives for the Atomic Age*, Association for East Asian Environmental History, Nankai University, Tianjin, Oct 26, 2017.
- 銀板写真で「核の記憶」を追う (Tracing the Memory of Atomic Age with Daguerreotype) National Geographic Japan Edition, Tokyo, March Issue, 2017.
- 新しいモニュメントの到来のために (For the Arrival of New Monuments), Toshō, Iwanami, Tokyo, January, February and March Issues, 2017.
- 明日の歴史のために——ダゲレオタイプで写す、十七歳の肖像 (Tomorrow's History: Daguerreotype Portraits of 17-year-olds), Subaru, Shuei-sha, Tokyo, January Issue, 2017.
- もう一度、見ることの困難さとともに (Again, Embracing Difficulties of Seeing), Subaru, Shuei-sha, Tokyo, October Issue, 2016.
- MONUMENTS, Graphication, Fuji Xerox, October Issue, 2017. [https://www.fujixerox.co.jp/company/public/graphication/backnumber/2016\\_10.html](https://www.fujixerox.co.jp/company/public/graphication/backnumber/2016_10.html)
- Shigeo Gocho 1946-1983, Camera Austria No.132, Camera Austria, Graz, 2016.
- TEN YEARS OF PICTURE POWER, Newsweek Japan Edition, CCC Media House, 2014.
- 震災と「核」をダゲレオタイプで撮り続けて (Taking Daguerreotypes of the Aftermath and Nuclear Issues), Picture Power, Newsweek Japan Edition, April issue, 2017.
- 新井卓 ダゲレオタイプで記憶をとらえる (Takashi Arai: Securing Memories on Daguerreotypes), Geijutsu Shincho, Shuei-sha, Tokyo, December issue, 2015.
- 遠野、早池峰への旅 (My Journey towards Hayachine, Tono), Shunju, Shunju-sha, Tokyo, January issue, 2014.
- ダゲレオタイプスト、新井卓 (Daguerreotypist, Takashi Arai), PHaT PHOTO vol.79, Tokyo, 2013.
- Daguerreotype, Daily Mainichi, Tokyo, May 2013.
- 願いを込めて銀板に刻む被災地の記憶 (Prayers: Recording Memories of Disaster Sites on Silver Plates), Picture Power, Newsweek Japan Edition, pp.64-67, March 21st, 2012.
- Arai Takashi: a Daguerreotypical Man, 声 ko-e Magazine, pp.3-1, September and October issue, 2011.
- まなざすこと、希うこと (Seeing and Praying), Shunju April issue, pp.12-15, Shunju-sha, Tokyo, 2011.
- 鏡の両岸で出会うこと (Encounters on the both sides of Mirrors), Shunju January issue, pp.14-18, Shunju-sha, Tokyo, 2011.

## MAJOR LECTURES / SYMPOSIA

- *Panel: Le Labo vol. 34 : Dans l'œil du désastre, créer avec Fukushima*, Institut Français, Tokyo, March 13, 2021.
- *Lecture: Handmade Photography Today: A Virtual Artist Talk with Takashi Arai*, Davis Museum at Wellesley College, May 26, 2020.
- *Panel: 15th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia*, Chombook University, Jonju, August 19th-23rd, 2019.
- *Panel: Association for East Asian Environmental History (AEAEH) 2019*, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Oct 23rd-27th, 2019.
- *Plenary Speaker: Current State and the Possible future of Visual Oral History*, Japan Oral History Association, Tokyo, March 10th, 2019.
- *Panel: UGAT (Anthropological Association of the Philippines)*, Palawan State University, Palawan, Nov 8th-10th, 2018.
- *Panel: Association for East Asian Environmental History (AEAEH) 2017*, Nankai University, Tianjin, Oct 26th-30th, 2017.
- *Artist Talk: Takashi Arai*, Asia Society Texas Center, Dec 4th, 2016.
- *Lecture: Again, embracing difficulties of seeing*, The Japan Society for Arts and History of Photography, Nov 25th, 2016.
- *Lecture: In the Shades on Mirrors: Daguerreotypes as Micro-Monuments for the Atomic Age*, J. Paul Getty Museum, Nov 5th, 2016.
- *Lecture: Exposed in a Hundred Suns - US-Japan Nuclear Legacies and the New Daguerreotypes as Micro-monuments*, The Society for Photographic Education, New Orleans, Mar 14th, 2015.
- *Lecture: IO-1*, The Center for Alternative Photography, NYC, April 3rd, 2013.
- *Symposium: Fukushima Now*, Bay Area Artists for Japan, Kala Art Institute Berkeley, Mar 31st, 2012.
- *Lecture: Daguerreotype, for the arrival of new monuments*, The Japan Society for Arts and History of Photography, Sept 8th, 2012.
- *Artist Talk: Photography Now 4*, MOMA Tokyo, July 21st, 2012.
- *Symposium: Words and Photographs - With Natsuki Ikezawa, Kazuhiko Washio and Takashi Arai*, Nikon Plaza Tokyo, Mar 16th, 2012.