

Yuki Aoyama Photo Exhibition *SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEX A to Z*

Date: 2023.7.21 Fri. – 8.6 Sun.

Opening Reception: 7.22 Sat. 16:00~19:00 (No reservation required)



SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEX A to Z #058
2023, 360×360mm (Frame size: 535×535mm), Inkjet print

AMMON KYOTO is pleased to present "SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEX A to Z" an exhibition by photographer Yuki Aoyama, starting on Friday 13th July 2023.

The "schoolgirl complex" series of works by Yuki Aoyama, which began in 2006, won the Canon New Cosmos of Photography Excellence Award (selected by Fumio Nanjo) in 2007, and was published in 2010 as a best-selling photo book have sold more than total of 100,000 copies. In 2013, "Schoolgirl Complex - Broadcasting Club Arc" (starring Aoi Morikawa and Mugi Kadowaki), a movie based on his work, was released. Aoyama, who spent his agonizing high school years not being able to talk to girls in his class at all, has gained wide support for the works he has created based on his adolescent fantasies about women.

This exhibition, Aoyama's first large-scale solo show in the Kansai region, will focus on his attempt to exhibit all 500 works included in "SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEX A to Z," a photo book compiling the entire "schoolgirl complex" of 15 years (A to Z) published in 2021, as well as new works photographed since then. The exhibition will also include new works taken since the book was published.

ARTIST STATEMENT

The "schoolgirl complex" is a work that packages various fantasies and fetishism born from staring at the symbolic existence of schoolgirls as a faint longing. Even though they wear uniforms, there are traces of their individuality, such as their transparent shirts, socks, legs stretching out from their checked skirts, the backs of their knees, moles, scabs, etc. When I was an adolescent, I had strong fantasies and desires for these things. At the same time, I had a strong fear (complex) of women because I had not yet had any experience with women.

By expressing and symbolizing such complex emotions, fantasies, and desires in a thoroughly refined form, I hope to express the ephemeral and fragility of adolescence from multiple perspectives.

PROFILE

Yuki Aoyama Mr. Portrait / Photographer

The "ultimate sunny man" who loves penguins, short hair and cats.
Mr. Portrait has a fetishistic but innocent style,
capturing school uniforms and complexes in a fascinating way.

Born 1978 in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture.

In 2002, during a bicycle trip across Japan and around the world, decided to pursue photography.

In 2005, after graduating the College of Psychology at the School of Human Sciences from the University of Tsukuba, moved to Tokyo to set up his own business as a photographer.

In 2007, won the Canon New Cosmos of Photography Excellence Award.

Manages a gallery, publishing label and online community. Currently resides in Tokyo.

Has produced works such as "Sorari-man", "Schoolgirl Complex" and "Shojo Raison" that reflect his own views on adolescence and images of fathers and girls, while using "Symbolic existence in Japanese society" as motifs.

Since 2009, has published more than 100 books, including a collection of photographs (and many translated editions). Has participated in numerous solo exhibitions and art fairs abroad, including in Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Spain and New York.

"Schoolgirl Complex" was made into a film in 2013, and the photo book became a bestseller with a total of more than 100,000 copies sold.

Has taken charge of photobooks for iconic actresses, idols and celebrities of the era, including Yuriko Yoshitaka, Rino Sashihara, Rina Ikoma and Oriental Radio. Focuses on portrait photography, including advertising, corporate and magazine photogravure, book binding, CD and artist photography. Also writes (essays, practical photography books) and teaches (lectures, workshops, instructor), and has appeared on TV, radio and other media.

It's been 25 years since started photography with no money and zero connections, and 18 years since I moved to Tokyo and set up my own business. With his own strategies, has been swimming in the photography industry, aiming to be the "first penguin".

<https://yukiao.jp>

INFORMATION

Yuki Aoyama Photo Exhibition *SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEX A to Z*

Venue : AMMON KYOTO

Dates : 2023/7/21 Fri. – 8/6 Sun.

Opening hours : 11:00~19:00 / Open Everyday

Opening Reception : 7/22 Sat. 16:00~19:00 (No reservation required)

87 Nakajima-cho, Sanjo-dori Kawara-machi Higashiiru,

Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8004, Japan

Tel / Fax : 075-366-4400

Mail : info@ammon.co.jp

Website : <http://www.ammon.co.jp/>

