



Taka Ishii Gallery

Photography / Film

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Yoshiyuki Okuyama “photographs”

Dates: May 15 – June 13, 2026

Location: Taka Ishii Gallery Photography / Film

Taka Ishii Gallery Photography / Film is pleased to present *photographs*, a solo exhibition of the work of Yoshiyuki Okuyama, on view from Friday, May 15 to Saturday, June 13. The exhibition features approximately 28 works from a photographic series of the same title, made from Okuyama’s family albums.

The series began with the discovery of more than a hundred family albums at the house where Okuyama’s grandparents and father once lived, and where he now has his studio. Turning through the pages, he found himself thinking about how each generation’s choices had passed life on to the next generation, and about the ethical framework those choices implied. He also began to see that while these were lives that could be understood in the collective context of the family, each person had existed first as an individual, before any role within it was assigned.

In the *photographs* series, edited and brought to its final form by Okuyama, each figure in the original album photographs has been dissolved into a glow of light. The space this creates stirs the viewer’s imagination, and what was once a single private family album becomes everyone’s album, and ultimately something that can be universally shared.

…The texture of light, released toward hope, slowly softens what is particular about each face and outline. What remains is someone, anyone, a figure whose silhouette slowly comes to overlap with our own as we look. In that wavering moment, we are asked anew what it is to exist as an individual.

Yoshiyuki Okuyama (excerpted from statement for this exhibition), March 2026

Engaging with the tension between inheritance and autonomy, between reverence for the history of succession that reaches him and the private choices and unspoken codes he lives by, Okuyama’s *photographs* opens up a dialogue with those who came before, and with himself in the present moment.

A book accompanying the exhibition will be published, with details below

[New Publication]

Yoshiyuki Okuyama, *photographs*

Published by AKAACA Art Publishing

Price: Standard edition ¥7,700 (tax incl.); Special edition ¥16,500 (limited edition of 500 copies, signed)

Yoshiyuki Okuyama was born in 1991 in Tokyo. He began producing photographic works in 2009 and marked his debut with the receipt of the 34th New Cosmos of Photography Excellence Award in 2011. Ever since, he has continued to produce works that center on the theme of contradiction and the mixture of contrary elements such as representation and abstraction. In 2016 he won the 47th Kodansha Publishing Culture Award Photography Award with *Bacon Ice Cream* (Parco Publishing, 2015). His publications include *Girl* (Plancton, 2012), *The Town You Live in* (Space Shower Books, 2017), *As the Call, So the Echo* (AKAACA Art Publishing, 2017), *Pocari Sweat* (Seigensha Art Publishing, 2018), *Los Angeles / San Francisco* (Union Publishing, 2018), *The Good Side* (Editions Bessard, 2020), *flowers* (AKAACA, 2021), *Bacon Ice Cream, Taiwan edition* (Uni Books, 2021), *Ton! Tan! Pan! Don!* (bookshop M, 2021), *Best Before* (Seigensha Art Publishing, 2022), and *windows* (AKAACA, 2023). Solo exhibitions include *Girl* (Raum1F, Tokyo, 2012), *Bacon Ice Cream* (PARCO Museum, Tokyo, 2016), *The New Story* (Post, Tokyo, 2016), *As the Call, So the Echo* (Gallery916, Tokyo, 2017), *The Town You Live in* (Omotesando Hills Space O, Tokyo, 2017), *White Light* (Canon Gallery S, Tokyo, 2019), *windows* (amanaTIGP, Tokyo, 2023), and *flowers* (Purple, Kyoto, 2023). He has also directed the films *At The Bench* (2024) and *5 Centimeters per Second* (2025).

Taka Ishii Gallery Photography / Film

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Hours: 12:00 – 19:00 / Closed on Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays



Yoshiyuki Okuyama

photographs #1, 2024/2026

Archival pigment print mounted on aluminum

216 x 171 cm

© Yoshiyuki Okuyama



Yoshiyuki Okuyama

photographs #2, 2024/2026

Archival pigment print mounted on aluminum

161 x 217 cm

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