

Press Release

Capturing the Spaces and Objects of Master Photographer Saul Leiter

Saul Leiter: In Stillness, a photography collection by Yumiko Izu published by LibroArte!

“In infinite ways the charming photographs in this book portray the story of an artful and mysterious life.” —Margit Erb, director of the Saul Leiter Foundation

After Saul Leiter retired from commercial photography in the 1980s, stepping down forever from center stage, he immersed himself in a slow-paced private world, occupied with painting pictures and taking photographs. Throughout his life, Saul Leiter would earnestly inquire into what it was that constituted true happiness for him, removed from the conventional notions of wealth and fame. But in 2006, Leiter was drawn once again into the limelight when his photobook *Early Color* was issued by the German publisher Steidl. With its release, Leiter, who was past 80 at the time, was immediately recognized as a pioneer of color photography.

Until his death in 2013, Leiter continued to live quietly as he always had in his apartments in New York City’s East Village, which also served as his atelier.

Fine art photographer Yumiko Izu, who met Leiter in the last years of his life, first began to photograph the interior of his apartments three weeks after his death. She continued to intermittently take photographs for this project through 2019. Izu, whose work is often nuanced with underlying themes of life and death, has artfully captured this lesser-seen side of Leiter with a quiet sensibility. Created from a place of deep respect for the artist, her photographs project a beauty that helps to reveal the soul of the mysterious Leiter.

The photobook *Saul Leiter: In Stillness* is a study of spaces dense with Leiter’s lingering presence in which the many stories of his unhurried life are brought into beautiful relief.

【Photobook】

Name of photobook: Saul Leiter: In Stillness

Author: Yumiko Izu

Text: Pauline Vermare (Magnum Photo, New York)

Margit Erb (Saul Leiter Foundation)

Book Design: Osamu Ouchi (Nano Nano Graphics)

Planning Cooperation: Masako Sato (CONTACT)

Format: A4 variant

Bookbinding: Hardcover

Number of pages: 120 pages

Expected to be issued: May 2020

【Profile】

Yumiko Izu studied at the Visual Arts School in her hometown of Osaka, Japan, and later moved to the United States, where she obtained her B.A. from the Brooks Institute of Photography in California. In 1998 she relocated to New York City, where she worked in commercial and editorial photography before launching her fine art career in 2003, using 8x10 and 11x14 large-format cameras and the platinum/palladium printing process. In 2016, two of her series, *Secret Garden* (2011) and *Faraway* (2014), were published by Serindia Contemporary in a book titled *Resonance*. Both pay homage to the yin and yang of life; the former through the fleeting life cycle of flowers and the latter through a quiet study of animal skulls. Her avian-inspired *Icarus* (2017)—which was shown in Tokyo, Taipei, Bangkok, Santa Fe, and Paris—is another exploration of the dualities of life and death. Two bodies of work compose this series: detailed platinum prints of birds' nests taken with a large-format camera and more abstract images rendered using the camera-less photogram method. Her latest color work, *Saul Leiter: In Stillness*, a visual story of the American artist, will debut in Tokyo and Kyoto in 2020. Izu is a recipient of the 2007 Photographers' Fellowship from the Center for Photography at Woodstock and has held numerous exhibitions in the United States and Japan. She currently lives and works in Rhinebeck, New York.

【Contact Us】

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SAUL LEITER IN STILLNESS



YUMIKO IZU