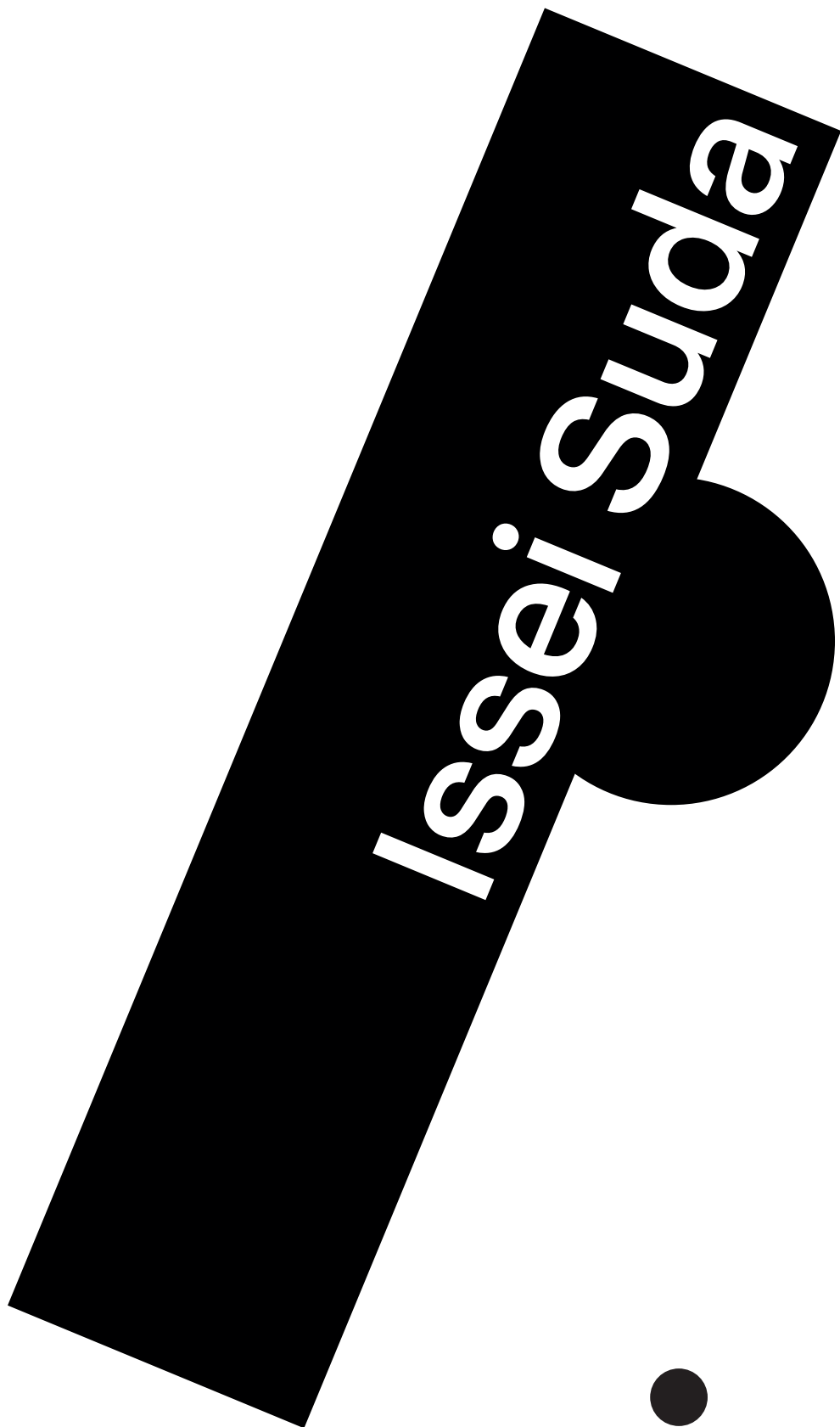


Centre
de la photographie
de Mougins



Press kit

**Issei Suda
Fushikaden**

**8.03 –
8.06
2025**

**Curators
of the exhibition:**

**Jérôme Sother,
François Cheval
and Yasmine Chemali**

**Opening
Friday 7.03.2025
18:30**

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The Mougins Center of Photography is an institution dedicated to still and moving images, tasked with promoting and exhibiting the many trends in contemporary photography. Open to all forms of photographic modernity, the Center, as a municipal institution, boosts the cultural and tourism sector of the town of Mougins, seeking to enhance the region and foster international communication. From its opening on July 3rd 2021, its mission is to support the creation and experimentations of artists of all profiles: from France or overseas, up-and-coming or established. This support takes various forms including producing, exhibiting, publishing and residencies. Other local authorities in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region (PACA), including those of Marseille and Nice, are already demonstrating a dynamic approach to photography by way of varied exhibitions or thanks to proactive publishing houses and diverse residency programs. The Mougins Center of Photography will complement these activities by providing a similar service for contemporary photography.



Fushikaden

The street scenes of *Fushikaden*, the most iconic work of the Japanese photographer Issei Suda, are steeped in the harsh, inimical light of summer. The photographs were taken in Tokyo, where he lives, and also, or especially, in the farther regions of Tōhoku, Hokuriku, and Kantō, where throughout the 1970s he frequented the *matsuri*, traditional local festivals, half-religious and half-profane. Japan was nursing its wounds from World War II and the American occupation, and the country was experiencing staggering growth on its way to becoming the world's second leading economic power within a few years. Change was on the march, and time was short to capture the daily life of a country grappling with a major identity crisis, caught between anchored tradition and the hysteria of modernity.

Issei Suda began his career as a photographer for Shūji Terayama's experimental theater troupe Tenjō Sajiki in 1967, before starting to work as an independent photographer in 1971. While he borrowed the title *Fushikaden* from a treatise on traditional Noh theater, Suda was born in 1940 and raised on Hollywood screenwriting and the films of Orson Welles.

During the 1970s, nationally distributed photography magazines expanded their readership, whetted the appetite for novelty, and surged into the frenzy of images. Amateurs and professionals vied with each other for contest prizes and awards. Far more than in institutions – museum and galleries were nonexistent or hardly established – it was here in the magazines that the history of Japanese photography was written and theorized in real time. Before becoming a book, *Fushikaden* was published as a *rensai*, a series of eight portfolios in issues of Camera Mainichi spanning from December 1975 to December 1977. Suda's success was immediate, and the publisher Asahi Sonorama brought out the book *Fushikaden* in 1978, with a selection of 100 photographs in place of the 138 originally chosen by Suda. It was only in 2012 that Akio Nagasawa published the entire series, offering an uncut *Fushikaden* thirty-four years after it was initially published.

'Issei Suda: Fushikaden' represents the third chapter of a Japanese trilogy initiated at the Mougins Center of Photography with the inaugural exhibition 'Isabel Muñoz: 1001' (2021), followed by 'Yuki Onodera: Darkside of the Moon' (2022).

Fushikaden

A number of avant-garde movements coexisted in 1970s Japan, some marked by a strong political and documentary commitment, others, like that of Provoke magazine, championing expressive and experimental photographic forms: blur, grain, brutal explosions of contrast, demonstrations of the authors' individuality and the difficulty of representing the paradoxes of this new world. Alongside these movements, Issei Suda, a shy man and, above all, profoundly independent, remained a kind of outlier, embracing the medium of photography in a seemingly more classic manner. His square photographs, shot with a Rolleiflex, precisely framed and devoid of obvious graphic effects, show street scenes and portraits. He captures his contemporaries with a radical eye, full of poetry and humor. While the photographs sometimes call to mind surrealist or humanist photography, such Western references fall short of characterizing the complexity of his compositions and the age-old culture they depict. The painted face of a Kabuki actor, a woman's body on a beach, children on their way to school, improbable rigid poses, closed eyes—the photographer Issei Suda directs his sharp attention at the insignificant details of life. The instants he chooses are also his own, as if they had come, right before or right after the fact, to take the abnormal pulse of an unstable, strange reality, a stuttering humanity. He collects, amid the ordinary and the commonplace, the sublime that escapes us.

Biography

Issei Suda

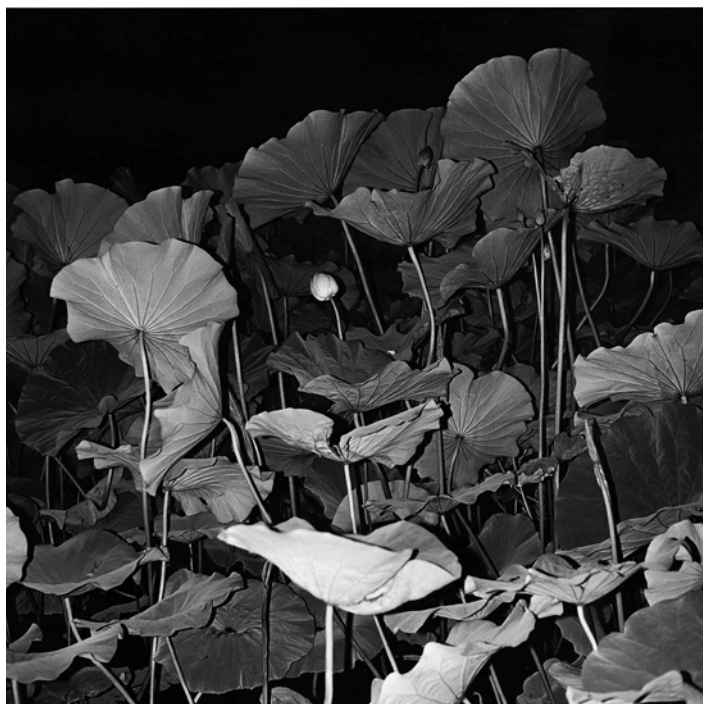


Born in 1940 in Tokyo, Issei Suda graduated from the Tokyo College of Photography in 1962. In 1967, he became the official photographer for Shuji Terayama's experimental theater troupe, Tenjo Sajiki, before embarking on a freelance photography career in 1971. In 1976, Suda rose to prominence after receiving the Newcomer's Award from the Photographic Society of Japan for *Fushikaden*. He went on to win the society's Annual Award in 1982 for his exhibition of the *Monogusa Shui* series, followed in 1985 by the First Prize at the Higashikawa National Photography Awards for *Nichijo no danpen – Fragment of Everyday Life*. In 1997, his book *Human Memory* garnered several accolades, including the Domon Ken Award. In 2013, his large-scale retrospective exhibition *Nagi no hira – Fragments of Calm* was held at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography. Issei Suda passed away on March 7, 2019, in Chiba.

Issei Suda

Johana Toyama
1977

Ueno Tokyo
1975

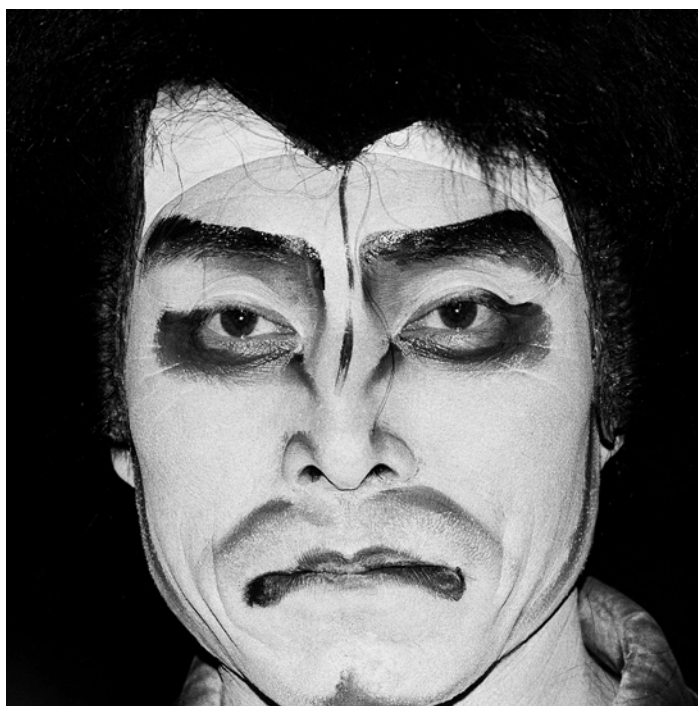


Issei Suda

Chichibu Saitama
1975



Teppo-matsuri
Ogano Chichibu Saitama
1976



Issei Suda

Gujohachiman Gifu
1976



Kaze no Bon
Yatsuo Toyama
1976



Issei Suda

Zaimokuza Kanagawa
1977



Minato-matsuri
Yamashita Park
Yokohama Kanagawa
1976



Issei Suda

Satsuki-matsuri "Donryu"
Daikon-Nittaji-Temple
Ota Gumma
1976



Obanazawa Yamagata
1976



Publication:

Fushikaden

Issei Suda

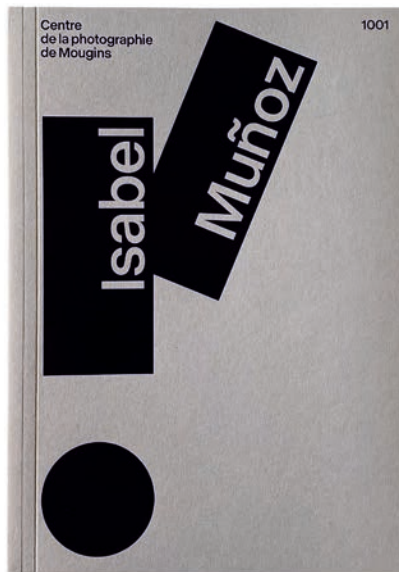


To mark this exhibition, Akio Nagasawa Gallery and GwinZegal have partnered to reissue the iconic photobook *Fushikaden*.

Fushikaden
Akio Nagasawa Publishing
& GwinZegal
Dimensions: 22 x 21 cm
Soft cover
152 pages
30 €
Isbn: 979-10-94060-47-6

On sale at the Mougins
Center of Photography
store.

Our publications:



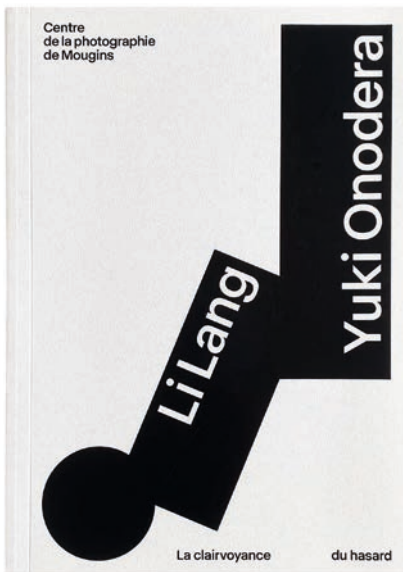
#1
Isabel Muñoz
1001

176 pages
 Isbn: 979-10-90698-50-5
 © 2021
 Authors:
 Yasmine Chemali,
 François Cheval,
 Stéphane du Mesnildot,
 Yuta Yagishita,
 Pascal Bagot,
 Emil Pacha Valencia
 Translation:
 Sara Heft



#2
Natasha Caruana
+ Jenny Rova
L'amour toujours

192 pages
 Isbn: 979-10-90698-51-2
 © 2021
 Authors:
 François Cheval,
 Laurence Pourchez,
 Jenny Rova,
 Natasha Caruana,
 Dr Chris Hoff,
 Christophe Perrin,
 Yasmine Chemali
 Translation:
 Sara Heft



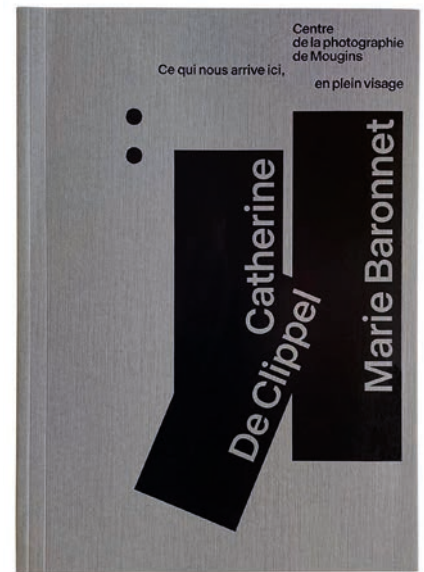
#3
Yuki Onodera
+ Li Lang
La clairvoyance du hasard

176 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-52-9
 © 2022
 Authors:
 François Cheval,
 András Páldi,
 Jean Daunizeau,
 Takayo Iida,
 Yasmine Chemali
 Translations:
 Ruth Oldham,
 Patrick Honoré



#4
Tom Wood
Every day is Saturday:
portraits anglais

192 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-53-6
 © 2022
 Authors:
 François Cheval,
 Leïla Vignal,
 Jean Daunizeau,
 Alexis Tadié,
 David Peace,
 John Peel,
 Yasmine Chemali
 Translations:
 Ruth Oldham,
 Alexis Tadié,
 Leïla Vignal



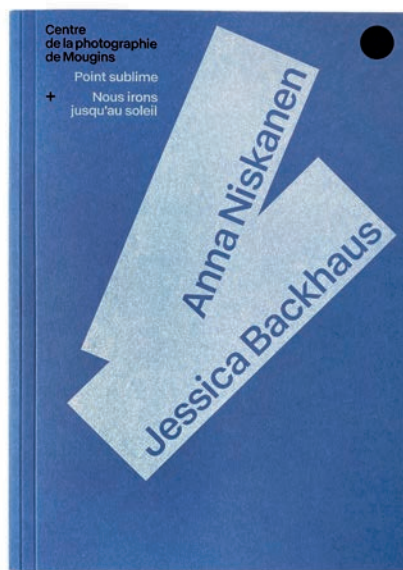
#5
Catherine De Clippel
+ Marie Baronnet
Ce qui nous arrive ici,
en plein visage

192 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-54-3
 © 2022
 Authors:
 Jérôme Esnouf,
 François Cheval,
 Jean-Paul Colleyn
 Translations:
 Ruth Oldham,
 Jennetta Petch



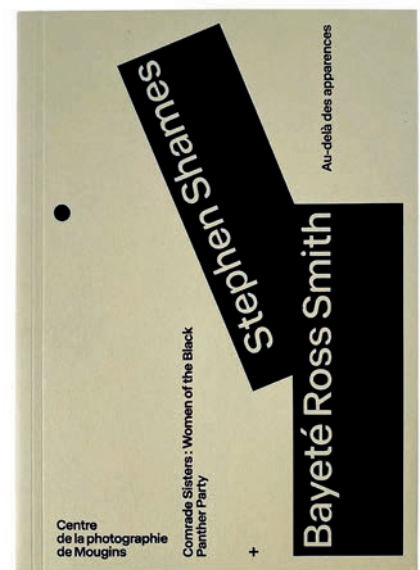
#6
Harold Feinstein
La roue des merveilles

192 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-55-0
 © 2023
 Authors:
 François Cheval,
 Alexis Tadié,
 Ya'ara Gil-Glazer,
 Yasmine Chemali
 Translations:
 Ruth Oldham,
 Jennetta Petch,
 Alexis Tadié



#7
Anna Niskanen
Point sublime
+ Jessica Backhaus
Nous irons jusqu'au soleil

144 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-56-7
 © 2023
 Authors:
 François Cheval,
 András Páldi
 Anna Niskanen
 Translation:
 Jennetta Petch



#8
Stephen Shames
Comrade Sisters: Women of the Black
of the Black Panther Party
+ Bayeté Ross Smith
Au-delà des apparences

192 pages
 isbn: 979-10-90698-57-4
 © 2024
 Authors:
 Yasmine Chemali,
 François Cheval,
 Paul David Henderson,
 Ericka Huggins
 Translation:
 Jennetta Petch

Public

Guided tour
by the curators
Saturday 8.03.2025
17:00

Koï Nobori creative workshop

Create a “Koï Nobori,” the carp-shaped kite often seen floating in the spring on balconies, above rivers, and in schools in Japan to celebrate Children’s Day.

Saturday 12.04.2025

9:00 → 13:00

À partir de 8 ans
25 € (including materials)
Places are limited.

To participate, register by e-mail:

centrefotographie
@villedemougins.com

or by phone:

0033 4 22 21 52 14

European Night of Museums

Saturday 17.05.2025

19:00 → 23:00

Free admission
Program available on our website and social media platforms.

Programme

Conference

Undisciplined Notes on Photography and Manga with Laurent Bruel, Editorial Director; Éditions Matière
Laurent Bruel offers to explore and share a selection of images, words, and hypotheses as markers and pathways for a study to be undertaken on the connections between photography and manga in Japan from the 1960s to today.

Saturday 31.05.2025

18:30

in French.
Free entry, subject to availability.

Storytelling

A story for children, conceived and told by our mediator, guides you through the world of the artist.

Sundays

9.03

6.04

4.05

1^{er}.06.2025

16:00 → 16:30

From 4 years old, in French.
Free admission on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Contacts

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de la photographie
de Mougins**

**43 rue de l'Église
06250 Mougins**

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lmaggiore@villedemougins.com

Florence Buades
fbuades@villedemougins.com

Informations

Open

**8.03 → 31.03.2025
13:00 → 18:00
Closed
on Mondays and Tuesdays**

**1st.04 → 8.06.2025
11:00 → 19:00
Closed on Tuesdays**

Admission

**Adult → 6 €
Student → 3 €
Group (10 or +) → 4 € / pers.
Guided tours → 10 € / pers.**

Free
1st Sunday of each month
Under 18, students
from the region PACA,
job seekers,
disabled visitors and one
accompanying person,
ICOM / ICOMOS / CIPAC,
Friends of the Center,
teachers, press,
guide-lecturers.

Guided tours (express)
every Wednesday
and Saturday
→ 15:00

Book your
guided tour + workshop
for schools, groups
and associations:
Sinem Bostanci
sbostanci@villedemougins.com

The Mougins Center
of Photography is supported
by the Regional Directorate
of Cultural Affairs (DRAC PACA),
06 Department
and Region SUD ;
and is a member of Botox(s),
Plein Sud and Diagonal
networks.

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FRANCE

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D'ART
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de l'air

MOUVEMENT

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