

# “Planet Japan”

## Photographs

by Maciej Toporowicz

November 3rd - November 30th  
Reception: Thursday, November 6th,  
from 6 to 8 PM

@

Kinokuniya Bookstore



Planet Japan is a site specific exhibition project by the visual artist Maciej Toporowicz. The exhibition includes color photographs taken in Japan in year 2000. Roland Barthes wrote, that Japan represents " a possibility of a difference, of a mutation, of a revolution in the propriety of symbolic systems." The photographs taken by Toporowicz in Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe underline the visual strangeness of this world.

The exhibition does not attempt to make a grand statement. It signifies the failed attempt of the artist, the "Western Man" to understand the other. Yet if he doesn't find a correct distance, at least he "problematizes the positing of difference as opposition", the opposing of culture to nature, of inside to outside, subject to other. Despite his frustration, one feels as though his soul has found for itself a strange home.

Maciej Toporowicz is a multimedia-artist based in New York City. His work refers to surrealism, and his inventive imagery makes the ordinary extraordinary.

His work has been exhibited in renown galleries and museums such as The Jewish Museum, P.S.1 Museum, Museo D'Arte Moderna, Lombard Freid Gallery, Galeria Camargo Vilaca and others.

His images were published in many periodicals including New York Times, Black Book, Nylon, Fader, Creative Review, Archive, Artforum, Art in America and Flash Art.

**BOOKS** ■ Kinokuniya

1073 Ave of Americas  
New York, NY10018  
(between 40th & 41st Street)  
phone: 212-869-1700/ fax: 212-869-1703  
Mon-Sat 10am-8pm/Sun 11am-7:30pm  
nyinfo@kinokuniya.com  
www.kinokuniya.com