

Haruto Hoshi
Luminance of Streets

September 18 – October 12, 2008
Opening reception: Thursday, September 18, 7 – 9pm

The exhibition features Japanese photographer Haruto Hoshi's black and white photographs of nightlife districts throughout Japan. Focusing on the various characters who congregate after dark, Hoshi reveals the human drama unfolding in the bars, alleys, and neon-lit buildings. Ranging from a baby-faced schoolgirl sitting on a corner of a sidewalk, a smiling young bar hostess lying in her private room to an aging bar maid vacantly staring from a tiny counter, Hoshi's images are both sweet and sour, casual and sensitive with slight overtones of comedy. The exhibition will include approximately forty photographs taken from 1999 to 2006, all selected from his book titled "Luminance of Streets" published in 2007.

Since he was very young, Hoshi has been fascinated by the world after dark. As a lonely ten year old, he escaped his house at night to stroll the busy streets and watch the people in the shadows. What he saw was like "an eternal festival" turning him into "a character in a movie."

While Hoshi's images might recall the work of older Japanese photographers such as Katsumi Watanabe and Daido Moriyama, his snapshot-like style is distinguished by a spontaneous, offhand approach and his images have a charmingly nostalgic mood with a contemporary flavor.

Haruto Hoshi was born in Yokohama in 1970 and still lives and works there. Hoshi took up photography in his late twenties and studied it under documentary photographer Motoshi Sato. His work has been shown at Galeria Q in Tokyo.

The exhibition is held at 128 Rivington Street, between Norfolk and Essex, New York City. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 1pm to 8pm. Please note that the gallery's location has changed.

For further information, please call Mako Wakasa at 917-405-0275, or e-mail at contact@mwakasapresents.com

www.mwakasapresents.com

M Wakasa Presents is a nomadic gallery that periodically organizes exhibitions representing artists in different spaces. For this exhibition, we are housed in the Gallery Onetwentyeight at 128 Rivington Street in New York City.