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Noritoshi Hirakawa, *Seeking a Light*, 23rd Street, R, W - Pauline Pak, August 19th, 2005, 2008

# Noritoshi Hirakawa

## Seeking a light

### 06 / 31.01

### 2009

Noritoshi Hirakawa lives in New York and was born in Japan in 1960.

The artist is mainly known for his controversial photography due to the omnipresent themes of sex and death.

Hirakawa initially studied sociology, anthropology and psychoanalysis before devoting himself at the age of 28 to the plastic arts in 1988. Far from anecdotal, this information sheds light on Hirakawa's work. In fact the main subject of it is the collective unconscious and the limits of our cultural systems. Based on his views of our societies and using all the media available to him including photography, installation, sound, and video, Hirakawa seeks to broaden the limits of our perception which we think of as culturally and sociologically determined. Hirakawa forces the public to be an active experimenter by always putting the viewer in an unusual position, confronting the public with apparently innocent situations that hide nearly unacceptable offenses. Linked to a time, place, and cultural and sociological environment that belong to the viewer, Hirakawa makes the audience his main subject.

The gallery In Situ Fabienne Leclerc is pleased to present a new series by the artist, *Seeking a Light* which takes place on the platforms of the New York City subway and takes us along on the age old quest for light.

"The live act of waiting is tense yet spiritual. On the edge of tracks, people are meditative, perceiving a premonition from the darkness of the tunnel. They seek the lights of the subway car, like one looks into a spiritual palace expecting someone to appear in the light.

*Seeking a Light* was shot in the summertime of 2005 in various New York City subway station platforms the moment the trains were coming. One image is of the person waiting and the other image is the moment of light approaching." Noritoshi Hirakawa

*Streams By The Wind: Heat Stroke* is an installation made up of 80 slides shown according to an advancing narrative. Each image portrays an interaction between a man and woman, their reactions and dilemmas in the face of specific circumstances. Their actions don't characterize them, but more generally characterize the multidimensional aspects of each personality.

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**PROCHAINE EXPOSITION /**  
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