

Night color in Tokyo

東京夜色

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ABSTRACT

I focused on the role of full-color LED in big cities. Cities in Asia, including Japan, have changed the landscape of the city with the advent of full-color LED lighting fixtures. Two years ago, I focused on full-color LED in two cities Shanghai and Chongqing, in China, I heard "that full-color LEDs are attracting attention because they look fantastic when lit up at night". As an extension of that, I decided to take a picture, paying attention to the city of Tokyo where I usually live.

1 INTRODUCTION

I think full-color LED lighting will accelerate the "anonymous and even modern space" of many cities today. This idea was born in me by touching the book "Non-Place :An introduction to Supermodernity" (translated by Machiko Nakagawa, SUISEISYA) by French anthropologist Marc Augé. In this book, Augé names the globalized urban space "the world of supermodernity" and regards many of the world's largest cities today as "anonymous and equal modern spaces." He concluded that cities could not build their own identities due to Internet communication, larger consumption spaces, and faster transportation spaces, and the world was anonymized and abstracted. I agree very much with that idea. I wondered if I could approach or express something in that way with photographs.

2.The subject of the shooting

The first thing to note was that in August 2020, 12 bridges over the Sumida River were lit up by full-color LED. According to the business of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. As one of the "New Tokyo" plans decided by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 2016, it is a plan to improve the waterside environment and utilize it as a tourist resource for the Sumida River Bridge Group. In other words, the aim is to find the charm of Sumida river in the old time, and to make it a base for people including people living in Tokyo and tourists from overseas



Tokyo Metropolitan Government homepage
<https://www.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/tosei/hodohappyo/press/2020/07/28/13.html>

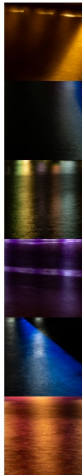
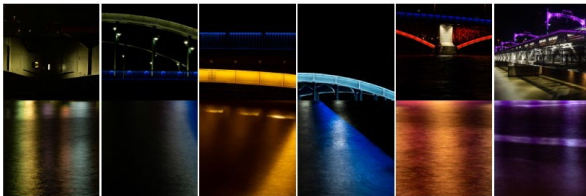
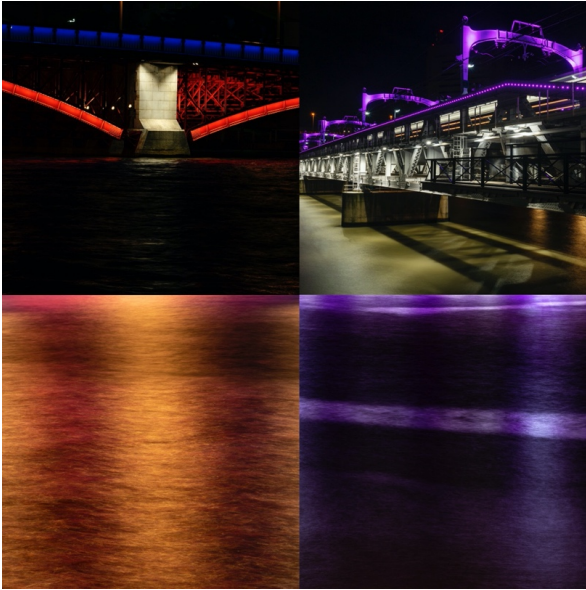
There is another reason why I chose Sumida River. This is because it is deeply related to the history of Tokyo. Since Ieyasu Tokugawa came to Edo in the shogunate, Sumida river's role is remarkable and cannot be ignored. It can be understood from the many landscapes depicted in Ukiyo-e. It can be said that it was an important presence in Edo in the cultural sense of logistics and the common people. It can be said that the Sumida river is still a base of people's minds now and now.

3.Shooting Concept

I thought about the following by taking a picture of the bridge group lit up by the full color LED and the light reflected on the river surface. A photograph with the characteristic of Tokyo very much, a special photograph of Tokyo. It is possible to take these two. Metaphors, irony also included. If it did not explain, it did not understand Sumida river, and the photograph expression which did not look like Tokyo was requested here further. In a word, it is "An equal present space full of anonymity". It can be said that it is an experimental photography for that reason and the work production.

4.Exhibitions and photography methods

I went by long exposure with a digital camera. It takes about 30 seconds at the time of exposure. In addition, I thought about what kind of method was most suitable for the exhibition. I'm still working on it, but I got one result. I'm still working on it, but I got one result. Is to square. By doing so, the relationship between the top, bottom, left and right becomes weak. It is to dilute the flow from the existence of the river to the upstream and downstream where the meaning cannot be separated. This is because the aspect ratio can be freely changed in a grid shape, and the combination is free. It is the like a tile on the wall. The number can be freely adjusted depending on the size of the wall surface. However, the image is not greatly destroyed. Or, on the contrary, it is easy to create a completely different image. In addition, it is easy to adjust depending on the size of the space. The following is the work.



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It is expected to be able to express the recognition of cities and spaces that many people have never experienced before. Photography is what I am currently exploring while taking pictures.

5.Future issues

"What color is Tokyo?" By presenting the question, I think that people who are not usually aware of the color of Tokyo can become more aware of the color of the city. Although it is the same place, the color of the illuminated building is different, so it may feel as if you are standing in a different place. For example, the following work. This is taken from the same place of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Office, but because the color of the light-up is different, a sense of incongruity is born even though it is the same place.