

**Bijyutsu no Mado Magazine / (A Window of Art) March 2008 No.294 - Japan
"Shadow of sky" Jean Claude Wouters at Marunouchi Gallery**

Art Report by Mr.Tokudaiji

Every framed work of Jean Claude Wouters, is exempt of the lucid expression for capturing the subject as it should exist. The works from his current exhibition, does not remind a viewer the conventional visual element of what photography use to be.

To create his art work, Wouters photographs repeatedly the subject within a complex process. There is no digital effect during the process, which is Wouters's consistent technique.

Portraits, transparency female nudes, a monk practicing Zen and Buddhas, are exhibited. The images rises to a shadow. The expression is very sophisticated and explicit. I have never seen such a way of showing the texture through sheen. However, a similarity can be found in the sight of Japanese houses in the old days. Shadows of trees and flowers used to hit the paper sliding door by the afternoon sunshine.

The artist is born in Belgium in 1956. He used to be interested in Japanese culture since he was a student. Wouters used to be involved in film making and received several awards in film festivals. He used to deeply appreciate the Japanese film makers, such as Akira Kurosawa and Kenji Misoguchi to Shuji Terayama and Nagisha Oshima. Wouters has lived in Japan for more than a year in the past and therefore has a gentle eye towards real Japanese scenery. The artist insists that his obsession about simplicity exists in Japanese culture.

'A constant tradition of Japanese spirituality over 2000 years, is the acceptance that god is all things of the universe.'" There is a kind of emotion that he sympathizes within Japan, that he does not meet in Europe.

Wouters very unique creation provoques an attraction that brings out the reality that is being hidden inside the viewers.

This exhibition is full of the hope and trust that this artist is a future for the art world.