



Doug Beasley, *jiso in Memory of a Child, Miya Jina, from Japan: A Nisei's First Encounter series*, 1998.
Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 3.5x4.5"

Editor's Note

Doug Beasley's journey of discovery in Japan, birthplace of his mother, is an immensely pleasurable series. A photographer who has been interested in sacred sites and personal vision for much of his career, Beasley visited Japan to meet relatives and experience the culture himself. His observations are delicate and searching, as he discovers personal memorials and offerings in forests and on mountaintops. This is a place he's never been before, yet somehow, it is familiar to him, like the lullabies mothers sing to their children. Culture has a way of surviving and helping the transitions of time.

Charles Biasiny-Rivera

Artist Statement

Although I have traveled and photographed all over the world on assignment and during photography workshops, I had never been to my Mother's homeland. It was like returning to a place I had never been; the sights, sounds and smells were unique, exotic and new, yet comfortable and oddly familiar. But well-meaning relatives acting as tour guides often had their own ideas of what was photo-worthy. Because of the language barrier, we would often get in a vehicle and have absolutely no idea where we were being taken; sometimes it was an ancient castle, sometimes a karaoke bar. Japan is a place where the sacred is intertwined into everyday life, often seamlessly; it is the intersection of these two that I find most visually interesting.

Doug Beasley

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Koi Pond, Kyoto, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 3.5x4.5"



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Oceanside Offerings, Inoshima, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 3.5x4.5"



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Bamboo Grove, Kyoto, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 3.5x4.5"



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Maple Tree, Kyoto, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 4.5x3.5"



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Paper Prayers at Shinto Shrine, Southern Hoosho, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 4.5x3.5"



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Temple Entrance Stone Marker, Kita-Kamakura, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 4.5x3.5"



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Temple Pond with Coins, Kyoto, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 3.5x4.5"



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Outside Temple Wall, Kyoto, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 4.5x3.5"



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Torii Gate at Shrine Island, Miya Jima, 1998. Sepia toned gelatin silver print, 4.5x3.5"