

# MANA CONTEMPORARY PRESENTS LARGEST U.S. EXHIBIT OF PROLIFIC JAPANESE PHOTOGRAPHER NOBUYOSHI ARAKI



For Immediate Release:

JERSEY CITY, NJ, April 16, 2013—On Saturday, May 4, Mana Contemporary will open three provocative exhibitions, including the largest survey of world renowned Japanese photographer Nobuyoshi Araki to be held in the United States.

The self-titled show in Mana's first-floor gallery, on view through August 16, will feature more than 150 of Araki's works selected from a distinguished private collection, as well as a unique installation of 500 Polaroids. Arguably Japan's greatest living photographer—and certainly its most controversial—Araki's work is charged with intense sexuality. Known best for his

intimate, snapshot-style images of women in bondage (also known as kinbaku, the Japanese art of erotic rope-tying), Araki is an artist who reacts strongly to his emotions and uses photography to express them more fully.

With more than 450 photography books to his name, Araki's inexhaustible creative energy is fueled by compulsion—he leaves no waking moment unobserved. Araki uses a range of cameras, such as a small, point-and-shoot or a larger-format, tripod-mounted camera, to explore intimate personal moments as well as various themes that exist within his city of Tokyo. Such themes include the connections between love, sex, industry, nature, chaos and emptiness.

Also on view on Mana Contemporary's first and sixth floors, in collaboration with the Eileen S. Kaminsky Family Foundation, *Obsession* delves into the minds of five passionate collectors of contemporary art. Guided by internal forces, the collector, much like the artist, is drawn toward a specific aesthetic. Selected works from the collections of Eileen S. Kaminsky, Gary Lichtenstein, Ysabel Pinyol, Steve Hanson, and Micha Ziprkowski will each be presented in a unique space and curated to evoke the collector's taste and distinctive collecting practices.

On the third floor, The Middle East Center for the Arts presents the first U.S. exhibition dedicated to video art by Palestinian women living and working in Israel. *Voices from the*

*Interior* features six female artists whose work reveals a spectrum of otherness and displacement, joining the larger Palestinian conversation on cultural identity.

During the opening party from 1 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, live music performances curated by Grammy Award-winning producer Andres Levin will be held in Mana Contemporary's 5,000-square-foot beer garden. The event is free and open to the public, and free shuttle bus service will be operating between Mana Contemporary and Milk Studios in Manhattan.

## About Mana Contemporary:

Mana Contemporary is a groundbreaking cultural venue just minutes from Manhattan. Based on an integrated philosophy, the center provides services, spaces, and programming for artists, collectors, curators, performers, students and the greater community within a single location. Mana Contemporary is home to the Middle East Center for the Arts, the Carole Feuerman Foundation, the Eileen S. Kaminsky Foundation, Shen Wei Dance Arts, and Armitage Gone! Dance. For more information about Mana Contemporary, visit [www.manaccontemporary.com](http://www.manaccontemporary.com).

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Nobuyoshi Araki, *Colourscapes*, 1991  
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