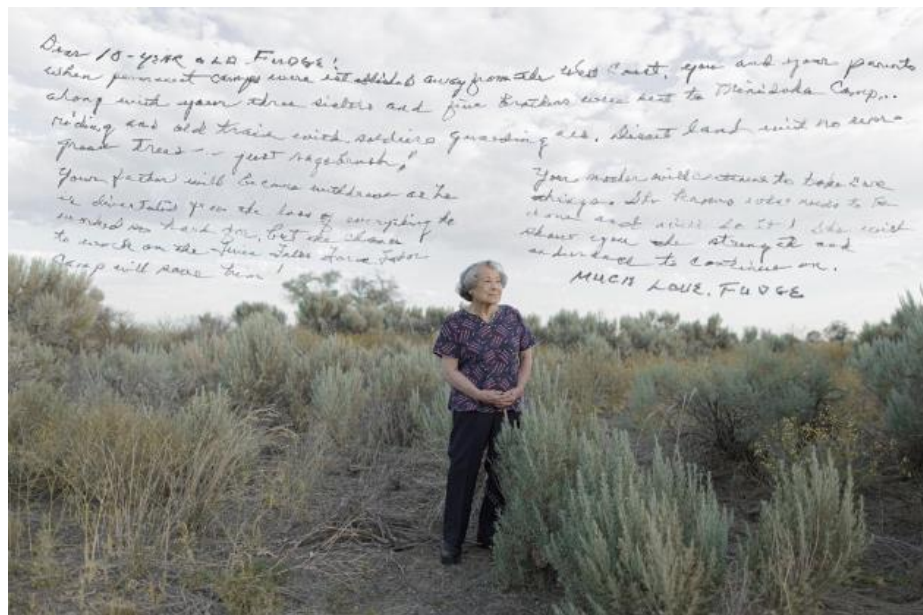




The International Center of Photography Presents Haruka Sakaguchi: The Camps America Built

The International Center of Photography | 84 Ludlow Street, New York
On view through May 25



Haruka Sakaguchi, Former incarcerated Fujiko Tamura Gardner makes a pilgrimage to her former camp Minidoka in Idaho, 2023 © Haruka Sakaguchi

The International Center of Photography (ICP) is excited to present *The Camps America Built*, an ongoing project by photographer Haruka Sakaguchi, that brings together portraits, landscape photography, personal testimony and historical documents that reflect on the legacies of Japanese American incarceration during World War II. The project is on view in ICP's Incubator Space, an ongoing exhibition program launched in 2025 to highlight the work of emerging photographers responding in real time to the world around us, while pushing the boundaries of the documentary tradition. ICP's Incubator Space is curated by Sara Ickow, Associate Director of Exhibitions at ICP.

After Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, over 120,000



people of Japanese ancestry—two-thirds of whom were U.S.-born citizens—were forcibly displaced from their homes and incarcerated in government-run concentration camps across the country. Since the end of the war, former incarceratedees and theirto these sites in search of healing and descendants have been making ‘pilgrimages’ closure.

Sakaguchi documents the ten camps as they stand today and the families who journey back to them. Each sitter is asked to handwrite a letter: for former incarceratedees, a letter to their younger self when they were incarcerated and for descendants, a letter to a former incarceratedee they are commemorating. As the United States marks its 250th anniversary, the project explores a critical question: what does it mean to be American?

“I am thrilled to have Haruka Sakaguchi as the fourth photographer presenting work in ICP’s Incubator Space,” said Sara Ickow, Associate Director of Exhibitions at ICP. “Haruka’s clear and careful visual storytelling gives us ways to learn about and examine American history, and to understand and question our current moment. Projects like *The Camps America Built* are exactly why we started this space in 2025 and hope to continue to present projects of equal relevance and impact.”

On April 25 from 2PM–3PM Haruka Sakaguchi—the 2026 Infinity Award honoree for the Documentary Practice and Visual Journalism Award—will be in conversation with Julie Abo, independent researcher, community-centered public historian and one of the subjects of the project along with Mika Kennedy Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies in the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity at Ithaca College, New York. Join the speakers after the program in the ICP Incubator space for a special tea reception from 3PM-4PM.

About Haruka Sakaguchi

Haruka Sakaguchi (b. 1990, Osaka, Japan) is a freelance photographer based in New York City. Her work explores themes of cultural memory and intergenerational trauma, often tracing overlooked histories through intimate portraiture and long-form documentary practice. Her projects have taken her around the world—from documenting atomic bomb survivors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to photographing former incarceratedees and descendants of America’s



WWII concentration camps, to reating satirical portraits of Hollywood actors typecast in stereotypical roles. In recent years, she directed *Loyal American*, a short film produced in partnership with the National Geographic Society, expanding her storytelling into the moving image. Haruka’s clients and collaborators include National Geographic, The New York Times, TIME Magazine, The New Yorker, Smithsonian Magazine and The Washington Post, among many others. Her photographs have been exhibited internationally, including at the Nobel Peace Center, Oslo; Osservatorio Fondazione Prada, Milan; and Photoville, New York and Los Angeles. She is the recipient of the 2025 CENTER Socially Engaged Award, a 2023 National Geographic Storytelling Grant, a 2021 Duke Archive of Documentary Arts Collection Award and the 2020 Newswomen’s Club of New York Front Page Award for Photo Essay. She was also recognized by Pictures of the Year International (POY) as a finalist in 2021.

Exhibition Support

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About The International Center of Photography

The International Center of Photography (ICP) is the world’s leading institution dedicated to photography and visual culture. Cornell Capa founded ICP in 1974 to champion “concerned photography”—socially and politically minded images that can educate and change the world. Through exhibitions, education programs, community outreach, and public programs, ICP offers an open forum for dialogue about the power of the image. Since its inception, ICP has presented more than 700 exhibitions, provided thousands of classes, and hosted a wide variety of public programs. ICP launched its new integrated center at 84 Ludlow Street on Manhattan’s Lower East Side in January 2020. ICP pays respect to the original stewards of this land, the Lenape people, and other Indigenous

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communities. Visit icp.org to learn more about the museum and its programs

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