

Art

# MORIMURA Yasumasa: Questioning the Cross-Cultural Mirror

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## Abstract

The visual and verbal imagery of MORIMURA Yasumasa, a contemporary Japanese artist living in Osaka, Japan, is firmly based in selected aspects of the traditional aesthetics of Japan while, superficially, appearing to have assimilated Western canons. A brief overview of Morimura's life, thought and works reveals major points in his sensibility and demonstrates his seminal importance in the history the visual arts of Japan, as the first to explore the character of Japanese self-identity in terms of the genre of the self-portrait.

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