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# Yutaka Takanashi: Toshi-e (Towards The City): Books On Books No.6



## Synopsis

Yutaka Takanashi's *Toshi-e (Towards the City)* is a landmark volume from one of the founders of the short-lived avant-garde Japanese magazine *Provoke*. The photographers associated with *Provoke* cultivated a grainy, blurry, black-and-white aesthetic, and Takanashi's pictures are grainy in the extreme. In contrast to his earlier, more upbeat *Tokyoites* series, the images here approach landscapes at skewed angles, as though shot from a speeding car, speeding perhaps towards the city.

• Published in 1974 and considered the most luxurious of all of the *Provoke*-era publications, its brooding, pessimistic tone describes the state of contemporary life in an unnamed city, in a Japan undergoing massive economic and industrial transformations. This sixth volume in *Errata's Books on Books* series reproduces all 116 black-and-white photographs, along with an essay by the British photographer, writer and book historian Gerry Badger.

*Errata Editions' Books on Books* series is an ongoing publishing project dedicated to making rare and out-of-print photography books accessible to students and photobook enthusiasts. These are not reprints or facsimiles but complete studies of the original books. Each volume in the series presents the entire content, page for page, of an original master bookwork which, up until now, has been too rare or expensive for most to experience. Through a mix of classic and contemporary titles, this series spans the breadth of photographic practice as it has appeared on the printed page and allows further study of the creation and meanings of these great works of art. Each volume in the series contains illustrations of every page in the original photobook, a new essay by an established writer on photography, production notes about the creation of the original edition and biographical and bibliographical information about each artist.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Frustrating reprint of an amazing collection of photographs. In the original book, each photo was printed on a full page with the corresponding page left blank. In this edition, apparently to reduce the cost, the landscape photos were printed at half-page size with the corresponding blank sheet on the same page. It destroys the drama of the book to reduce the photos to postcard size and renders the blank pages pointless. So While I'm grateful to Errata for reprinting this, they should really do it over again and do it right.

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