

TOYO MIYATAKE'S CAMERA

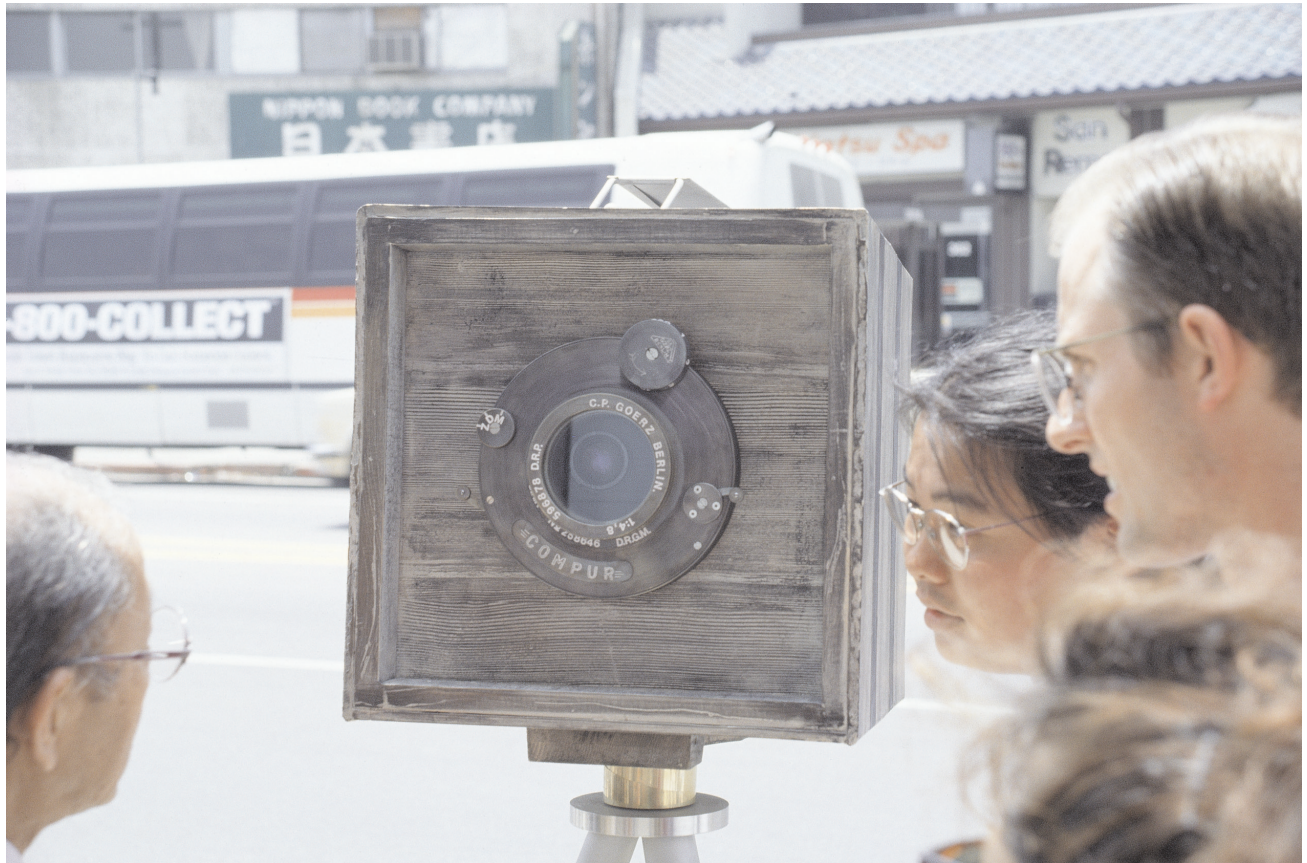
LITTLE TOKYO HISTORIC DISTRICT STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Los Angeles, California 1992

Commissioner: Community Redevelopment Agency, City of Los Angeles
Public Arts Task Force of Little Tokyo Community Development Advisory Committee
Project Budget: \$23,600



Miyatake's photo of Manzanar



Installation view

bronze, aluminum, slide projector, tripod

The sculpture is an enlarged replica of the handmade camera constructed by the Japanese-American photographer Toyo Miyatake during his confinement at Manzanar, an internment camp in the California desert used to segregate Japanese-Americans in World War II.

Installed as a permanent public artwork in the "Little Tokyo" area of downtown Los Angeles, Miyatake's photographs are projected from the camera onto the facade of the Japanese American National Museum. With this connection to the museum, a former Buddhist Temple, the camera sculpture is integrated into the commemorative fabric of the historic district of Little Tokyo, where Miyatake also had his photo studio.

This project was published in Lucy Lippard's book, *The Lure of the Local - Senses of Place in a Multicentered Society*, Chapter 6 (Out of Place), New Press, New York, 1997, p.67 (photo).