

Nobuyoshi Araki (Tokyo, 1940) is one of the most recognized photographers in Japan who has been focusing his work in themes of Eros, Thanatos (sex, death) as well as impermanence in life since the 1960s. Exemplified by up-close, personal snapshots of naked women gazing emptily into the camera, Araki has photographed the extremes of reality and fiction, Eros (life/ sex) and Thanatos (death), capturing the opposing elements of the two.

Shortly after he started his career as a commercial photographer at advertising agency Dentsu, he also started organizing solo exhibitions and publishing photography books for himself. In 1971, Araki self-published "Sentimental Journey", a documentary of his honeymoon with Yoko, which was his own kind of announcement as a photographer, as well as a "declaration of war" against existing photographic expressions.

His solo exhibitions include "Nobuyoshi Araki Photobook Exhibition: Arākī", IZU PHOTO MUSEUM (Shizuoka, 2012), "NOBUYOSHI ARAKI: Self, Life, Death", The Barbican Art Gallery (London, 2005), "Hana- Jinsei" Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography (2003), "Suicide in Tokyo" Italian Pavilion, Italia, Giardini di Castello (Venice, 2002), "Tokyo Still Life" Ikon Gallery (Birmingham, 2001), "Nobuyoshi Araki" Stedelijk Museum voor Actuelle Kunst (Gent, 2000), "ARAKI Nobuyoshi Sentimental Photography, Sentimental Life" Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo(1999), "Tokyo Comedy" Wiener Secession (Vienna, 1997), "Journal intime" Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain (Paris, 1995), "Akt-Tokyo: Nobuyoshi Araki 1971-1991" Forum Stadtpark (Graz, 1992).