

CHICHARRÓN

Hiro Tanaka's photographic journey arrives at the Sirmione Photo Residency

Sirmione, October 6, 2025 – Sirmione shines the spotlight on Japanese photographer **Hiro Tanaka**, selected for the **Sirmione Photo Residency 2025**, marking his first public meeting with the town.

On **Friday, October 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM**, at the **Hotel Catullo**, Tanaka will be in conversation with journalist **Francesca Roman**, sharing his artistic vision starting from “*Chicharrón*”, the photo book that earned him the residency in Sirmione. Published by **Witty Books** and winner of the **Cosmos Arles PDF Award**, the book is composed of photographic diptychs playing with visual and conceptual contrasts, alternating everyday scenes with surreal situations to evoke the sense of disorientation and wonder that often accompanies the experience of travel—hallmarks of Tanaka's distinctive style.

During the event, the photographer will also reveal some insights into the project he will develop in Sirmione: a **visual map of the territory**, made up of people, places, architecture, and atmospheres.

After three editions of the Sirmione Photo Residency featuring Italian photographers, this year's selection of a Japanese artist underscores Sirmione's growing role as an **international cultural hub**, capable of fostering dialogue across borders.

Tanaka was chosen by a distinguished jury from among **168 proposals submitted from 30 countries worldwide**.

The jury was once again chaired by **Andréa Holzherr** and **Ludovica Pellegatta**, respectively Global Exhibitions Director and Curator, and Partnerships Director of **Magnum Photos**.

Hiro Tanaka is a Japanese photographer who lived for several years in the United States, where he began taking photographs by chance over 15 years ago after winning a trip to America in a lottery. While touring with a punk and indie rock band, he was given his first camera as a gift and began documenting life on the road. Since then, he has carried out numerous photographic projects, participated in artist residencies in Asia, Europe, and the United States, and received international recognition. His awards include the **Cosmos Arles PDF Award** (Les Rencontres d'Arles, France) and the **TPD Book Award** (Italy), and he has been a finalist or nominee for the **World Press Photo Global Talent**, the **PHotoESPAÑA Best Book Award**, the **Gomma Photography Grant**, and the **Kassel Photobook Award**. His works have been exhibited in international festivals and galleries and published in numerous monographs. **Website:** hypercool69.wixsite.com

Free admission

As part of the **Sirmione Photo Residency**, on **Friday, October 24, 2025 at 6:00 PM** at **Palazzo Callas Exhibitions**, the event "*Venature*" will present the book and project created by photographer **Mattia Marzorati** during the 2024 edition. The event will also feature journalist **Michele Smargiassi** and **Ludovica Pellegatta** of Magnum Photos.

INFORMATION:

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