
BOOK REVIEW

Shirahata, Shiro. **The Alps**. Rizzoli. 1980. 42p. + 104 plates. color photogs. LC 80-50658. ISBN 0-8478-0316-3. \$75. PHOTOG



Shirahata, a Japanese photographer, spent several months photographing four major mountain ranges in the European Alps. His book is a spectacular photographic essay of some of Europe's most famous mountains, including the Matterhorn and the Eiger. Individual photos of precipitous peaks, glaciers, snowfields, and massive walls exhibit thoughtful composition and a nice blend of light and shadow. Shirahata often had to spend days on the slopes waiting for the clouds to lift or the sun to pass a ridge, to achieve desired results. Many of the quarto-sized plates record exceptional detail, such as glacial crevasses and moraines. All of this is accentuated by the brilliant color, which provides added realism. Brief notes describe the location and environmental conditions at the time each photo was taken. The public and especially people with an interest in mountaineering will enjoy this book.

John H. Sandy, The General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin

Citation

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