

from award-winning author, an avant-garde collection fusing literature, art & philosophy

Of Forests and Clocks and Dreams by Takatsu—the cross-disciplinary multimedia artist and pioneer of English cell phone novels—crystallizes surreal and visionary fragments, moments, imaginings and perceptions in literary short stories, poetry, aphorisms, essay, excerpts, artwork, photography, typography and design. The book will be officially released by Inspiritus Press on April 29th, 2016 as the trailblazing title of a new unconventional approach to publishing.

His work explores the nature of reality and the crisis of identity, human consciousness, and imagination stunted by subjectivity, culture, and constructs of a tumultuous simultaneous digital age, and invokes spiritual mysticism and modern metaphysical philosophy in a search for dreams, the soul and beyond. Whether in his enigmatic aphorisms, haiku-esque poetry, or shorts that blur the lines between dream and wakefulness, through strange conversations, umbrellas, a talking bird, a girl with a top hat, grandfather clocks, a transfigured stone, a missing archaeologist, bowls of rice, white elephants, a man with twelve toes and more, Takatsu continues to open the window of perception and enlighten readers around the globe.

The collection includes short quotes and excerpts of his acclaimed genre-bending dystopian magical realism literary novel, *Espresso Love*: the unedited manuscript on Wattpad.com that had gained a worldwide readership of over 950,000, winner of a Watty's Award 2014, ranking #1, and reviewed by professors, editors, authors and fans of all ages. His writing continues to spearhead the university-adult literary fiction and philosophy frontlines on the writing and reading platform of over 40 million unique users per month.

The twenty-five year-old author with 16,000 followers online lives in Toronto and is a musician, guest speaker, panelist, and writing teacher. Takatsu will participate in upcoming events and presentations, sharing about digital literature, multimedia art, cell phone novels, and the new book. Advance and review copies are currently available.



www.inspirituspress.com

PO BOX 99900 UP 402 708
RPO WILLIAMSTOWN
Markham, ON, CANADA L3P0N6

contact@inspirituspress.com

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"[His stories] have a timeless quality, little legends or fables that enlighten or explain a philosophy of life, a zen moment... [they] touch on an innate mystery of things that allow one to see."

Patricia Keeney, York University Creative Writing Professor, Award-winning Poet, Critic and Author of *One Man Dancing*

"A thought provoking work that will leave the reader questioning the very existence around them... [Takatsu] always seems to be breaking the rules and combining various mediums of art... The pioneer of English Cell Phone Novels has continued to approach writing—and art as a whole—in different ways, breaking and manipulating constructs... A great glimpse into what the future of the written word—and art as a whole—can be."

C. J. Garrett, Author of *Memoirs of a Zygote (Trapped in a Human's Body)*

"Takatsu is a fascinating writer, musician and illustrator and is at the forefront of transmedia storytelling."

Rowena Wiseman, Author of *Searching for Von Honningsbergs, The Replacement Wife, Bequest, Silver.*

"I am awestruck at the philosophical stance of your writing. Your writing is akin to that of Murakami in its surrealist execution."

Shane Oltingir, Wattpad Reader

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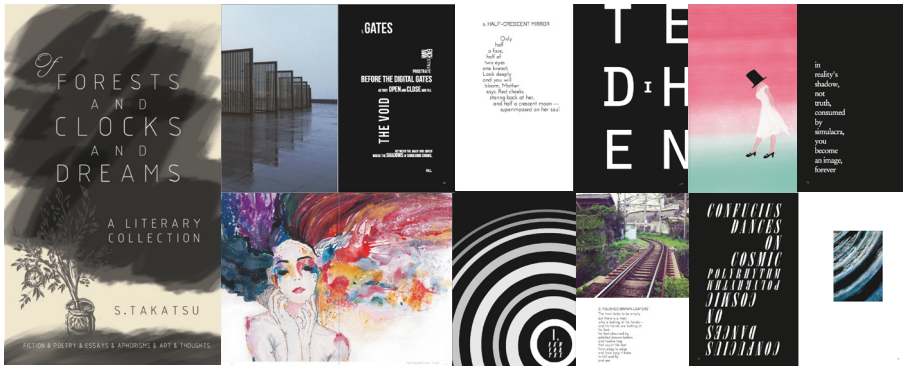
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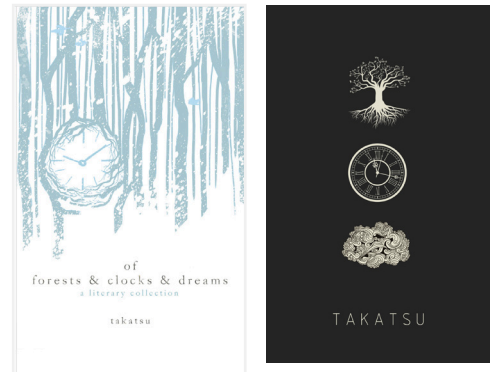
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about the author

In 2008, through *Secondhand Memories*, Takatsu pioneered the Japanese "cell phone novel" phenomenon in the English-speaking world, marking a new online literary movement among thousands of young writers and readers globally. The unique serialized fusion of simple haiku-esque poetic technique, visual text flow, multimedia and micro-prose storytelling has re-envisioned technology, youth culture, community and literature. The coming-of-age story, *Secondhand Memories*, won the Textnovel Reader's Choice Award in 2009 and was released for fans internationally in 2015 by Sakura Publishing.

His more recent flagship novel, *Espresso Love* (2014), is a dystopian magical-realistic literary journey of spiritual awakening, which satirizes and examines human nature, subjective perception, socio-political systems, digital landscape, capitalist mechanism and consumer culture. It won the Watty's Award 2014, reached #1 in Science-Fiction, surpassed a readership of 950,000 in several months, and has been acclaimed by professors, authors and young readers alike. *Of Forests and Clocks and Dreams*, a visionary post-modern literary and art collection, will be published in 2016 by Inspiritus Press.

Aside from writing, the author teaches writing and fine arts part-time, as well as guest speaking at and coordinating events, online initiatives, multimedia projects with artists, illustrators, musicians, film directors and more. He received the Stanley Fefferman Prize at the York University President's Creative Writing Awards in 2014. Takatsu is influenced by writers such as Haruki Murakami, Ernest Hemingway, Banana Yoshimoto, George Orwell, Don DeLillo, Franz Kafka, Raymond Carver and the ideas of Emerson, Mumford, Baudrillard, Jung, Freud, Hegel, Berkeley, and Marx.



www.takatsu.tk

taka@inspirituspress.com