

コレスポンドンス―友への手紙

米田知子

アルベール・カミュ(1913–1960)は、フランス領アルジェリアに生まれた。フランスとアルジェリアの2つの故郷を持ち、20世紀激動の狭間に生きた。不条理を描いた小説『異邦人』で名を馳せ、当時最年少でノーベル賞に輝くが、46歳で交通事故により不慮の死を遂げてしまう。カミュは著作を通じて、人間とは平等の光と自然の恩恵を受け、自由を享受するべく存在し、暴力のない真の尊厳を持ちうる権利があることを訴え続けた。

貧しい幼少時代を過ごした生命力に溢れるアルジェの街。海と光に包まれたティバサの遺跡。ドイツ占領下、レジスタンス運動が活発だった南フランスにあるル・シャンボン・シュール・リニョン。(この近郊にある小村パヌリエに滞在中、カミュは小説『ペスト』の執筆をした。)これらの場所が彼の創作活動におけるインスピレーションの源として挙げられる。

1954年、フランスからの独立を懸けたアルジェリア戦争が勃発。アルジェリア全土で激しい戦いが繰り広げられ、無差別的暴力やテロが市民を巻き込みエスカレートしていった。そのような中、カミュは1956年にアルジェにて市民休戦を呼び掛けたが、それも失敗に終わる。こうして、愛する2つの祖国のあいだでカミュの心は引き裂かれていった。

カミュが葛藤と苦悩の只中にあった時期に、存在していた一台のカメラがある。私の父親が愛用していたものである。私はこのカメラを手に取り、カミュの創造の源となったアルジェリアとフランスの地を巡り、カミュが生きた時代の残像とそこに息づく光を写した。そして、対話が始まるような一対の写真として、ここに収めた。

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CORRESPONDENCE―Letter to a Friend

Tomoko Yoneda

Albert Camus (1913-1960) was born in French Algeria. Camus, having lived in a period of intense social upheaval defining the 20th century, called two lands home: France and Algeria. Garnering acclaim for his novel *The Stranger* (the U.S. version title, entitled *The Outsider* in the U.K.) and the depiction of the absurdities within, Camus would go on to shine as the youngest Nobel Prize winner of his era. At the age of 46, however, he would die unexpectedly in an automobile accident. Throughout his works, Camus continuously maintained that human beings exist to rejoice in freedom, basking in equally in the gifts of light and nature – and that they are entitled to true dignity, free of violence.

The city of Algiers – teeming with life – where Camus spent his childhood in poverty. The ruins of Tipaza, bordered by the sea and enveloped in light. Le Chambon-sur-Lignon in the south of France – once a center of activity for the French Resistance movement during the German occupation. (While Camus was staying in Panelier, a small village and suburb of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, he penned the novel, *The Plague*.) One could consider these places as wellsprings of inspiration for Camus as he went about his creative pursuits.

1954 saw the outbreak of the Algerian War, a contention for Algeria’s independence from France. Fierce conflict engulfed all corners of the country, increasing in escalation as terror attacks and indiscriminate violence swept civilians into its wake. Camus, in the thick of these conditions, made a public entreaty for a truce to the war in Algiers in 1956: but this ended in failure. With this, Camus saw his own heart torn between his two homelands – the countries he loved.

I have a camera; it was one my father used all the time, and came from the same period that Camus experienced such strife and anguish. With the camera in hand, I visited these places in Algeria and France – these sources of creativity for Camus – and captured the afterimages of the era in which he lived, together with the light that inhabits them. Here I have collected them into pairs – pairs that pave the way for dialogue.

This portfolio is commissioned by the Japan Foundation/Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris, for the exhibition “Transphère #5 – Tomoko Yoneda «Dialogue with Albert Camus»” (curator: Aomi Okabe).



A statue in a pond and sky seen through palm trees, Botanical Garden of Hamma, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

さまざまな1200種もの珍しい植物が茂る美しい公園は、フランス統治下アルジェリアで1832年に造園された。ここで、カミュは幼い頃、学校のない週2日、木曜日と土曜日に友人たちと木に登ったり、木の実やヤシの実を拾ったりと、木々の間を走り回り、思う存分遊んでいた。

This spectacular garden, first landscaped in 1832, is verdant with nearly 1,200 variants of flora.
In his younger years, Camus would visit the park on the two days per week that he had off of school – Thursday and Saturday. He and his friends would climb up the trees, pick up the fallen nuts and coconuts that dropped from the palms, and run around amongst the trunks – frolicking to their hearts’ content.



Girl in a Zoo, Botanical Garden of Hamma, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

Botanical Garden of Hamma (仏:Jardin d'essai du Hamma)内に1900年に開設された動物園。ライオンや孔雀の彫刻が施された当時の美しい建物が園入口で人々を迎え入れる。連日、たくさんの家族連れで賑わっており、アルジェの人々にとっての憩いの場である。

Located within the Botanical Garden of Hamma (in French: *Jardin d'essai du Hamma*) is a zoo, first established in 1900. Welcoming visitors at the entrance is a beautiful structure from the era decorated with reliefs showing lions, peacocks and the like. The zoo comes to life with throngs of visiting families for days on end – a place serving as an oasis for the people of Algiers.



A glimpse of the sea, Tipaza, Algeria, 2017

ティパサはアルジェから約70キロ先にある小さな街。この地名はアラビア語で「荒廃した都市」という意味をもつ。その名の由来となった古代ローマの遺跡群が海に向かって広がっている。石に戻った古代ローマの都市は、紺碧の海を前に、草花と野原、大地と花々の芳香につつまれ、かつ、その沈黙の風景には矜持がある。

カミュは幾度もティパサを訪れ、自然と芸術、そして生命の息吹の幸福な融合に敬意をはらっていた。

Tipaza is a small town located approximately 70 kilometers away from Algiers: its name meaning “ruined city” in Arabic. A cluster of ancient Roman ruins, from which the town gets its name, expands outwards towards the sea. The ancient Roman city has reverted back to stone; the deep blue ocean expands in front of it, while the wildflowers and meadows perfume it with the aromas of the flowers and the land. The silent landscape has a dignified, prideful majesty. Camus made his way to visit Tipaza countless times, paying his respects to the blissful union of nature, art, and the breath of life to be found there.



The neighborhood of Belcourt where Camus grew up, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

父リュシアンは戦死後、母カトリーヌは幼い兄弟を連れて、アルジェ市内の貧しい地区ベルクールにある自らの母と叔父が住むアパートに身を寄せる。いろいろな人種が肩を寄せ合い住んでいるこの界限は、サッカーに沸き、情熱で活気ある労働者の街であった。貧しかったが、アルジェリアの自然と光、愛に溢れ幸せだったとカミュは語る。

After his father Lucien’s death in the war, Camus’s mother Catherine took him and his brother to live in an apartment located in Belcourt, the poor working-class district of Algiers, together with her own mother and Camus’s uncle. The variety of races and backgrounds of people in Belcourt would live side by side; the neighborhood was a home for passionate, spirited members of the working class, and often came alive with a shared enthusiasm for football. Despite its poverty, Camus describes the happiness he felt there: being abundant with the nature, light, and affection of Algeria.



The sun at Sablettes beach, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

カミュが幼少期から青春期にかけて、多くの時間を過ごしたアルジェにある有名なビーチ。今も地元の人々で終日賑わっている。そこにはアルジェの夏の激しい太陽の光が注いでいる。

このビーチは小説『異邦人』の舞台にもなったと言われ、また、作中には照りつける太陽が幾度となく現われてくる。

From his youth and into his adolescence, Camus would spend much of his time at this famous beach in Algiers; its shores are still lively with flocks of locals all throughout the day. The intense light of the Algiers summer sun shines down on its sands.

The beach is said to have been part of Camus's novel, *The Stranger* – with the searing light of the sun making countless appearances throughout the text itself.



View of Algiers from a window of the Saint George Hotel, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

アルジェリア独立問題を巡り武力闘争、テロが激化する中、カミュは1956年1月「市民休戦」の呼び掛けのためアルジェに向かった。しかしそれは失敗に終わる。カミュはその後、アルジェリア人死刑囚の釈放運動に関与するが、アルジェリア問題について公の場で発言をすることは一切拒否するようになり、沈黙の道へと進み始める。

当時滞在していたセント・ジョージ・ホテルには、彼宛ての脅迫状が送り付けられることもあったと言われている。

ホテルの部屋からはアルジェの港と街が一望でき、目の前には大きな木が一本立ち、揺れている…。

In the midst of escalating armed conflict and terrorism surrounding the issue of Algerian independence, Camus made an appeal to the people of Algiers in January of 1956: an endeavor known as a “Civilian Truce.” But despite his efforts, his entreaty ends in failure. Camus would later become active in a movement seeking to release Algerian prisoners on death row, but from 1956 on, he would unequivocally turn down all occasions to make political comments in public spaces. With that, he begins his life on a path of silence.

It is said that the Saint George Hotel, where he stayed at the time, had once received threatening letters addressed to Camus.

From this room in the hotel, one has a clear view of both the port and the town of Algiers; and standing in front of the window is a large, swaying tree...



The sun and the white stone city, Algiers, Algeria, 2017

海岸線沿いに位置するアルジェは、太陽の光をいっぱい受け、キラキラ光る白い石でできた街である。

この海岸線の輝きを見ると、いつも帰って来たと思うと、カミュは語っている。

Located by the coast, Algiers is a town built of shining, white stone: showered with the light of the sun.

Camus would say that whenever he saw these glimmering shores, he felt that he had made his way back home.



The house where Camus wrote *The Plague*, Panelier, France, 2017

1942年、結核による咯血を起こしたカミュは療養のため、ドイツ占領下のフランスにある小村パヌリエに夫婦で滞在した。しかし、その後、連合軍による北アフリカ上陸により、先にアルジェリアへ戻っていた妻や母ら家族との連絡が絶たれてしまった。

この村の近郊にある地区ル・シャンボン・シュール・リニョンは、レジスタンス活動が盛んだった地域であり、戦時中、多くのユダヤ人の子供達がかくまわれていた。ここでの滞在経験が小説『ペスト』のインスピレーションにもなったとも言われている。

In order to treat his tuberculosis-induced hemoptysis in 1942, Camus stayed with his wife in Panelier, a small village in German-occupied France. Later, as the Allied Forces made their advance into northern Africa, Camus soon lost contact with his mother and family there, as well as his wife – who had by that time returned to Algeria ahead of him.

The area of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, located nearby the village, was a hotbed of activity for the French Resistance movement – during the war, many Jewish children were sheltered within the town. It is said that his experiences during his stay there served as inspiration for his work, *The Plague*.



The way to the forest, Panelier, France, 2017

カミュは日記に、パヌリエの自然の美しさと光について何度も記述している。この林を抜け、下に降りていくと、茂った草木の間に美しいせせらぎが見えてくる。カミュは、そこで釣りを楽しんでいたという。

In his journal, Camus made numerous references to the natural beauty and light of Panelier. After making one's way out of this wood and descending downwards, one catches sight of a gorgeous brook between the overgrown shrubs and trees. Camus had said that he had often enjoyed going fishing there.



The station and the memorial, Saint-Brieuc, France, 2017

サン=ブリューは父リュシアンが埋葬されている場所。リュシアンはアルジェリアに生まれ、一度もフランスを見たことがなかった。第一次大戦の勃発(1914年)とともにリュシアンはズアーブ兵*1として動員され、マルヌの戦いで負傷。その後、サン=ブリューにある陸軍病院に運ばれるが、頭に受けた傷が致命傷となって、間もなく死亡する。リュシアンにとって初めて見たフランスの地が死に場所となった。同地を初めて訪れた35歳のカミュは、墓標の前で、自分より若くして父が亡くなっていたことに気づき、泣き崩れた。

Saint-Brieuc: the location where Camus's father, Lucien, was laid to rest. Having been born and raised in Algeria, Lucien had never seen France with his own eyes. With the outbreak of the First World War (in 1914), Lucien was enlisted into the Zouaves*2, later sustaining a wound at the Battle of Marne. He was carried to a makeshift army hospital in Saint-Brieuc but would soon perish after the wound to his head became fatal. Lucien's first glimpse of France would also end up becoming his final resting place.

Camus would later come to visit the area for the first time at the age of 35. Upon visiting his father's grave, he realized that his father left this world at an age younger than his own – a fact that brought him to tears.

*1. アルジェリア人、チュニジア人を基本に編成されたフランスの歩兵。当時、北アフリカはフランスの植民地だった。

*2. A French infantry unit composed mainly of Algerian and Tunisian soldiers. North Africa was a French colonial territory at the time.