



Mitsuaki Iwago. Tasting Happiness.

Sheer bliss. That's the impression this reticulated giraffe gave photographer Mitsuaki Iwago as he watched it happily chew the tender, just-budded leaves from the branch of a young acacia tree. Having returned to Kenya for the first time in more than ten years, Iwago felt that everything was fresh, from the deep green of the trees to the brilliant azure of the sky. But what excited him most of all was the extraordinary sight of so many magnificent animals living free in the wild,

embraced by the warmth of the sun and caressed by the gentle breeze. To Iwago, these animals seemed perfectly adapted to the land in which they lived, appearing healthy, beautiful, and full of joy.

— *Hoping That Nature's Beauty Will Last Forever*

Shot in Samburu National Reserve in Kenya, on September 28, 2007, at 5:42 p.m., with the Olympus E-3, Zuiko Digital ED 50-200mm SWD, f4.5, 1/640 sec.

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Mitsuaki Iwago, born in Tokyo in 1950, is an internationally renowned wildlife photographer whose work has won many awards and has appeared in and on the cover of *National Geographic*.



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