

Brainwashed - Merzbow's muse Minazo dies at Japan aquarium

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Minazou, Japan's only male Elephant Seal in captivity, died recently at the young (for an elephant seal) age of 11. He was the inspiration for Merzbow's 2002 album *Merzbeat*, the flagship album in the on-going Merz-Series on

[Important](#)

. He was also the album's cover star and the subject of numerous photographs, paintings and postcards made by Masami Akita. It's certainly a sad time for Masami and Jenny Akita as they were obviously quite charmed by Minazo and made frequent trips to the aquarium to visit Minazo. Photos and links to a couple of great photo sites of this tremendous animal on

[Important's news page](#)

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