

Hokusai and Sumida

Hokusai became an apprentice of "Katsukawa Shunsho" (勝川春章) who was master of leading *Ukiyo-e* school in 1778. It didn't be known how he had met him. He received pen name "Katsukawa Shunro" (勝川春朗) from his master. Katsukawa school apprentice received normally pen name including one letter; "SHUN" (春) came from master's name "SHUN sho" (春章). However he received additionally one more letter "RO" (朗) from him. Shunsho used another pen name "Kyokurosei" (旭朗井) when he compose *kyōka* (狂歌). "RO" (朗) came from his another pen name.

No Katsukawa school pupil except Hokusai received 2 letters from Shunsho, which enable us to figure out how he was promising artist at that time.

Hokusai as Shunro had found a new enthusiasm for his work, his skill improved rapidly. His first publication which could be preserved was "Actor Iwai Hanshiro IV as *Kashiku*" drawn in his 20s. At that time, Hokusai was tight for money, hence it was said that he earned his living by peddling calendars and spicy condiment. On the other hands, it was said that he was secretly studying the painting technique of the Kano school and other schools as well. He was said to have been expelled because of these activities. After Shunsho had died in 1792, Hokusai left from the Katsukawa school where he had learnt for 15 years.

Katsushika Hokusai "Actor Iwai Hanshiro IV as *Kashiku*"
Collection: the Sumida Hokusai Museum



22 November 2017 was our first anniversary. We had welcomed many visitors who enjoyed our museum since museum opening. The number of visitors who came from abroad was increasing day by day. They made up about 10 percent of the total visitors.

We held the event related the special exhibition "Performer ☆Hokusai" (from 9 Sep to 22 Oct). Japanese famous contemporary artist named Akira Yamaguchi tried to perform a huge Bodhidharma drawing as large as 80 tatami mats. Thanks for local people, the venue and exhibition place was provided for this performance.

The celebration of our museum's first anniversary had the Rakugo (Comic story) performance played by young Rakugoka (a comic storyteller) who lived in Sumida city and the concert performed by New Japan Philharmonic based in the Sumida Triphony Hall. We aimed to be the museum growing with the community and be loved by the community while being supported by Hokusai's hometown "Sumida".

News from The Museum

Director of the Sumida Hokusai Museum

Hiroshi Kikuta



Next exhibition "Hokusai and Water" (tentative title)

"Under the wave off Kanagawa, Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" is iconic work of Hokusai. Beside "the great wave", there are his many wonderful works depicting water. He described various appearances of changing water ex. the flowing water of the river which people live side-by-side and the dynamic wave which represented nature power. "Under the wave off Kanagawa, Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" and all works of the series "A Tour of the waterfalls in Various Provinces" will be shown in this exhibition. Moreover this exhibition introduces the fascination of Hokusai's and his apprentice's portrayals of changing water from our collection.



Katsushika Hokusai "Under the Wave off Kanagawa, Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" Collection: the Sumida Hokusai Museum

Tue 24 April - Sun 10 June 2018
1 term: 24 April - 10 June
2 term: 22 May - 10 June

[INFORMATION]

Hours : 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (last admission 5:00 p.m.)

Closed : Mondays (or the following weekday when Monday is a holiday or observed holiday)

Year-end and New Year holidays

Access : 5-minute walk from the Toei Oedo Line Ryogoku Station A3 exit

9-minute walk from JR Sobu Line Ryogoku Station East exit

5 minutes by Sumida Loop Bus from the JR Sobu Line

Kinshicho Station North exit

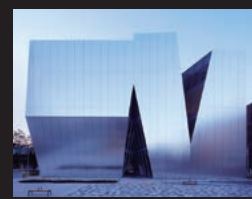
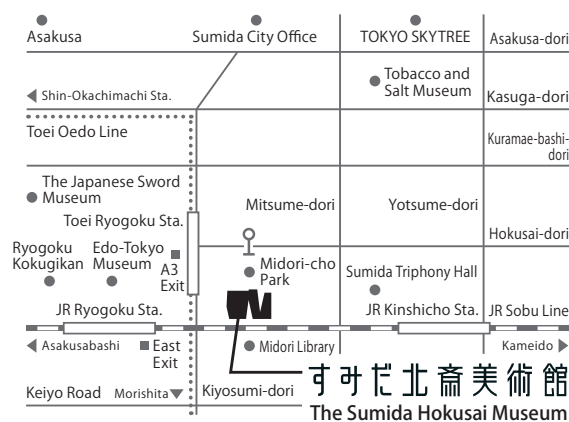
HP <http://hokusai-museum.jp/english/>

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■ Hokusai Official Leader: Hamatomo Corporation



THE SUMIDA HOKUSAI MUSEUM NEWS



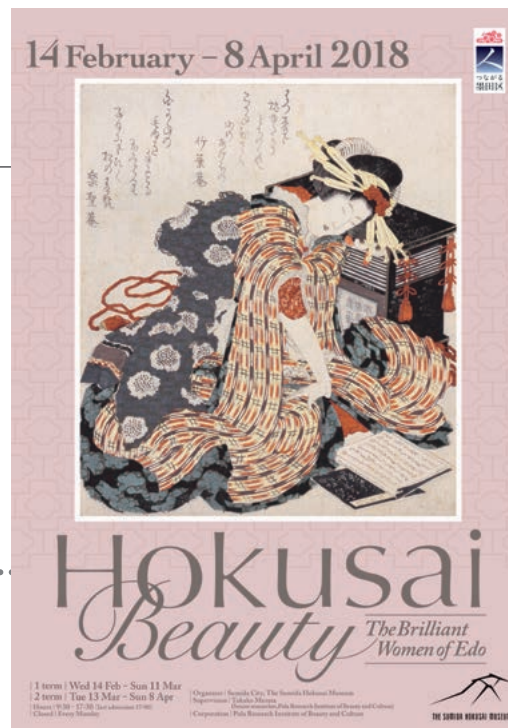
すみだ北斎美術館
2018 Spring

Hokusai Beauty The Brilliant women of Edo

14 February - 8 April 2018

1 term 14 Feb - 11 Mar / 2 term 13 Mar - 8 Apr

Hokusai is known for the many stylistic transformations he achieved in his seventy-year career, including the distinctive styles he developed for depicting beautiful women (*bijin*, beauties). During his early, Shunrō, period, he was influenced by Torii Kiyonaga, who was famous for his portrayals of beautiful women. In his Sōri period, he painted graceful beauties with oval faces before gradually shifting to depicting more stunningly beautiful, voluptuous women. This exhibition introduces the fascination of Hokusai's portrayals of beautiful women and the glorious world of the Edo beauty through 130 works, including depictions of beautiful women by Hokusai and members of his school from our museum's collection and materials, including hair style patterns, accessories, and makeup equipment, from the Pola Research Institute of Beauty and Culture.



Section 1 The Many Styles of Hokusai's Beauties: Permutations and Transformations

During his seven-decade-long artistic career, Hokusai transformed his style repeatedly. Those changes can be seen in the styles he developed for depicting beautiful women as well. This section traces those transformations from his early, Shunrō, period (1778-94) through his Sōri period (1794-1804), the years in which he used the names Katsushika Hokusai and Taito and worked as an illustrator of popular fiction (1804-11), and in his late period, until his death in 1849.

Section 2 A World of Gorgeous Attire and Hairstyles

A distinctive feature of Hokusai's work is that the ideas behind and the compositions of his paintings and prints are bold yet are created with extremely precise detail and delicate brushwork. Those qualities are evident in his images of beautiful women, in which the rendering of accessories and the fine motifs on garments is particularly noteworthy. In this section, we present the kimono that Hokusai depicted as well as accessories such as ornamental combs and hairpins, plus the makeup equipment with which women brought out their beauty. Gorgeous attire, fabulous hairstyles: Edo women had it all.

Accessories

This was a Japanese comb "Orokugushi" which was famous specialty of Tsuchiyama. Tsuchiyama was one of the 53 stations of Tokaido road.



Katsushika Hokusai "Tsuchiyama, from the series The Fifty-three Station of the Tokaido Road"

Hair style

"Yokohyogo" is a Japanese traditional hairstyle. Hair is swept upward, resembling butterfly wings. This hair style was fashionable among courtesans who were fashion icon in the Edo period. High-ranking courtesans dressed their hair in Yokohyogo. Its style had difference between west and east.

Make up

Sasabeni colour (golden green) lipstick was trend from 1804 to 1830. High quality rouge shined with green colour. Put lightly on Sasabeni rouge made women's lips faintly red. Apply tickly sasabeni rouge made their lips green.



Section 3 Hokusai School Beauties

Hokusai had over two hundred pupils, including pupils of pupils. Their styles were quite varied, for good reason. Hokusai himself kept changing his style during the seven decades of his long career, and his influence on his pupils thus varied depending on when he accepted them as students. His pupils' many different styles also suggest that, rather than making them adhere to his own style, he trained them in a more generous manner. In this section, we introduce the results through Hokusai School pictures of beautiful women.

Katsushika Ōi "Treasury of Education for Women" Collection: the Sumida Hokusai Museum

Exhibition Report

Sat 9 Sep - Sun 22 Oct 2017

Bicentennial of the Great Bodhidharma

The Performer ☆ Hokusai

~Electrifying Edo and Nagoya~

Renown Japanese Ukiyoe artist Katsushika Hokusai executed a work of performance art. He carried out this performance at the Nagoya Nishikakesho (a branch of the Nishi Honganji Temple) painting a huge portrait of the founder of Zen Buddhism, the Bodhidharma (about 18x11 meters or the size of 120 tatami mats). There we can glimpse a profile of Hokusai as a performer who made use of the vitality of the Nagoya castle town to advertise his Sketches by Hokusai (Hokusai Manga). It's an exhibition that shows about 160 works and materials.



Kōriki Enkoan "Details of Hokusai's Performance of Painting a Huge Portrait of the Bodhidharma" Collection: The Nagoya City Museum



Katsushika Hokusai "Sketches by Hokusai, vol.12" Collection: The Sumida Hokusai Museum

RELATED EVENT

Exhibition Date (YKK60 building) Mon 16 - Sun 22 Oct 2017
 Exhibition Date (Sumida City office) Thu 26 Oct - Wed 22 Nov 2017

Japanese artist Akira Yamaguchi performance Yamaguchi Akira "After Hokusai's Portrait of the Great Bodhidharma" (倣北斎故事大師圖) Sat 14 Oct

"Performer ☆Hokusai" focused on the fact that Hokusai executed a work of performance art. In 1817 he carried out this performance at the Nagoya Nishikakesho painting a huge portrait of the founder of Zen Buddhism, Bodhidharma. What if Hokusai's performance would be made today? We held this event related to this exhibition. Following to Hokusai's performance, a famous Japanese contemporary artist named Akira Yamaguchi tried to perform a huge Bodhidharma drawing. His Bodhidharma was exhibited in the YKK building where he had done drawing performance, then in Sumida city office.



Photo by Koichiro SAITO

Yamaguchi Akira

Artist. Born in 1969 in Tokyo and raised in the city of Kiryū, Gunma Prefecture. BA and MA in oil painting from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Known for a style that freely mixes together elements across time and space, incorporating detailed depictions of people and buildings using traditional techniques reminiscent of yamato-e and ukiyo-e.

Tue 21 Nov 2017 - Sun 21 Jan 2018

Celebrating Our First Birthday: Happy Hokusai

—Good Fortune from A to Z

Good Fortune from A to Z
 Special exhibition for 1st anniversary of Museum Opening

Edo-period people with literary inclinations enjoyed privately commissioning prints, known as surimono to distinguish them from commercially published prints, and giving them to each other. Hokusai and his pupils produced a great number of surimono with the gods and other auspicious icons as well as scenes of New Year's customs as their subjects. Their work on lucky themes was used in warm-hearted interactions between friends and family members, displayed in homes to bring in good luck, and given as New Year's gifts to express hopes for the recipients' good fortune. In that spirit, we display these luck-bringing works by Hokusai and his school with gratitude to all who had supported our museum since its opening, who had come to our exhibitions, and who will continue to cheer on our efforts.



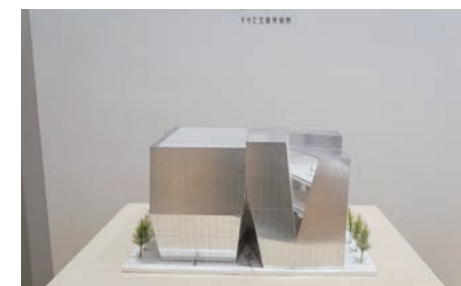
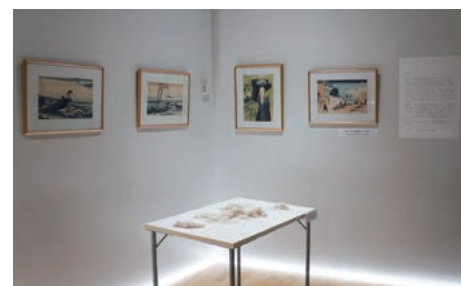
Katsushika Hokusai "Visiting the Meguro Fudōson" Collection: The Sumida Hokusai Museum
 Meguro Fudōson was "Power spot" that brought fortune. The Edo-period equivalents were places to which people made repeated visits to offer prayers.

Tue 31 Oct - Sun 12 Nov 2017

"Sejima Kazuyo SANAA × Hokusai"



This exhibition celebrated 1st anniversary of museum opening. We showed architectural study models and drawings of Sejima Kazuyo who designed our museum and architect group SANAA which she and Nishizawa Ryue established, as well as our main theme Hokusai's art pieces. Sejima's modern architecture and Hokusai's traditional Japanese artworks seem to be conflict each other but had something in common beyond the time and medium. At the exhibition room on 4th floor, we show the process of realization of the museum from when competition started. At the foyer on the 3rd and 4th floor, study models of Sejima and SANAA's projects. Curator Hasegawa Yuko indicated key words which could connect Hokusai and Sejima "Transparency", "Multiaspect" and "Parallel world". Based on 3 key words, visitors appreciated our special exhibition displaying study models, drawings and images.



Sat 27 Jan - Sun 4 Feb 2018

Hommage à Hokusai, Nearly Thirty-six Views of Shiriagari Kotobuki's mischief



Shiriagari Kotobuki "Higesori Fuji" ©SHIRIAGARI kotobuki

Shiriagari Kotobuki is a Japanese manga artist whose unforgettable works deal with various topics, such as gag strip and social problem. Moreover, in 2014, his animation "Voyage de Hokusai" was shown in the exhibition "Hokusai" held in the Grand Palais (Paris). Today as a contemporary art artist, he creates fine art pieces and held solo exhibitions in museums in Japan last year. Shiriagari made nearly 36 new works while he was playing a little trick on master pieces of Hokusai who he respected for. His humorous homage let us feel familiar with Hokusai. Visitors enjoyed comparing with his inspired Hokusai's original images (replica) and Shiriagari's one. Both two were displayed next to.

Shiriagari Kotobuki

Manga artist. Born in Shizuoka City in 1958. After graduating from the Art University, he joined Kirin Brewery Co., Ltd. in 1981 and was in charge of package design and advertisement promotion, etc. In 1985, he made his debut as a manga artist in his book "Ereki na haru". He got a lot of attention as a new type of gag manga artist who focused on parodies. After setting up for himself in 1994, he has continued to publish various kind of works such as fantasy or literary, four-panel cartoon in newspaper, long story comics and underground manga, etc. In recent years, the range of his creation is being expanded in many other aspects.

A Notice from the Library

The library has around 18,000 articles, both Japanese and from around the world, that related to ukiyo-e and Hokusai. It's widely used by a range of people, from those who are getting interested in ukiyo-e to ukiyo-e researchers. Here's an introduction to some of our helpful materials, as well as some of our rarer references.

—Recommend Books for children—

Title: Series of telling story about master piece: Katsushika Hokusai
 Author: Kazuko NISHIMURA
 Published by HAKUGADO Publishing Co.,Ltd.

It was written in both English and Japanese. 50 works including "Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji, The Great Wave off Kanagawa" were listed in this book. You could see Hokusai's major works as well as Yomihon, Caricature (Giga) and his daughter Ōi's works. Hokusai's narrative introduced his life history, artworks and wood block print.



A Notice from the Museum Shop

Guide book for the permanent exhibition will be released in the end of Feb 2018. With this book, you could learn Hokusai's life history and basic knowledge about ukiyo-e.

NEW!

