

Commemoration of the new banknotes

The Impact of Hokusai's
Great Wave

Under the Wave off Kanagawa –Tracing Its Origins and Trajectory

特別展 北斎グレートウェーブ・インパクト

—神奈川沖浪裏の誕生と軌跡—

～The highlights and fascinating event～

On July 3, 2024, Japan will issue new banknotes, for the first time in twenty years. The back of the new 1000 yen note will have Hokusai's *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*. Commemorating that work's use on the new note, this exhibition will explore the context in which *Under the Wave off Kanagawa* was created, trace the trajectory of the many ways in which that design has been used, and introduce the influence that has made it widely familiar overseas as *The Great Wave*.



Name of Exhibition	Special Exhibition The Impact of Hokusai's Great Wave : Under the Wave off Kanagawa — Tracing Its Origins and Trajectory —
Term	Tuesday, June 18 - Sunday, August 25, 2024 *Some exhibits will be changed during the period.
	The First term: June 18 - July 21 The Second term: July 23 - August 25
	Closed: Mondays, Tue, July 16 and Tue, August 13 *Exceptions: Open on July 15 (national holiday), August 12 (substitutue national holiday)
Exhibition Room	3rd floor Exhibition Room, and 4th floor Exhibition Room in The Sumida Hokusai Museum
Hours	9:30 am -5:30 pm (last entry 5:00 pm)
Organizers	Sumida City, The Sumida Hokusai Museum
Admission	Adults ¥1,500, Students (high school and college) ¥1,000, 65 and over ¥1,000, Students (Junior high) ¥500, Disabled Visitors Peoples ¥500, Children in primary school and younger Free
Website	https://hokusai-museum.jp/GreatWaveImpactEN/

- Visitors can also enter AURORA (Permanent Exhibition Room) on the same day
- Identification card is necessary to get a discount ticket.
- Admission for disabled visitors is also available for an accompanying person.
- Please see the latest information about the starting date of ticket sales and the way of purchase for same-day tickets and other discount tickets on our website.

◆ Key points of the Exhibition

- 🎞 Three pieces of *Under the Wave off Kanagawa* are displayed during the term (1st term: Prologue and Chapter 2, 2nd term Chapter 2)
- 🎞 To commemorate new banknotes, the process toward the expression of *Under the Wave off Kanagawa* are displayed
- 🎞 Displaying the impact in contemporary art works and product designs
- 🎞 New banknotes will get broad attention. The exhibition also has an educational framework for children

◆ Composition and highlights by chapter

【Prologue: The Great Wave on a New Banknote】

The ten thousand yen, five thousand yen, and one thousand yen bills that are a familiar part of life in Japan are being updated for the first time in two decades, since November, 2004. The design for the back of the new one thousand yen bill uses Katsushika Hokusai's *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from his *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji* series, popularly known as the Great Wave. It was chosen because, as a Mount Fuji motif that exemplifies Japan and is deeply familiar to the Japanese, it has stellar name recognition as a signature work of the Edo-period *ukiyo-e* artist Katsushika Hokusai and had great influence on other artists throughout the world. In the prologue to this exhibition, we introduce the exhibition's main theme, *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, and the new one thousand yen banknote.



Katsushika Hokusai, *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (1st term)



New banknote (1000 yen bill) Image provided by Currency Museum Bank of Japan *Request of image is not accepted at the museum.

【Section 1: The Edo Western Boom—Yearning for Foreign Lands】

Sakoku, closing the country to foreign contact, is strongly associated with the Edo period. Japan was not, however, utterly sealed off: aspects of Western and Chinese culture gently flowed in from Nagasaki and other entry points. A major stimulus to the development of *Rangaku*, Dutch studies (Western Studies), was the 1720 decision by the eighth Tokugawa shogun, Yoshimune, to ease restrictions on importing Western books. That change impacted many fields, including *ukiyo-e*. *Uki-e*, perspective pictures, which incorporate Western perspective, begin being created in great numbers from the Kyōhō era (1716–36) on. Hokusai, who began producing *uki-e* in his twenties, was actively creating Western-style prints in his forties, applying the chiaroscuro technique observed in engravings and oil paintings as he created his own style. He used that massive store of knowledge effectively in *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*. This section introduces the Western influence, which became the fertile ground for the birth of the Great Wave, through the works of Hokusai and his students.



Katsushika Hokusai, *Peepshow Box*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (all terms)
*The artworks of the same title are substituted by a half term.



Katsushika Hokusai, *Kamakura Village*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (2nd term)

【Section 2: Birth of the Great Wave: Where Did This Wave Come From?】

Hokusai became a pupil of Katsukawa Shunshō, the leading artist creating actor pictures, in his nineteenth year. For the next seventy years, until his death at nearly ninety, he was actively engaged as a painter, in a long career indeed. He created *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, when he was in his seventies. That is, this work was built on Hokusai's fifty years of dedicated study since his debut as an artist. In this section, we introduce works and painting schools that are thought to have influenced Hokusai, plus his work from his early period to the birth of the Great Wave to his last year. Through them, we see how Hokusai depicted waves changed over the years.



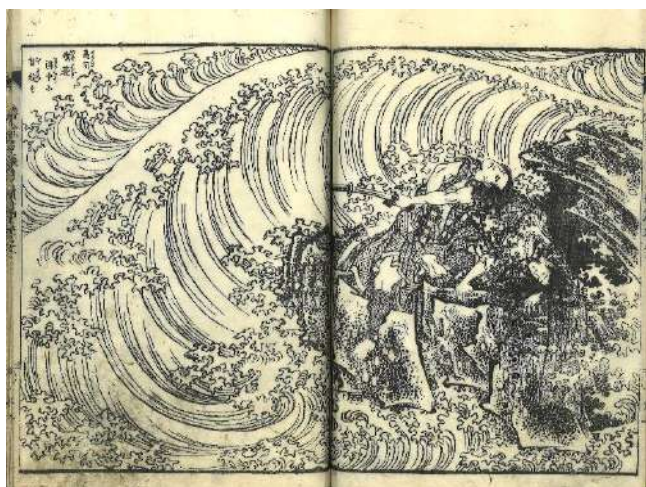
Katsushika Hokusai, *Spring at Enoshima, from Branches of the Willow Tree*, Keio University (Displayed June 18 to July 2) *Request of image is not accepted at the museum.



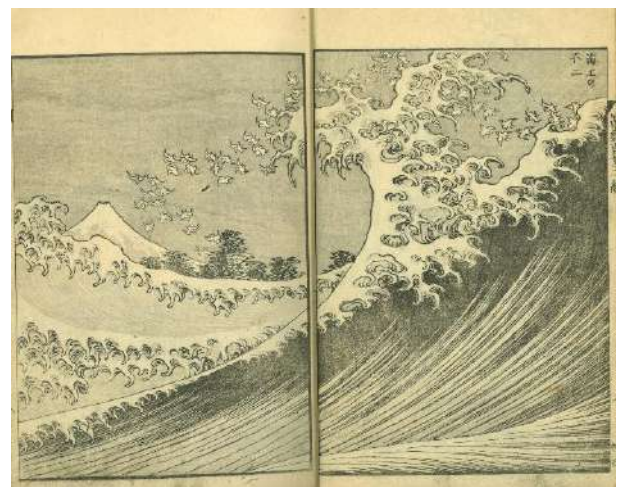
Katsushika Hokusai, *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (all terms)
 *Different prints of the same title are displayed in 1st term and 2nd term.
 *The artwork from Yoshino Gypsum Collection is displayed in the 2nd term. Deposited in The Sumida Hokusai Museum



Katsushika Hokusai, *Honmoku off the Coast of Kanagawa* (1st term)



Katsushika Hokusai, *Takama and Isohagi Commit Suicide in the Sea*, from *Strange Tales of the Bow Moon*, Vol. 3, Book 1, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (all terms)



Katsushika Hokusai, *Fuji from the Sea*, from *One Hundred Views of Mount Fuji*, Vol.2 (all terms) The Sumida Hokusai Museum

【Section 3: The Great Wave's Influence: How Far Did that Wave Go?】

The impact of *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, was extraordinarily powerful. It significantly influenced not only Hokusai's students but also other artists active then and also publications. The never-ebbing power of its ripple effects has continued to impact modern and even contemporary art. It is used on the new banknotes, stamps, passports— items of a highly public nature—and all sorts of products, everything from familiar, commonplace merchandise popular in Japan to globally deployed brands. This section traces the influences of the Great Wave on painters and other artists active after Hokusai and its use in product design.

1 | Ripple Effect on Painters and Other Artists, Post-Hokusai

In this part, we display work by *ukiyo-e* artists, contemporary artists, craft artists, and other who were influenced by *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, tracing the power of the Great Wave's impact.



Katsushika Hokuei, *The Ghosts of the Heike Appear in Daimotsunoura Bay in Settsu Province*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum (2nd term)



Utagawa Kuniyoshi, *On the Waves at Kakuda on the Way to Sado, Experiences the Wave Mantra*, from *Concise Illustrated Biography of Nichiren*, Rissho University Rare Book Library (1st term)



Tsukioka Yoshitoshi, *Moon over Waters at Daimotsu Bay, Benkei*, from the series *A Hundred Aspects of the Moon*, Kawasaki Isago-no-Sato Museum (2nd term)



SHIRIAGARI Kotobuki, *Fuji as the Sun Sees it*, from the series *the Nearly Thirty-six Somewhat Ridiculous Views*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum ©SHIRIAGARI Kotobuki (all terms)

2 | Ripple Effect on Product Design

Under the Wave off Kanagawa, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, has been used as a design on very public items such as banknotes and stamps and also on a host of products, from BE@BRICK and Lego® to cigarettes, beer, and potato chips. Here we display those product designs, plus work by artists that utilizes those Great Wave Lego® and Rubik's Cube products with Great Wave designs.



Calbee Kataage Potato Light Flavor 2023
Image provided by Calbee, Inc. (all terms)



Special Limited Brew: Asahi Mount Fuji, 2024
Image provided by ASAHI BREWERIES, LTD. (all terms)

FUJISAN BE@BRICK 400% : Katsushika Hokusai
"Under the Wave off Kanagawa, from the series Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji"
Medicom Toy Corporation (all terms)
BE@BRICK TM & © 2001-2024 MEDICOM TOY CORPORATION. All rights reserved.
*Request of product image is not accepted at the museum.

◆ Special Event

Demonstration of Making Japanese Woodblock Print 'The Great Wave'

Printing *Under the Wave off Kanagawa* by an artisan
with a translation in English

Demonstrator: The Adachi Foundation for the Preservation of Woodcut Printing

Date and Time : Saturday, July 20, 2024 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Participants: overseas visitors

Place: MARUGEN100 (Lecture Room)

Capacity: 40 participants only

* Entry from 10:30 am at the entrance of MARUGEN100 (Lecture Room)

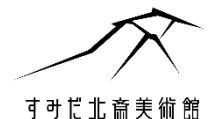
Admission: Free (Ticket of the special exhibition or annual pass is required)

No registration is required.



Contact Us

The Sumida Hokusai Museum
Global Media Relations
TEL 03-6658-8991
Email hm-global@hokusai-museum.jp



◆ The Exhibition Catalogue is available

The Exhibition Catalogue The Impact of Hokusai's Great Wave : Under the Wave off Kanagawa —Tracing Its Origins and Trajectory —

An easy-to-carry compact size
Full color/A5 size/200 pages in all
Price: ¥2,600 (tax included)
Sale Date: July 18, 2024
Available at The Sumida Hokusai Museum Shop



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Special Exhibition The Impact of Hokusai's Great Wave: Under the Wave off Kanagawa — Tracing Its Origins and Trajectory — Request Form to Use Images

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◀ the important points of using the images from the museum ▶

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- Please use the images only for presentation of the special exhibition.

Other purposes such as use and reprint for publications and videos not related to publicizing the special exhibition and commercial use are not permitted.

- Copying, lending, distributing for a charge or for free and selling images are not permitted.
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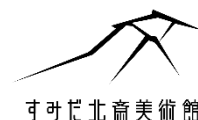
- Special Exhibition Hokusai The Impact of Great Wave flyer front page
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- Special Exhibition Hokusai The Impact of Great Wave square visual (1080px×1080px)
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- Katsushika Hokusai, *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji* The Sumida Hokusai Museum (all terms) * The artworks of the same title are substituted by a half term
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- Katsushika Hokusai, *Honmoku off the Coast of Kanagawa* The Sumida Hokusai Museum (1st term)
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- Katsushika Hokusai, *Fuji from the Sea*, from *One Hundred Views of Mount Fuji*, Vol. 2 The Sumida Hokusai Museum (all terms)

Office Name			
Media Name			
Department Name		(position)	
Name			
Contact TEL		E-mail	
Release Date	Month	Date	*Required field
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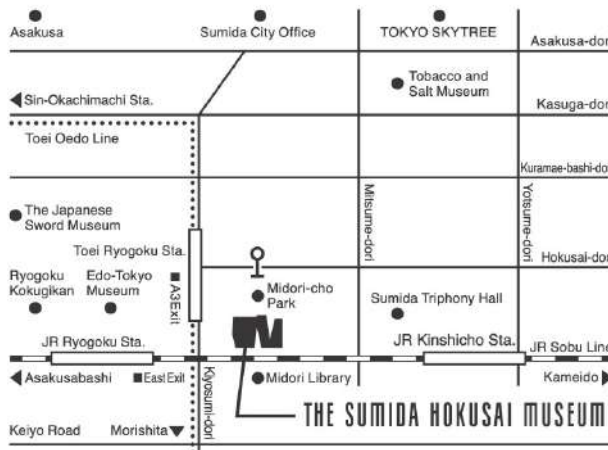
Contact Us

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◆ The Sumida Hokusai Museum

The Sumida Hokusai Museum was opened in 2016 in Sumida City, Tokyo where Ukiyo-e artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849) was born and where he spent most of his life. The museum has provided information about Hokusai and his artworks through the periodical exhibitions and educational events since then.



< Information >

Open	9:30am - 5:30pm (Last admission 5:00pm)
Closed	Mondays (The following day if it is a national holiday) New Year holidays (December 29 - January 1)
Address	2-7-2 Kamezawa, Sumida-ku, Tokyo,130-0014
Tel	03-6658-8936 (9:30 am - 5:30 pm *except on closed days)
Website	https://hokusai-museum.jp/
X	https://twitter.com/HokusaiMuseum/
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/THE.SUMIDA.HOKUSAI.MUSEUM/
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-minute by the Sumida Loop Bus from JR Sobu Line Kinshicho Station North exit

◆ The Upcoming Exhibitions

Exhibition "The Courtly Hokusai: Heian Literature in Edo"

Artworks on the theme of the Heian nobles and their culture depicted by Hokusai and his students

Term | September 18, 2024 to November 24, 2024



Katsushika Hokusai, *Nobleman and Court Ladies*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum

Exhibition "Hokusai Calendar" (tentative)

How were the calendars with picture in Edo period like?

Tricky expressions of names of month hidden in private *Surimono* prints by Hokusai and his students are must-watch!

Term | December 18, 2024 to March 2, 2025



Katsushika Hokusai, *Making New Year's Calls*, The Sumida Hokusai Museum