

PRESS RELEASE



THE SUMIDA HOKUSAI MUSEUM

2-7-2 Kamezawa, Sumida-ku, Tokyo, 130-0014
<https://hokusai-museum.jp/>

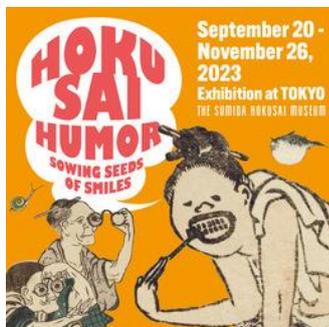
Deliver to You Seeds of Smiles! Ukiyo-e Exhibition "Hokusai Humor: Sowing Seeds of Smiles", Sep 20 Start

TOKYO, August 23, 2023 / The Sumida Hokusai Museum



Hokusai's humor blossoms! The seeds of smiles sown by Hokusai will bloom with many smiles at the exhibition. This exhibition will feature works related to smiles by Hokusai and his students from the Sumida Hokusai Museum's collection of 116 Hokusai works. Highlights will be approximately 40 caricatures by Hokusai, 32 of which are on display for the first time at the museum, and the popular "One Hundred Ghost Stories" series! The seeds of laughter sown by Hokusai will blossom into countless smiles and give the viewer a rich and enjoyable time.

Hokusai Humor: Sowing Seeds of Smiles



Term: September 20 - November 26, 2023

First term: Sep 20 - Oct 22 / **Second term:** Oct 24 - Nov 26

*Some exhibits will be changed during the exhibition period.

Open: Tuesday - Sunday (Except Tue, Oct 10)

Hours: 9:30-17:30 (Last admission 17:00)

Closed: Mondays (Except Mon / holiday, Oct 9)*If Monday is a holiday, open Monday and closed the following Tuesday.

Organizers: Sumida City, The Sumida Hokusai Museum

Official Website: <https://hokusai-museum.jp/HokusaiHumorEN/>

Please join us Exhibition Press Preview !

Date | Monday, Sep 19, 2023 / **Venue** | The Sumida Hokusai Museum

Application deadline | Friday, Sep 15 18:00

Please contact for details | mail to: hayashi-yumiko@hokusai-museum.jp

Exhibition Highlights!

During the Edo period, a culture of humor, of “seeds of laughter,” blossomed, with *kyōka* poems, humorous books, and comic storytelling enjoyed by the common people. Hokusai, having portrayed smiles of many kinds, also created series of comical works that invite laughter. Hokusai and his students deftly depicted the many types of smiling faces—happy smiles, embarrassed smiles, shifty laughter—and gestures and the situations in which those smiles were generated.

1: A Medley of Smiling Faces



What do you think of when you hear the word “smile”? They focus on smiling faces, amusing performers and more.



Symbols of the Smiling Face

◀ Katsushika Hokusai
Sketches by Hokusai: Cursive Drawing Section
The Sumida Hokusai Museum
(Exhibit full-term with changes in works)

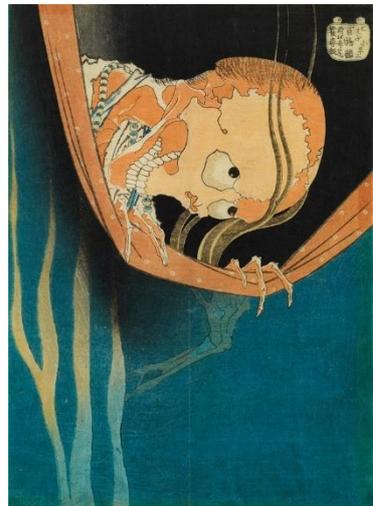
2: Popular 'One Hundred Ghost Stories' series!

This print is from the series on the subject of One Hundred Ghost Stories, a popular storytelling pastime in the Edo period.



Types of Smiles

Katsushika Hokusai ▶
The Ghost of Kohada Koheiji,
from the series *One Hundred Ghost Stories*
The Sumida Hokusai Museum (1st term)



3: The World of Caricatures

Around 40 caricatures by Hokusai, 32 of which are on display for the first time at the museum!



Hokusai's Caricature Series



◀ Katsushika Hokusai
The Optician and the Riddle-Solving Priest,
from the series *Cartoons of Riddles*
The Sumida Hokusai Museum (2nd term)

▶ Katsushika Hokusai



Keisai Eisen, *Hokusai portrait*,
National Diet Library

Japanese *Ukiyo-e* artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849) was born in Sumida, Tokyo. It is said that Hokusai moved more than 90 times during his 90-year life, spending most of his lifetime in Sumida, and left many works depicting the scenery of Sumida, including Ryōgoku Bridge, Mimeguri Shrine, and Ushijima Shrine. He vividly captured life in the Edo Period and is best known for the series “*Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*” which includes representative Japan’s most iconic artwork “*Under the Wave off Kanagawa*”, known internationally as *The Great wave*. His fascinating life and varied works spanning more than 70 years are more highly regarded today than ever, 160 years after his death. Today, he and his works are in the limelight as one of the most acclaimed artists in the world.

▶ Museum

The **Sumida Hokusai Museum** is the "growing museum" that provides information about Hokusai and his students to the local community and the world!

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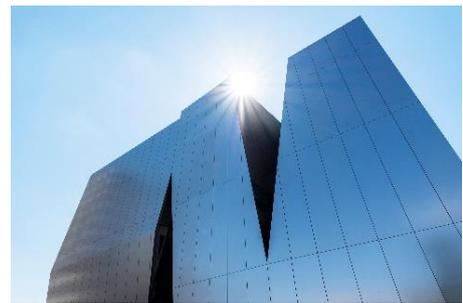
New Year holidays: December 29 - January 1

Address : 2-7-2 Kamezawa, Sumida-ku, Tokyo, 130-0014

Tel : 03-6658-8936

Official website: <https://hokusai-museum.jp/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/THE.SUMIDA.HOKUSAI.MUSEUM/>



▶ Request of Visitors Cooperation

Visitor Guidelines : Health and Safety During Your Visit for Keeping us All Safe

<https://hokusai-museum.jp/modules/Topic/topics/view/961?lang=en>

▶ The Sumida Hokusai Museum Digital Brochure Download

English https://www.gotokyo.org/book/actibook/2203_sumida-hokusai_EN/HTML5/pc.html#/page/1

French https://www.gotokyo.org/book/actibook/2203_sumida-hokusai_FR/HTML5/pc.html#/page/1

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For more information and images

Contact: Museum Public Relations, Yumiko Hayashi

E-Mail : hayashi-yumiko@hokusai-museum.jp