



KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

Vol. 143

Special Exhibition

The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets
Elegant Arts of the Classical Japanese Court

Upcoming Feature Exhibition
The Many Hats of Rats!



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2019

Special Exhibition

The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets

Elegant Arts of the Classical Japanese Court

October 12–November 24, 2019, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Exactly one hundred years ago, in 1919, Japan's newspapers were abuzz with extraordinary news. A group of industrialist connoisseurs had acquired one of the country's most precious art treasures: a set of thirteenth-century handscrolls known as the *Satake Version, Thirty-Six Immortal Poets*. Even more surprising was the fact that these wealthy financiers were going to separate the handscrolls into individual fragments to be divided amongst themselves and remounted as hanging scrolls for private use in their own tearooms.

Thereafter, to possess one of these Satake fragments came to be seen as the ultimate Japanese status symbol, defining its owner as an undisputed member of the country's cultural elite. Over the course of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, the paintings moved from private collection to private collection, their whereabouts often unknown even to specialists.

This exhibition re-unites these paintings in the most comprehensive assemblage ever held since their dispersal a century ago. In addition to the legendary fragments themselves, the show features an array of exquisite artworks related to the Thirty-Six Immortal Poets and the elegant literary court culture from which they developed.

(By Inami Rintarō, Associate Curator of Illustrated Handscrolls; translation by Melissa M. Rinne, edited by Fabienne Helfenberger)



Important Cultural Property
Portrait of Kakinomoto no Hitomaro
 By Takuma Eiga (dates unknown)
 Inscription by Shōkai Reiken (1315–1396)
 Tokiwayama Bunko Foundation, Tokyo



Box full moon and fan crest and other original storage boxes for the scrolls of *The Thirty-six Immortal Poets, Satake version*
 Lacquered wood with *makie* (sprinkled metallic powder) decoration; wood



National Treasure
"Shigeyuki shū" (Collected Poetry of Minamoto no Shigeyuki)
 from *Sanjūroku nin kashū*, detail
 (Anthology of Poems by the Thirty-six Immortal Poets)
 Hongan-ji Temple, Kyoto
 *This section of the Album on view are subject to change without notice.



Important Cultural Property
Koōgimi from *The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets, Satake Version*
 Attributed to Fujiwara no Nobuzane (1176–1265)
 Inscription attributed to Gokyōgoku Yoshitsune (1169–1206)
 The Museum Yamato Bunkakan, Nara [on view November 6–24, 2019]



Important Cultural Property
Sakanoue no Korenori from *The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets, Satake Version*
 Attributed to Fujiwara no Nobuzane (1176–1265)
 Inscription attributed to Gokyōgoku Yoshitsune (1169–1206)
 Agency for Cultural Affairs



Momiji Goki-type Tea Bowl
 Nomura Art Museum, Kyoto



Vase made from the container of lots for the separated paintings from *The Thirty-six Immortal Poets, Satake version*
 Bamboo



Inkstone Case with Poetic Scene of Sumiyoshi
 Wood with lacquer and *makie* (sprinkled metallic powder) decoration
 Gift of Okumura Jūbei, Kyoto National Museum



Important Cultural Property
Illustrated Tales of Ise, detail
 Kuboso Memorial Museum of Arts, Izumi, Osaka
 [on view November 12–24, 2019]

Upcoming Feature Exhibition

The Many Hats of Rats!

January 2–February 2, 2020, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

For several years, the museum has marked the New Year with an exhibition showcasing the animals of the Chinese Zodiac. 2020 is the year of the rat, and you can expect to find a gallery swarming with rats in celebration. The rat is first in the line-up of the twelve animals in the zodiac cycle. Often regarded as auspicious creatures in East Asia, the rat has many significances unique to Japan as well. One might even say that the rat wears many hats... Come enjoy works of art featuring rats wearing many hats as you ring in the New Year!

(By Nagashima Meiko, Chair of the Department of Education; translation by Mary Lewine)



Mouse on Rice Bale
 Yellow Cochin-China Glaze
 Gift of Kōnoike Zen'ueemon
 Kyoto National Museum



Important Cultural Property
Illustrated Tales of Ise, detail
 Kuboso Memorial Museum of Arts, Izumi, Osaka
 On view November 12–24, 2019

EVENT

November 1, 2019 Cultural Exchange Day for Foreign Students

This year, the Kyoto National Museum's annual Cultural Exchange Day for Foreign Students offers discounted admission (¥1000, the student group rate; ¥700 for students from Campus Members universities). The Kyoto National Museum will be giving away a special gift set featuring Torarin, the Kyoto National official mascot to the museum's first 200 visitors. On this day, foreign students are eligible to attend the "Campus Member Museum Lecture" (5:00 pm–6:00 pm) for free. The hall opens at 4:30 pm. The lecture will be held in Japanese. We look forward to welcoming you to the museum!

Friday, November 1, 2019
 9:30 am–8:00 pm (enter by 7:30 pm)
 Please show your ID at the entrance.

Cover: Important Cultural Property. **Koōgimi** from *The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets*, Satake Version, detail. The Museum Yamato Bunkakan, Nara. On view from November 6–24, 2019. Important Cultural Property. **Ki no Tomonori** from *The Thirty-Six Immortal Poets*, Satake Version, detail. Nomura Art Museum, Kyoto.

ADMISSION

**October 12–November 24, 2019*
 Special Exhibition Admission**

Adult ¥1600 (¥1400)

Univ. Student ¥1200 (¥1000)

High-School Student ¥700 (¥500)

Admission is free for middle school students and other youths age 0–15, and for visitors with disabilities and one caretaker. Please show I.D.

Fees in parentheses are for groups of 20+.

*During special exhibition periods, all visitors must pay special exhibition admission.

September 18–October 10, 2019, and November 26–December 22, 2019:

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits

Adult ¥260 (¥210)

Outdoor exhibits only. Admission includes a guide booklet to the Kyoto National Museum gardens and outdoor exhibits. Admission is free for university students and below, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caretaker, and for Campus Members including faculty. Please show I.D. The guide booklet is not provided with free admission. Fees in parentheses are for groups of 20+.

HOURS

October 12–November 24, 2019:

Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun.

9:30 am–6:00 pm (Entrance until 4:30 pm)

Fri. and Sat.

9:30 am–8:00 pm (Entrance until 7:30 pm)

September 18–October 10, 2019, and November 26–December 22, 2019:

9:30 am–5:00 pm (Entrance until 4:30 pm)

CLOSED ON MONDAYS

*When Monday is a national holiday, the museum remains open on Monday and closes the following Tuesday.

*The Museum will also be closed on October 11, and December 24, 2019 to January 1, 2020.

ACCESS

VIA JR OR SUBWAY

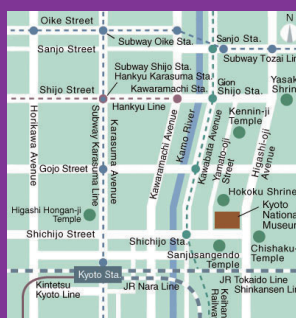
Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D2 in front of the station, take City Bus #206 or #208 to the "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop. One-minute walk to the Museum.

VIA KEIHAN RAILWAY

Get off at Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.

VIA HANKYU RAILWAY

Get off at Kawaramachi Station. Walk east over the bridge to the Keihan Railway Gionshijo Station. Take Osaka-bound Keihan train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.



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