

The Brilliance Suzhou Prints

Popular Art that Blossomed in the Cosmopolitan City





1. Depicting Legends, Historical Events, and Tales—Celebration

at the Bronze Bird Terrace, 17th century

Depicting Landscapes and Genre Scenes—All Walks of Life and The Changmeng Gate of Suzhou, Circa 1734

and The Changmeng Gate of Suzhou, Circa 1734
3. Depicting Characters and Auspicious Symbols—Character for
"Good Fortune", Mid-18th century
4. Depicting Detites and Saints—Portrait of Guan Yu, Circa 1704
5. Depicting Figures—Beauty with Parrot, Early 18th century
6. The Transmission of Suzhou Prints to Japan—Copy, Edo period
7. Depicting Birds, Flowers, and Still Lifes—Flowering Plant, by
Direct Lipschape Sach 18th century

Ding Liangxian, Early 18th century

Annual Images (Zodiac, Gate Guardians, Paper Horses)—Gate

Guardians, Yangliuqing print, 1980s





Historically, prints with auspicious themes, landscapes, flowers and birds, and beautiful figures have enriched the lives of people in China.

Most astonishing in that long history was the birth of a revolutionary popular art form now commonly called "Shuzhou prints", which occurred in the cosmopolitan city of Shuzhou in the 17th and 18th centuries, combining Chinese and Western art traditions. It was a powerful force that did not stop with Chinese art, but went on to influence art abroad, such as in Japan and Europe.

Unfortunately, many of these Shuzhou prints were discarded in the course of everyday life, and very few have been passed down to present times, meaning we have not developed a deep understanding of the full picture.

In terms of both quality and quantity, the Umi-Mori Art Museum holds the world's foremost collection of Chinese prints, with over 3,000 works including rare Shuzhou prints from the 17th and 18th centuries, as well as works from contemporary times. In this exhibition we have selected approximately 300 works from the museum collection, including works publicly exhibited for the first time, in the hope that visitors will enjoy this previously unknown world of Chinese prints.













Event Information

Commemorative conference:

"The Current State of Research on Chinese Prints"

Simultaneous interpretation in Japanese, Chinese, and English Online Zoom meeting (URL will vary according to language)

Saturday May 27, 17:30-21:00

Speakers: KOBAYASHI Hiromitsu (Honorary Professor, Sophia University), ITAKURA Masaaki (Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo), ŌKI Yasushi (Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo), TAJIMA Natsuko (Ome Municipal Museum of Art), AOKI Takayuki (Umi-Mori Art Museum)

Sunday May 28, 17:30-21:00

Speakers: Yu-chih Lai (Academia Sinica), Anita Xiaoming Wang (Birmingham City University), Anne Farrer (Sotheby's Institute of Art), Lucie Olivova (Masaryk University), CvdB (pending)

Supported by The Japan Art History Society

How to participate: Send an email with your name and affiliated institution to: prints@umam.jp. Before the conference, a link will be sent to applicants, including a User ID and password (awaiting verification). Application deadline: Saturday May 20, 2023

Umi-Mori Art Museum Curator Gallery Talk

Schedule: Sat. March 25, Sat. April 29, Sat. June 24, Sat. July 29, Sat. August 12; each at 1:30 pm Venue: Umi-Mori Art Museum Exhibition Hall Participation fee: Free (museum entrance fee required) Pre-registration: Unnecessary

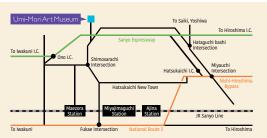
Summer Vacation Workshop

*To be announced on the museum website in early July, 2023

[Held at the Same Time] **Perfume Bottle Exhibition Room**

Spanning some six thousand years from ancient times to the present, a carefully selected group of perfume bottles from the Umi-Mori Art Museum collection will be

*The Takeuchi Seihō Exhibition Room will be used for part of this special exhibition. Please understand that works by Takeuchi Seihō will not be on display at this time.



How to access: Take the Sanyo Line to Ajina Station or take the Hiroshima Electric Railway (street car) to Hiroden Ajina Station, then take a taxi from the station for about 13 minutes to reach this art museum. Or you can drive using the Sanyo Expressway [Ono Interchange] for about 10 minutes to reach here.

Umi-MoriArt Museum

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