



KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

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NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2017



觀無常賦
生死海賦
夫烈燄條無上於虎嘯暴
雨霽霽待兔難是上翻
丹鳳翔必有由就上希
龍威像來格是故詩人
或倍宴樂以奏煠意或懷
吟而賦憂以視賢經以馳
褒讚駁愚惡而飛誠箴



Kyoto National Museum 120th Anniversary Commemorative Special Exhibition National Treasures: Masterpieces of Japan

October 3–November 26, 2017, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

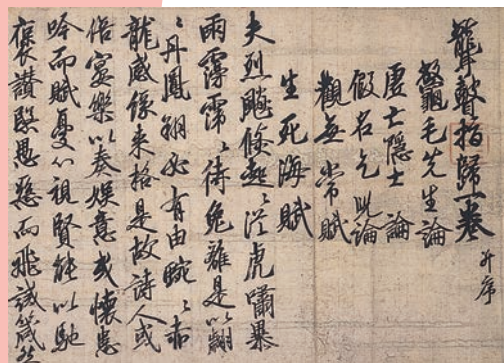
The history of the Kyoto National Museum is closely related to the history of Japan's National Treasures. It was 120 years ago that the museum opened; in that same year of 1897, the term "National Treasures" was first used as part of the newly enacted Law for the Preservation of Old Shrines and Temples. To celebrate this landmark anniversary, the Kyoto National Museum presents a major special exhibition of Japan's National Treasures, the first showing of its kind in over forty years.

What constitutes a National Treasure? The term "National Treasure" is the highest designation given by the government of Japan to a very small number of artworks and artifacts of unique and extraordinary historical, artistic, and scholarly merit. Most importantly, these rarest of works eloquently and exquisitely bespeak the history and culture of Japan and its people. The Kyoto National Museum's exhibition will feature approximately two hundred National Treasures, including painting, calligraphy, sculpture, decorative arts, and archeological artifacts, shown in several installations over the exhibition period. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to encounter some of the most beautiful and significant works in Japanese history.

(By Furiya Tetsuo, Associate Curator of Ceramics; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



National Treasure
Seated Dainichi (Mahāvairocana) Buddha
Kongō-ji Temple, Osaka



National Treasure
Teachings for the Deaf and Blind (J., *Rōko shiki*), detail
By Kūkai (774–835)
Kongōbu-ji Temple, Wakayama, on view October 17–29, 2017



National Treasure
Landscape of the Four Seasons (known as the Long Landscape Scroll), detail
By Sesshū (1420–1506?)
Mōri Museum, Yamaguchi, on view October 3–22, 2017

Feature Exhibition

Puppies Galore: Celebrating the Year of the Dog

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-1 and 2

This short, seasonal exhibition features images of man's best friend as depicted in Asian art in a display sure to satisfy dog-lovers from around the world. It is the third year in a row that the Kyoto National Museum has organized a New Year's exhibition in honor of the incoming zodiac animal.

(By Ōhara Yoshitoyo, Chair of the Department of Conservation and Restoration; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



Flowers, Plants, Birds, and Animals, detail
By Kunii Ōbun (1833–1887) and Mochizuki Gyokusen (1834–1913)
Kyoto National Museum



Dog-shaped Saga Doll
Kyoto National Museum



National Treasure
Ōyurai Armor with Red Lacings
Okayama Prefecture,
on view October 3–15, 2017



National Treasure
Possibly Minamoto no Yoritomo
Jingo-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view
October 31–November 26, 2017



National Treasure
Fugen (Samantabhadra) Bodhisattva
Tokyo National Museum, on view October 3–29, 2017



National Treasure
Iris, right screen, by Ogata Kōrin (1658–1716)
Nezu Museum, Tokyo, on view November 14–26, 2017

Feature Exhibition

Aristocratic Costumes and Furnishings: The Revival of Imperial Palace Culture

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 1F-2–4

The classical culture of the Japanese court and aristocracy was established during the Heian period (794–1185). Its lavish traditions were somewhat modified and simplified amidst the wars and social upheaval of the medieval age that followed, but it had a revival in the Edo period (1615–1868), when Japan again settled into an age of peace and seclusion. From then on, the court conducted much research into the intricacies of protocol pertaining to dress and ceremony in Japan's classical era. This exhibition features aristocratic costumes, furnishings, and other materials in the Kyoto National Museum, many originally from the collection of the Imperial Palace, which exemplify the early modern and modern period classical revival of imperial culture.

(By Yamakawa Aki, Chair of the Department of Decorative and Applied Arts; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



Lady's Formal Court Costume (J., *Itsutsuginu Karaginū Mo*), worn by Princess Setsuko of Chichibu
Kyoto National Museum

Thematic Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

3F-1 Ceramics

Ceramics of Japan and East Asia

January 2–March 18, 2018
(Closed December 19, 2017–January 1, 2018)

3F-2 Archaeological Relics

Japanese Archaeological Artifacts

January 2–March 18, 2018
(Closed December 19, 2017–January 1, 2018)

2F-1 Illustrated Handscrolls

Puppies Galore: Celebrating the Year of the Dog

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018

2F-2 Buddhist Paintings

Puppies Galore: Celebrating the Year of the Dog

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018

2F-3 Medieval Paintings

Minchō and Other Painters of Tōfuku-ji

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018

2F-4 Momoyama–Edo Paintings

An Immortal Gathering

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018

2F-5 Chinese Paintings

Chinese Immortals

December 19, 2017–January 21, 2018



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1F-1 Sculpture

Japanese Sculpture

Shinto Deities and Guardian Lions and Lion Dogs

January 2–March 18, 2018

(Closed December 19, 2017–January 1, 2018)

1F-2 Feature Exhibition

Aristocratic Costumes and Furnishings: The Revival of Imperial Palace Culture

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018

1F-3 Calligraphy

Aristocratic Costumes and Furnishings: The Revival of Imperial Palace Culture

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018

1F-4 Textiles and Costumes

Aristocratic Costumes and Furnishings: The Revival of Imperial Palace Culture

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018

1F-5 Metalwork

Buddhist Gongs and Bells

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018

1F-6 Lacquerware

Lacquers from China and Ryūkyū

December 19, 2017–January 28, 2018

Upcoming Exhibitions

Feature Exhibition

Hidden Treasures from a Merchant's Storehouse: The Hiromi Collection, a Legacy of Elegant Living

February 3–March 18, 2018



Tiered Food Box with Sailboats
Kyoto National Museum

Feature Exhibition

The Doll Festival and Japanese Ningyō

February 20–March 18, 2018

Cover: Fugen (Samantabhadra) Bodhisattva, detail, Tokyo National Museum, on view October 3–29, 2017. Curtain Depicting Buddhist Heaven, detail, Chūgū-ji Temple, Nara, on view October 3–22, 2017. ©Nara National Museum, photo by Morimura Kinji. Autumn and Winter Landscapes, detail, by Sesshū, Tokyo National Museum, on view October 3–29, 2017. Pine Trees, detail, by Hasegawa Tōhaku, Tokyo National Museum, on view October 31–November 12, 2017. Flame-Rimmed Deep Vessels, Tōkamachi City, Niigata, on view October 3–29, 2017. Teachings for the Deaf and Blind (*J., Rōko shiki*), detail, by Kūkai, Kongōbu-ji Temple, Wakayama, on view October 17–29, 2017. Possibly Minamoto no Yoritomo, detail, Jingō-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view October 31–November 26, 2017. Cherry Tree, detail, by Hasegawa Kyūzō, Chishaku-in Temple, Kyoto, on view October 24–November 12, 2017
*All works are National Treasures.

ADMISSION

SPECIAL EXHIBITION ADMISSION:*

Adult ¥1500 (¥1300)

Univ. Student ¥1200 (¥1000)

High-School Student ¥900 (¥700)

Admission is free through middle school.

Fees in parentheses are for groups of 20+

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

ADMISSION:*

Adult ¥520 (¥410)

Univ. Student ¥260 (¥210)

Admission is free for youths of high school age and below.

Fees in parentheses are for groups of 20+

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

HOURS

SPECIAL EXHIBITION HOURS:

Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun.

9:30 am– 6:00 pm (Entrance until 5:30 pm)

Fri. and Sat.

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

HOURS:

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

CLOSED ON MONDAY

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

*The Museum will also be closed on December 25, 2017 to January 1, 2018.

Partially closed during the following dates:

November 28–December 17, 2017

Outdoor exhibits are open for viewing. The galleries are closed.

December 19–24, 2017

The 1st floor galleries (except sculpture gallery) and painting galleries (2nd floor) are open for viewing. The 3rd floor galleries and sculpture gallery are closed for exhibition installation.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

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 "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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