

NEWSLETTER
JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2018



KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

Vol. 138



Feature Exhibitions

New Acquisitions

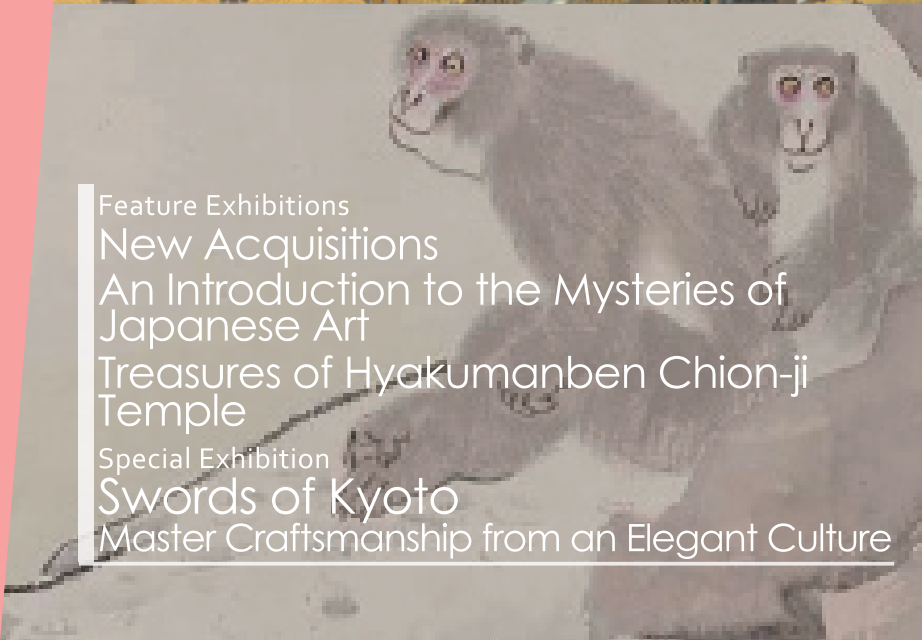
An Introduction to the Mysteries of
Japanese Art

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji
Temple

Special Exhibition

Swords of Kyoto

Master Craftsmanship from an Elegant Culture



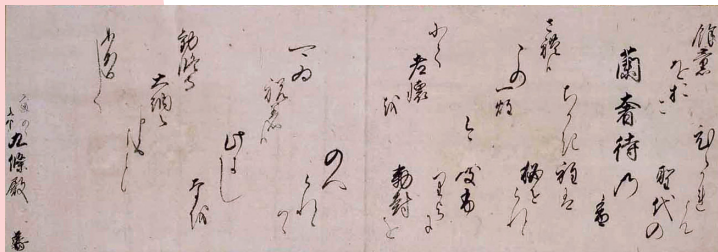
Feature Exhibition New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-1, 1F-2–6

This exhibition highlights some of the finest works of art acquired by the Kyoto National Museum between January 2010 and March 2017. The public display of these treasures was long delayed due to the construction of the Heisei Chishinkan Wing. This is the first exhibition of new acquisitions in seven years, and we hope it will have been worth the wait.

The diverse variety of masterworks on view include the 7th century Tang dynasty National Treasure calligraphy *Book of Han, Biography of Yang Xiong, Vol. 57* and *Square Dishes with the Chinese Monk Poets Hanshan (Kanzan) and Shide (Jittoku)*, produced jointly by Ogata Kōrin (1658–1716) and his brother Kenzan (1663–1743).

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



Important Cultural Property
Letter to Kujō Tanemichi, by Emperor Ōgimachi (1516–1593)
Kyoto National Museum



Important Cultural Property
Square Dishes with the Chinese Monk Poet Hanshan (Kanzan) and Shide (Jittoku)
Painting by Ogata Kōrin, ceramic by Ogata Kenzan
Kyoto National Museum



Pine Tree (Finger Painting), by Zhu Qiao (1703–?)
Kyoto National Museum

Feature Exhibition An Introduction to the Mysteries of Japanese Art

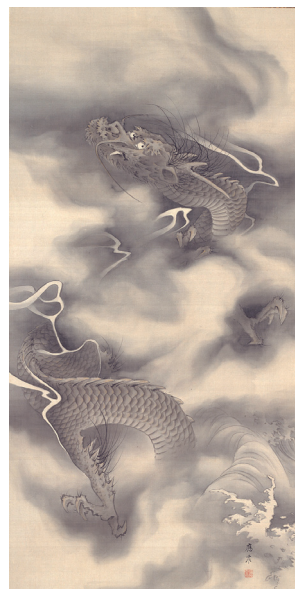
July 21–September 2, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

Enormous dragons and tigers cover the walls and sliding doors of temples. Kimonos are elegantly decorated with pine, bamboo, and plum. Are these just appealing designs, or do all these animals and plants mean something? This exhibition will give visitors of all ages and nationalities, regardless of previous knowledge, a basic introduction to some of the most commonly found designs in Japanese art. Unlock these mysteries and discover a fascinating new world to explore!

(By Mizutani Aki, Associate Curator of Education; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



Uchikake (Formal Outer Robes) with Pines, Bamboo, Plum Blossoms, Cranes and Tortoises
Kyoto National Museum



Dragon and Tiger, by Maruyama Ōshin
Kyoto National Museum



Teeth Blackening Utensil Box with Lion and Peonies in Make
Kyoto National Museum



Stem Plate with Pine, Bamboo, and Plums
Kyoto National Museum

Feature Exhibition

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-1–5

The temple of Chion-ji, located at the Hyakumanben intersection on the east side of Kyoto, is one of the seven major Pure Land (Jōdo Shū) Buddhist temples established by the sect's founding priest Hōnen (1133–1212). The name Chion-ji, "Temple of Wisdom and Blessings," came from its second abbot Genchi (1183–1239). Chion-ji is home to numerous important works of art, including the Chinese masterpiece *Hama and Tieguai*, by Southern Song–Yuan dynasty painter Yan Hui, which is an Important Cultural Property of Japan. This exhibition includes findings from the Kyoto National Museum's recent inventory of Chion-ji's collections. Enjoy the artistic treasures of Pure Land Buddhism, a religious tradition with deep roots in Kyoto.

(By Kure Motoyuki, Curator of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)

Standing Amida Nyorai (Amitābha Buddha)
Chion-ji Temple, Kyoto



Special Exhibition

Swords of Kyoto Master Craftsmanship from an Elegant Culture

September 29–November 25, 2018, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

From ancient times to the modern era, the former imperial capital of Kyoto has been home to some of Japan's most talented swordsmiths, who have produced many famous blades. Though swords made in various regions are associated with "Yamashiro" (the former name of the province around Kyoto), those actually made in the capital have always had the highest status, prized by nobility and samurai alike. During the Edo period (1615–1868), swords were frequently exchanged among daimyo lords, and a sword from Kyoto was considered the ultimate gift.

This exhibition features nearly every National Treasure sword made in Yamashiro (Kyoto), together with outstanding *tachi*, *katana*, and other blades produced by associated master swordsmiths between the Heian (794–1185) and Heisei (1989–present) periods. Also on view are a selection of important paintings, works of calligraphy, dolls, and other objects that help us understand the history of the Yamashiro smiths and their influence on Japan's sword culture. These works and the stories surrounding them help clarify the role of swords in Japan, the value they were accorded by Kyoto's aristocracy, warrior class, and townspeople, and the influence they had on Kyoto culture.

(By Suekane Toshihiko, Curator of Metalwork; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



Important Cultural Property
Legendary Origins of Shinnyō-dō Temple (*Shinnyōdō Engi*), detail
Shinshō Gokuraku-ji Temple, Kyoto

Important Cultural Property
Long Sword (*Tachi*)
Kyoto National Museum

Thematic Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

3F-1 Ceramics

Celebratory Ceramics: Large Dishes Used for Banquets

Ceramics of Japan and East Asia

June 19–September 2, 2018

3F-2 Archaeological Relics

Archeological Relics from Japan and Korea

June 19–September 2, 2018

2F-1 Illustrated Handscrolls

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

Tales of Tragic Love

July 18–August 5, 2018

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018

2F-2 Buddhist Paintings

The Bodhisattva Jizō (Kṣitigarbha) and the Ten Kings of Hell

June 12–July 8, 2018

Hand-Painted Reproductions of Sri Lanka's

Sigiriya Frescoes by Sugimoto Tetsurō

July 10–August 5, 2018

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018

2F-3 Medieval Paintings

Ink Painters from the Kantō Region, Part I: Shōkei and the Odawara Kano

June 12–July 8, 2018

Ink Painters from the Kantō Region, Part II: The Idiosyncratic Talent of Sesson

July 10–August 5, 2018

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018





2F-4 Momoyama–Edo Paintings

Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall (*Shakadō Engi*)

June 12–July 8, 2018

The Kaihō School after Yūshō

July 10–August 5, 2018

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018

2F-5 Chinese Paintings

Chinese Painting from the Tanaka Collection

June 12–July 8, 2018

Water Views in Chinese Landscape

July 10–August 5, 2018

Treasures of Hyakumanben Chion-ji Temple

August 7–September 9, 2018

1F-1 Sculpture

Japanese Sculpture

Deities of Buddhist Hell: King Enma and Jizō

June 12–September 9, 2018

1F-2 Feature Exhibition

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

An Introduction to the Mysteries of Japanese Art

July 21–September 2, 2018

1F-3 Calligraphy

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

Prayers of an Empress: The First Day of the Fifth Month Sutras

July 18–September 2, 2018

1F-4 Textiles and Costumes

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

Summer Kimono: *Hitoe* and *Katabira*

July 19–September 2, 2018

1F-5 Metalwork

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

Chinese and Japanese Cloisonné

July 18–September 2, 2018

1F-6 Lacquerware

New Acquisitions

June 12–July 16, 2018

Hidden Treasures from a Merchant's Storehouse II: Lacquers from the Hiromi Collection

July 18–September 2, 2018

Upcoming Exhibitions

Feature Exhibition

BOARS GALORE

Celebrating the Year of the Wild Boar

December 18, 2018–January 27, 2019, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-5

Cover: *Uchikake (Formal Outer Robe) with Pines, Bamboo, Plum Blossoms, Cranes and Tortoises*, KNM. *Hama and Tieguai*, detail, by Yan Hui, Important Cultural Property, Chion-ji Temple, Kyoto. *Long Sword (Tachi)*, signed "Norikuni," National Treasure, KNM. *The Gion Festival*, detail, KNM. *Human Figures, Birds, and Animals*, detail, by Nagasawa Rosetsu, KNM.

ADMISSION

Standard Admission:*

Adult ¥520 (¥410)

Univ. Student ¥260 (¥210)

September 4–9, 2018:

Adult ¥260 (¥210), Univ. Student ¥130 (¥110)

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.

Special Exhibition Admission:*

Adult ¥1500 (¥1300)

Univ. Student ¥1200 (¥1000)

High-School Student ¥700 (¥500)

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.

HOURS

Hours:

Tue., Wed., Thu., and Sun.

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

Fri. and Sat.

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

*September 11–27, 2018

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

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)

CLOSED ON MONDAY

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

*The museum will be closed on September 28.

Partially closed during the following dates:

September 4–9, 2018

The Painting galleries (2nd floor) and the Sculpture gallery (1st floor) are open for viewing. The 3rd floor galleries and other 1st floor galleries are closed for exhibition installation.

September 11–27, 2018

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

We apologize for the inconvenience.

ACCESS

VIA JR OR SUBWAY

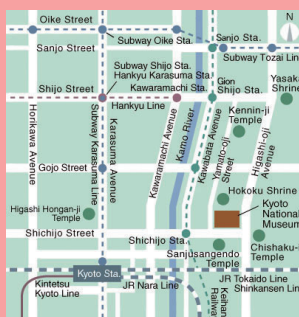
Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D2 in front of the station, take City Bus #206 or #208 to "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop. One-minute walk to the Museum.

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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