

KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

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OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 2020
NEWSLETTER



Special Exhibition

Celebration of the Emperor's Enthronement

Treasures from the Imperial Palace

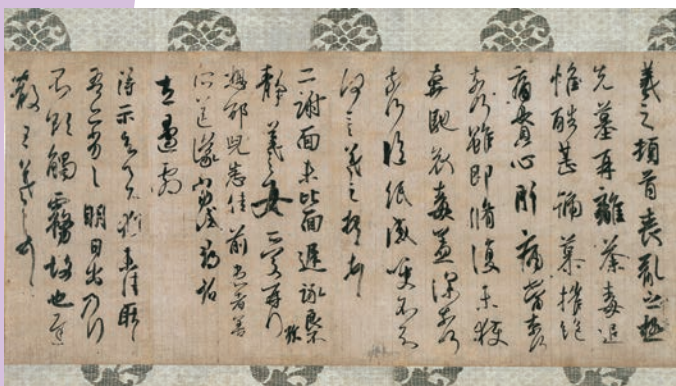
October 10–November 23, 2020, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

With the enthronement of the emperor on the first day of May 2019, Japan entered into a new era given the name Reiwa. This exhibition commemorates the beginning of the Reiwa period with a presentation of masterworks from the Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan, along with other treasures exemplifying the culture of the Japanese court. It is significant that this exhibition is being held here in Kyoto, a city long associated with the imperial family.

The Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan, opened in the East Gardens of the Imperial Palace in 1993 (Heisei 5) to house paintings, calligraphy, and decorative art objects passed down through generations within the imperial family. These collections, which were donated to the nation in 1989 (Heisei 1), comprise a wide variety of possessions including well-known masterpieces of calligraphy and painting handed down as part of the imperial heritage as well as a range of objects acquired in modern times. The present exhibition marks the first time that a large assemblage from the Sannomaru Shōzōkan is being shown outside Tokyo.

We will be pleased if this exhibition memorializing the enthronement of the emperor provides an opportunity to rediscover the culture of the imperial court and thereby the culture of Japan.

(By Yamakawa Aki, Chair of the Department of Decorative and Applied Arts; translation by Monica Bethé)



Tracing Copy of a Letter, known as *Sangliantie* (Letter on Bereavement and Disorder)
Copied from a calligraphy by Wang Xizhi (303–361)
The Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan
(On view October 10–November 1, 2020)



Sliding Door Panel Paintings from the Higiyōsha (Empress Consort's Quarters of the Imperial Palace)
By Tosa Mitsusada (1738–1806) and Tosa Mitsutoki (1764–1819)
Kyoto Office of the Imperial Household Agency
(These panels on view October 10–November 1, 2020)



Illustrated Chronicle of the Miracles of the Kasuga Deity (Kasuga gongen genki e), Scroll 1, detail
Painting by Takashina Takakane (dates unknown)
Calligraphy by Takatsukasa Mototada (1247–1313) and his descendants
The Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan
(On view November 3–23, 2020)



Phoenixes and Rising Sun
By Itō Jakuchū (1716–1800)
The Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan
(On view November 3–23, 2020)



Furnishings for the Higiyōsha (Empress Consort's Quarters of the Imperial Palace)
Pillows and Double-Shelf Cabinet with Cranes Grasping Pine Branches
Tokyo National Museum

Feature Exhibition

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Conservation Center for Cultural Properties

The Conservation of Japanese Art

December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F, 1F-1, 3–5

The Conservation Center for Cultural Properties was established in July, 1980, with the goal of safe conservation of designated cultural properties.

2020 marks the Center's fortieth anniversary year. To commemorate this event, we have decided to mount an exhibition featuring carefully selected works that exemplify conservation's most significant advancements in recent years.

This exhibition is underwritten by the Agency for Cultural Affairs as a part of the Japan Cultural Expo program. The Japan Cultural Expo is an initiative designed to foster interest in Japanese art and culture, highlighting the universal appeal of the country's rich and varied history.

In this spirit, we hope that visitors to the exhibition will take this exhibition as a chance to rethink the relationship between Japanese people, nature, and art.

(By Ōhara Yoshitoyo, Chair of the Department of Conservation Administration; translation by Trevor Menders with Melissa Rinne)



Stone Lanterns, right screen
By Itō Jakuchū (1716–1800)
Kyoto National Museum



Taima-dera Nerikuyō Ritual
By Tōkichi and Tōzō (dates unknown)
Saiju-ji Temple, Kyoto

Feature Exhibition

Bullish on the New Year: Celebrating the Year of the Ox

December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

This annual New Year's exhibition highlights the ox, one of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac. In Japan, oxen and cattle have been living with humans since the Kofun period (ca. 3rd–6th c.). Besides their roles as domesticated animals, oxen were also considered to be messengers or vehicles of the gods. Their use for plowing on farms became widespread during the Heian period (794–1185). This exhibition features depictions of the ox on various art objects ranging from small to large in scale.

(By Furuya Takeshi, Curator of Archaeology; translation by Fabienne Helfenberger)



Haniwa Ox
Excavated from Imashirozuka Tumulus Kofun, Osaka
The Imashirozuka Museum, Takatsuki, Osaka



Ox, Twelve Animals of the Chinese Zodiac
Stone rubbing
Kyoto National Museum

Thematic Exhibitions in

The Collection Galleries

3F-1 Ceramics

Ceramics of Japan and East Asia
December 19, 2020–February 28, 2021
(Closed March 2–7, 2021)

3F-2 Archaeological Relics

Yayoi Period Vessels and Haniwa from Kyushu and the Kansai Region
December 19, 2020–February 28, 2021
(Closed March 2–7, 2021)

2F Feature Exhibition

The Conservation of Japanese Art
December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021

1F-1 Sculpture

Feature Exhibition
The Conservation of Japanese Art
December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021

Japanese Sculpture

December 19, 2020–March 7, 2021

1F-2 Feature Exhibition

Bullish on the New Year: Celebrating the Year of the Ox
December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021

1F-2-5 Feature Exhibition

The Conservation of Japanese Art
December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021

1F-6 Lacquerware

Preserving Lacquers through Conservation
December 19, 2020–January 31, 2021

Upcoming Exhibitions

Feature Exhibition on the 50th Anniversary of the Ueno Memorial Foundation for the Study of Buddhist Art

The Newsmen's Eye: East Asian Painting and Calligraphy Collected by Ueno Riichi

February 2–March 7, 2021, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, 2F

Feature Exhibition in Celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the *Nihon Shoki*

The National Treasure *Chronicles of Japan* and Other Ancient East Asian Texts

February 4–28, 2021, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, 1F-3 and 4

Cover: *Enthronement of Emperor Reigen*, detail. By Kano Einō. Kyoto National Museum (On view November 3–23, 2020). *Sliding Door Panel Paintings from the Higiyōsha (Empress Consort's Quarters of the Imperial Palace)*. By Tosa Mitsusada and Tosa Mitsutoki. Kyoto Office of the Imperial Household Agency (These panels on view October 10–November 1, 2020). *Furnishings for the Higiyōsha (Empress Consort's Quarters of the Imperial Palace): Pillows and Double-Shelf Cabinet with Cranes Grasping Pine Branches*. Tokyo National Museum. *Scenes from The Tale of Genji*, detail. Traditionally attributed to Kano Eitoku. Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shōzōkan (On view November 3–23, 2020).

ADMISSION

October 10–November 23, 2020:*

Special Exhibition Admission

Adult ¥1800

Univ. Student ¥1200

High-School Student ¥700

Admission is free for middle school students, and for visitors with disabilities and one caretaker. Please show I.D.

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

*Timed entry tickets for the Kyoto National Museum special exhibition *Treasures from the Imperial Palace* must now be reserved online. Please purchase your ticket in advance on the exhibition website specifying your date and time of entry.

>>Official Website: <https://meiho2020.jp> (Japanese only)

September 15–October 8, 2020:

November 25–December 18, 2020:

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits

Adult ¥300 Univ. Student ¥150

Outdoor exhibits only. Admission is free for high school age and below, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caretaker, and for Campus Members including faculty. Please show I.D. Guide booklet is provided with adult admission only.

December 19, 2020–March 7, 2021:

Admission to the Museum Collections Galleries

Adult ¥700 Univ. Student ¥350

Admission is free for high school age and below, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caretaker, and for Campus Members including faculty. Please show I.D.

HOURS

September 15–October 8, 2020:

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

October 10–November 23, 2020:

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

November 25–December 27, 2020:

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 be closed on October 9, 2020, and December 28, 2020–January 1, 2021.

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 Kyotokawaramachi 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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