

KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

Newsletter Vol.121
April – June, 2014



Special Exhibition

April 22 – June 15, 2014

Pilgrimage through Minami Yamashiro: Early Buddhist Art of Southern Kyoto

Special Exhibition Hall

Over the plains of Mika,
The river Izumi springs forth and flows freely.
I do not know when or if have we met,
Yet my heart longs for you.

This poem by the Middle Counselor Fujiwara no Kanesuke (877–933), one of the One Hundred Celebrated Poets, known for his rhythmical expressions, evokes the bucolic scenery of Minami Yamashiro. The plains of Mika refers to present-day Kamo-chō village in the city of Kizugawa in Kyoto Prefecture, where the capital Kuni-kyō was situated from 740 to 744, and the river Izumi is the ancient name of the Kizu River.

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ADMISSION

Pilgrimage through Minami Yamashiro

Adult	¥1500 (¥1200)
High School/ Univ. Student	¥900 (¥600)
Elem./Middle Sch. Student	¥500 (¥200)

(Fees in parentheses for groups of 20+)

HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday (except Fri.)
9:30 am–6:00 pm (Entrance until 5:30 pm)
Friday
9:30 am–8:00 pm (Entrance until 7:30 pm)

CLOSED ON MONDAY

*Except May 5.

*The Museum will also be closed:
Until April 21 (Fri.), 2014 and from
June 16 (Mon.) to September 12 (Fri.), 2014

*The Collections Hall (Heisei Chishinkan Wing)
will open on September 13 (Sat.).



Important Cultural Property
Standing Eleven-headed Kannon
Kaijūsan-ji Temple, Kyoto

>> Scattered through the southern part of Kyoto Prefecture between Nara and Kyoto are ancient temples that have safeguarded Buddhist traditions from the Nara (710–794) and Heian (794–1185) periods. These temples have carefully transmitted invaluable cultural treasures of Japan to the present day. This region is especially known for its outstanding eleven-headed Kannon statues. *Pilgrimage through Minami Yamashiro* introduces these images as well as important works that have been identified during surveys of cultural properties conducted by the Kyoto National Museum.

Stylistic elements of ancient Nara and of Kyoto come together in these impressive works from the various temples of this area. Buddhist paintings, medieval and early modern paintings, metalworks, ceramic ware, Buddhist garments and other textiles, as well as archaeological artifacts from the Minami Yamashiro region in the Kizu River basin area will also be showcase in this unprecedented exhibition. We hope that this exhibition will deepen the understanding and appreciation of the history, customs, and Buddhist culture of this region.

(Original Japanese text by Miyakawa Teiichi)



Portrait of Ikkyū Sōjun
Shūon-an Temple, Kyoto



Mirror with Gods, Human Figures, Carriages, and Horses
Kyoto National Museum



Porcelain Incense Burner and Vases
Kaijūsen-ji Temple, Kyoto



National Treasure
Scrolls of Frolicking Animals and Humans, detail (Kōzan-ji Temple, Kyoto)

Upcoming Exhibition

September 13 — November 16, 2014

Heisei Chishinkan Wing Opening Exhibition

Kyoto: Splendors of the Ancient Capital

October 7 — November 24, 2014

Special Exhibition

**Masterpieces of Kōzan-ji Temple:
Commemorating the Restoration of the National
Treasure *Scrolls of Frolicking Animals and Humans***

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 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 Street (about seven minutes) to the Museum.



527 Chaya-cho, Higashiyama-ku
Kyoto, Japan 605-0931
Tel. (075) 541-1151 (Japanese only)
Fax. (075) 531-0263
<http://www.kyohaku.go.jp/>

