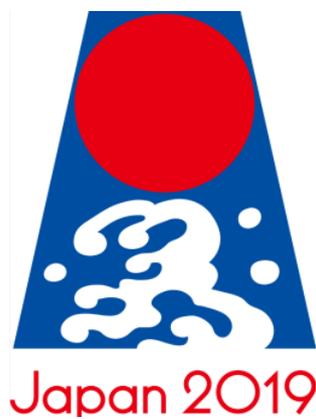


Japan 2019 Official Program



< Exhibition 1 >



Tosa Mitsuoki. *Portrait-Icon of Murasaki Shikibu* (detail). 17th century. Ishiyamadera Temple. Courtesy of Ishiyamadera Temple, photo by Kanai Morio.

The Tale of Genji: A Japanese Classic Illuminated

This unique exhibition presents the magnificent world of art inspired by *The Tale of Genji*, a much-loved story transcending time and national boundaries that has been translated into many languages.

Through the ages, artists have represented this greatest masterpiece of Japanese literature in wide-ranging forms, from small picture albums, handscrolls, and fans, to boldly-designed hanging scrolls and folding screens. An enormous number of *The Tale of Genji*-themed decorative arts have featured scenes from the tale, with colorful depictions adorning everything from kimono, lacquer boxes, cosmetic cases to palanquins.

The exhibition traces the cultural impact of *The Tale of Genji* on Japanese art and society through exquisite works selected from many periods and genres. Related events, including performances and symposia, provide additional opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of *The Tale of Genji* tradition that spans more than a millennium.

Period: Tue., Mar. 5 – Sun., Jun. 16, 2019

Venue: The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Co-organizers: The Metropolitan Museum of Art,
The Japan Foundation

Special cooperation: Tokyo National Museum, Ishiyamadera Temple

<Exhibition 2>



Horse Race at the Kamo Shrine (detail), 1615–50,
The Cleveland Museum of Art. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund 1976.95

Shinto: Discovery of the Divine in Japanese Art

The aesthetic world of Shinto is a key feature of Japanese art. In Japan, Shinto-themed exhibitions have a long history, with the most recent the 2018 exhibition, “Kasuga Taisha: Centuries of Worship Revealed in Sacred Treasures” at the Nara National Museum. 1976 was the last time such an exhibition was held in the United States.

This current exhibition seeks to offer insight into divinities unique to Japan and to convey their wondrous appeal through some 125 works of art from both Japanese and American collections, including paintings, sculptures, decorative arts, as well as masks and costumes used in Shinto rites from the 10th through 19th centuries. Some of the highlights are treasures and ritual items used in the worship of deities, including artwork related to the Kasuga Deity, the protective deity of the Fujiwara clan enshrined at Kasuga Taisha.

Period: Tue., Apr. 9 – Sun. Jun. 30, 2019
Venue: The Cleveland Museum of Art
Organizers: The Cleveland Museum of Art
Special cooperation: Nara National Museum
Special support: The Japan Foundation

< Exhibition 3 >



Yayoi Kusama. *SHO-CHAN*, 2013.
© YAYOI KUSAMA.
Courtesy of Ota Fine Arts
Tokyo/Singapore/Shanghai



Ozawa Kagaku, *Festival Dancing*
Edo period, 19th century
HOSOMI MUSEUM



Haniwa Dog
Kofun period, 6th–7th
century. Miho Museum
© Kenji Yamazaki

The Life of Animals in Japanese Art / Every Living Thing: Animals in Japanese Art

Animals are abundant in Japanese art history, demonstrating the significance of both real and mythical creatures in Japanese culture.

This exhibition has been jointly conceived by Japanese and American curators to introduce Japanese culture to a broader audience. It presents a wide range of different animals, in various art forms, providing fascination for children and adults alike.

Of unprecedented scale and comprehensiveness, this exhibition brings together over 300 works of art representing animals, carefully selected from significant collections in Japan and the United States, from 5th-century *haniwa* to contemporary art. It examines the many roles animals have played in secular, spiritual, and religious lives in Japan through diverse media such as painting, sculpture, lacquerware, ceramics, metalwork, cloisonné enamel, woodblock prints, textiles, and photography.

These depictions of animals, at times simple and humorous and at other times mysterious, communicate charming aspects of Japanese culture to people of all ages.

- Period/Venue: Sun., June 2 – Sun., Aug. 18, 2019
National Gallery of Art, Washington
Sun., Sep. 22 – Sun., Dec. 8, 2019
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Organizers: The Japan Foundation,
National Gallery of Art, Washington
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Special cooperation: Tokyo National Museum
- Cooperation: Chiba City Museum of Art,
Suntory Museum of Art
- Sponsor: All Nippon Airways (ANA)

< Performing arts 1 >



© Naoko Takeuchi, PNP/Production Committee of "Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon" The Super Live



Photo: Shintaro Shiratori/Sony Music Labels, Inc.



National Cherry Blossom Festival Performances

The 2.5-Dimensional Musical *"Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon" The Super Live*, a concert featuring Ikuko Kawai Ensemble as well as a performance by Yusaku Mochizuki (Mochi) will be presented during the 2019 National Cherry Blossom Festival. Held annually in March – April in Washington, D.C., the festival celebrates the enduring friendship between the people of Japan and the United States.

Period: Fri., Mar. 22 – Sun., Mar. 24, 2019

Venue: Warner Theatre
Freer Gallery of Art
(and other venues in Washington, D.C.)

Organizers: The Japan Foundation,
National Cherry Blossom Festival,
Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Special support: Embassy of Japan in the United States of America

"Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon" The Super Live will also be presented in New York on March 29 & 30.

<Performing arts 2>



Photo by GION

Japan Day @ Central Park

Japan Day @ Central Park is an annual event designed by the Japanese community of New York to promote a deeper understanding of Japanese culture. Founded in 2007, Japan Day is celebrating its 13th annual event in May 2019. Japan Day consists of Japan Run, a 4-mile run organized by New York Road Runners, and Japan Day Festival, with exciting stage performances, activity tents where visitors can experience Japanese culture, and food tents offering free samples of Japanese cuisine. Details of the event line-ups will be announced later in April.

Date: Sun., May 12, 2019

Venue: Bandshell area, Central Park

Organizers: The Japan Foundation,
Japan Day Inc.

Special support: Consulate General of Japan in New York

<Performing arts 3>



JAPAN NIGHT Concert

Japan Night is a one-night only special event in New York City on May 12, 2019, in collaboration with Japan Day @ Central Park. Japan Night will celebrate contemporary popular Japanese music with four of the most successful artists in Japan today.

Each concert features two Japanese music superstars:

MISIA, winner of best vocal performance for the 60th annual Japan Record Awards with special guest Puffy AmiYumi, featured in the Cartoon Network show Hi Hi Puffy AmiYumi, will perform at Sony Hall (235 W. 46th Street) at 9pm.

HYDE, who is also known as a lead singer of L'Arc-en-Ciel, a pioneer of Japanese rock and WagakkiBand, a viral video sensation who combines traditional Japanese instruments with modern rock, will perform at PlayStation Theater at 6pm.

These concerts will be full-scale productions that allow New York audiences to see top Japanese artists in an intimate setting.

Date: Sun., May 12, 2019

Venue: PlayStation Theater, doors open 5pm / show 6pm <HYDE & WagakkiBand>
Sony Hall, doors open 8pm / show 9pm <MISIA w/special guest Puffy AmiYumi>

Organizers: The Japan Foundation,
Gorgeous Entertainment,
DISK GARAGE,
Cool Japan Music

<Performing arts 4>



©Christophe Raynaud de Lage

Satoshi Miyagi's *Antigone*

A performance of Satoshi Miyagi's *Antigone* by Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC) at Park Avenue Armory in New York.

Period: Wed., Sep. 25 – Sun., Oct. 6, 2019

Venue: Park Avenue Armory

Organizers: Park Avenue Armory,
The Japan Foundation,
Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC)

<Performing arts 5>



©Hiroshi Sugimoto/ Courtesy of Odawara Art Foundation

Sugimoto Bunraku Sonezaki Shinju

A New York performance of *Sugimoto Bunraku Sonezaki Shinju: The Love Suicides at Sonezaki* directed by Hiroshi Sugimoto.

Period: Sat., Oct. 19 – Tue., Oct. 22, 2019

Venue: (To be decided)

Organizers: The Japan Foundation,
Odawara Art Foundation