

Utage: Modern Japanese Paintings

A Curation of the Finest Works by the Meiji to Showa Period Masters of Japanese Art

Dates: Apr 23 (Sat) - May 1 (Sun), 2022

Venue: Kashima Arts (3-3-2 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo)

Open Every Day During Exhibition / Free Admittance



Kashima Arts is proud to announce the launch of *Utage*, a series of special exhibitions to be held every spring. Catered to each occasion, these exhibitions will showcase the best of Kashima Arts' selection.

The inaugural exhibition, *Utage: Modern Japanese Paintings* will be held from Saturday, April 23 to Sunday, May 1, 2022, at Kashima Arts (Kyobashi, Tokyo). Approximately 25 works by major modern Japanese painters, such as Kaburaki Kiyokata and Takeuchi Seiho, will be on exhibit.

On *Utage*:

Art for Spring

Since 1988, Kashima Arts has offered a wide range of Japanese artworks, with a specialty in hanging scrolls and calligraphy from the Middle Ages to modern times.

Continually seeking to refine itself, Kashima Arts has maintained its search for new ways of displaying Japanese art whilst simultaneously upholding the value of incorporating art within everyday life.

In this new tradition, Kashima Arts will introduce, exhibit, and offer the very best of Japanese art, from hanging scrolls, to calligraphy and paintings, each spring through *Utage*.

The Japanese term "utage" carries a wide range of meanings, from "celebration" and "enjoyment" to that of "peace" and "rest" (Source: Dai Kanwa jiten. Vol. III. By Morohashi Tetsuji. Tokyo: Tai Shūkan Shoten).

Amidst the lingering pandemic, *Utage* aims to deliver a selection of works for everyone to enjoy.

An Offering of Approx. 25 Works by Major Japanese Artists from the Meiji to Showa Period.

The first of the series, *Utage: Modern Japanese Paintings* will focus on Japanese art from the Meiji to Showa period.

Modernity entered Japan after a 300-year long reign of the Edo Shogunate. As the government began to promote Western values and rapidly construct a modernized state; the Meiji era became known as a progressive. Furthermore, as Western culture, thoughts, and institutions became widespread, the values and lifestyles of the many began to undergo great change. This had a great impact on the Japanese painting world, and a new sense of beauty began to sprout. Painters were eager to form original, innovative expressions whilst simultaneously preserving traditional techniques and styles.

This exhibition will introduce the works from the dawn of modern times to the Showa era. Featuring approx. 25 works, the inaugural exhibition offers works by 18 artists, including the so-called pioneer of modern Japanese painting, Takeuchi Seiho, the Bijin-ga master, Kaburaki Kiyokata, the internationally renowned bird-and-flower, Watanabe Seitei, and more.

Highlighted Works



1. Uemura Shoen, *Beauty Under the Moon*
2. Mukai Junkichi, *Spring in Shinanoji*
3. Takeuchi Seiho, *Dog*
4. Kimura Buzan, *Kannon*
5. Kobayakawa Shusei, *Secret Song Under the Moon*
6. Okamoto Taro, *Work*

Exhibition Details

Exhibition Title: *Utage: Modern Japanese Paintings*

Exhibition HP: <https://www.kashima-arts.co.jp/en/exhibitions/utage/>

Dates: Apr 23 (Sat) - May 1 (Sun), 2022

Hours: 10am-6pm. Open every day during exhibition.

Exhibiting Works: approx. 25

Exhibiting Artists: Kaburaki Kiyokata, Uemura Shoen, Takeuchi Seiho, Hishida Shunso, Watanabe Seitei, Kobayakawa Shusei, Mukai Junkichi, Fukuda Heihachiro and more.

Location: Kashima Arts

Address: 3-3-2 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo

Tokyo Metro Ginza Line "Kyobashi Station" 2-minute walk from Exit 3

Tokyo Metro Yurakucho Line "Ginza Ichome Station" 3-minute walk from Exit 7

Toei Asakusa Line "Takaracho Station" 5-minute walk from Exit A4

JR Tokyo Station 9-minute walk from Yaesu South Exit

Telephone: (+81) (0)3-3276-0700

Admittance: Free

※Depending on the state of COVID-19, business days and hours are subject to change. Please check updates on the Kashima Arts website (<https://www.kashimaarts.co.jp/en/>), Facebook (@kashima.arts), Instagram or Twitter (both @kashima_arts).

For Press & Media Inquiries

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