

A Profusion of Flowers

— Painting the Four Seasons



Okumura Togyū, *Cherry Blossoms at Daigo-ji Temple*

27 April (Wed.) – 5 June (Sun.)
(Closed on Mondays except for 2 May)

Organized by: the Yamatane Museum of Art and The Asahi Shimbun

Hours: 10:00 – 17:00 (Last admission at 16:30)

Admission Adults: 1,000 [800] yen,

Fees: University and high school students: 800 [700] yen,
Middle school and younger children: free of charge

*Figures in brackets are for groups of 20 or more.

*Disability ID Holders, with one person accompanying them are admitted free of charge.

Highlights of the Exhibition

Sakai Hōitsu, *Chrysanthemums with Bird*, Color on silk, Late Edo Period, c. 1823–28
Suzuki Kiitsu, *Birds and Flowers of the Four Seasons*, Color and gold leaf on paper, Late Edo Period, Mid 19th century
Tanomura Choku'nyū, *Hundreds of Flowers in Bloom*, Color on silk, Meiji Period, 1869
Araki Jippo, *Birds and Flowers of Four Seasons*, Color on silk, Taishō Period, 1917
Kobayashi Kokei, *Bird and Evergreen Magnolia*, Color on silk, Shōwa Period, 1935
Kobayashi Kokei, *Iris*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1952
Okumura Togyū, *Cherry Blossoms at Daigo-ji Temple*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1972
Fukuda Heihachirō, *Peonies in Bloom*, Color on silk, Taishō Period, 1924
Fukuda Heihachirō, *Poppies*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, c. 1948
Yamaguchi Hōshun, *Sunny Moments in the Rainy Season*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1966
Hayami Gyoshū, *Camellias*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1933
Hayami Gyoshū, *Black Peonies*, Ink and color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1934
Hashimoto Meiji, *Cherry Tree in Morning Sun*, Color on paper, Shōwa Period, 1970

For centuries, the Japanese have particularly enjoyed the various flowers of the changing seasons, celebrating them in poetry and depicting their beautiful images in paintings and decorative arts. The modern period saw artists continuing the long tradition of painting refined images of birds and flowers, and grasses and flowers, while at the same time striving to depict flowers with a new and modern sensibility which led to the creation of richly individualistic works.

This exhibition focuses on modern painting, presenting approximately 50 works ranging from late Edo period artists, such as Sakai Hōitsu, to those who were active into the beginning of the Heisei era, such as Uemura Shōkō. Featured works include: Okumura Togyū's *Cherry Blossoms at Daigo-ji Temple*, with its gently expressed palette of cherry blossoms; Fukuda Heihachirō's *Peonies in Bloom*, with its ethereal sensibility created through pigments applied to the back of the painting silk; Sakai Hōitsu's *Chrysanthemums with Bird*, with its strikingly decorative tone and use of the Rimpa school's *tarashikomi* ink puddling methods; and Hayami Gyoshū's *Camellias*, depicting a single branch of blossoms caught in a moment of form and color. These paintings all reveal the colorful competition of flowers during spring, summer, autumn and into winter. We hope that visitors will enjoy this abundant display of artistic creativity as expressed in each painter's own unique vision of floral beauty.

This exhibition provides visitors with an opportunity to enjoy the changing flowers of the seasons, to re-engage with the seasonal sensibilities, something too often overlooked in this fast-paced contemporary world, and to refine their individual approach to natural beauty.



Sakai Hōitsu,
Chrysanthemums with Bird



Fukuda Heihachirō, *Peonies in Bloom*



Hayami Gyoshū, *Camellias*



Kobayashi Kokei,
Bird and Evergreen Magnolia