News Release

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ARTIZON MUSEUM | ISHIBASHI FOUNDATION

February 6, 2021
Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

*The exhibition title, the number of the works, the contents are updated.

STEPS AHEAD: Recent Acquisitions

February 13 (Saturday) – May 9 (Sunday), 2021

Elaine de Kooning, *Untitled (Bullfight)*, 1959 ©Elaine de Kooning Trust

The Artizon Museum, the Ishibashi Foundation (Director: Ishibashi Hiroshi) is delighted to announce its upcoming exhibition, *STEPS AHEAD: Recent Acquisitions*.
STEPS AHEAD introduces the Artizon Museum's latest additions to the collection. In recent years, the Ishibashi Foundation has worked to develop its core collection of Impressionist and modern Japanese paintings more fully while expanding the collection's breadth to include works from the early twentieth century to contemporary art especially Abstract paintings, and early modern Japanese art. Since opening, we have been gradually introducing our new acquisitions, but others remain yet to be displayed: works by the Cubist painters, drawings by Henri Matisse, *From or by Marcel Duchamp or Rrose Sélavy [Box in a Valise]* by Marcel Duchamp, women of Abstract Expressionism, Takiguchi Shuzo and Experimental Workshop, contemporary Australian paintings, and much more. This exhibition of 201 works, including 92 new acquisitions being exhibited for the first time, and 87 works from the collection of portrait photographs of artists provides a view of the Artizon Museum's continuing progress in expanding the horizons of its collection.

Exhibition Highlights

■Artizon Museum’s new acquisitions displayed comprehensively

This exhibition presents, in one setting, 92 works from among our new acquisitions being exhibited for the first time. In recent years, the museum has focused both on building a fuller collection of modern Japanese and Western paintings and expanding the collection’s scope to include twentieth-century art, particularly abstract paintings, contemporary art from the postwar period on, and portrait photographs of artists. Experience the collection as it stands now, on its continuing journey to develop further with the opening of our new museum.

■Key Points

1. Cubist Painters

We have acquired works by Cubist painters, figures in the most important movement in the early twentieth century, which led to the genesis of Abstract art. This exhibition includes works by Picasso, Braque, and other artists, plus the newly acquired Jean Metzinger’s *Still Life on a Pedestal Table* (1916) and Albert Gleizes’s *Woman with a Glove* (ca. 1922).

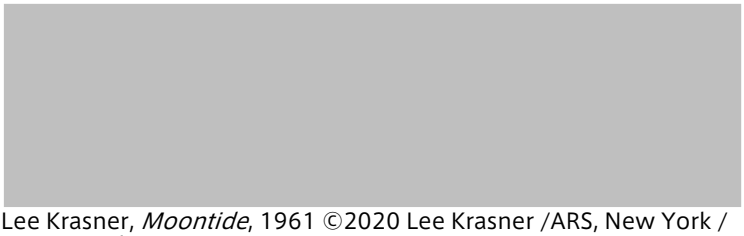
2. Postwar Painting and Sculpture

We have enhanced our collection of paintings and three-dimensional works created after World War II in Japan, Europe, and the United States. The works on display include Alexander Calder’s *Monocle* (1947), Marcel Duchamp’s *From or by Marcel Duchamp or Rrose Sélavy [Box in a Valise]*, (1952) , and Onosato Toshinobu’s *Vermillion Circle* (1959), and David Smith’s *August Raven* (1960).

Onosato Toshinobu, *Vermillion Circle*, 1959

3. Women of Abstract Expressionism

Abstract Expressionism, which developed in New York after World War II, is an American avant-garde movement with international impact. While Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning are well-known figures, women artists also made major contributions. This section introduces work by Lee Krasner, Elaine de Kooning, Helen Frankenthaler, and Joan Mitchell.



Lee Krasner, *Moontide*, 1961 ©2020 Lee Krasner /ARS, New York / JASPAR, Tokyo C3379

4. Contemporary Australian Paintings

The Ishibashi Foundation, in expanding its collection, has taken note of contemporary Australian art in recent years. Here we introduce representative Aboriginal Art by Australian Aboriginal artists such as, Nonggirrnga Marawili, George Ward Tjungurrayi, and Ginger Riley Munduwalawala.

5. Portrait Photographs of Artists

The collection includes about 700 vintage portrait photographs of artists in France in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. We have also acquired 206 works by Anzai Shigeo, who photographed the contemporary art scene, in Japan and abroad, from 1970 on, and 236 works by Tom Haar, who captured portraits of Japanese artists working in New York in the 1970s. This section presents a selection of those works.

Photographer Unknown, *Portrait of Henri Matisse* (From the Collection of Portrait Photographs of Artists)

Exhibition Contents

Recent acquisitions are the focus of this exhibition of works from the Ishibashi Foundation collection, presented in the following sections:

1. Fujishima Takeji, *Orientalism* and Modern Japanese and Western Painting
2. Cubism
3. Kandinsky and Klee
4. Kuramata Shiro and Tanaka Shintaro
5. Women of Abstract Expressionism
6. Takiguchi Shuzo and Experimental Workshop
7. Marcel Duchamp and New York
8. French Abstract Art after 1945
9. Gutai Paintings
10. Australian Art: Aboriginal Art
11. Japanese Abstract Paintings
12. The Ishibashi Foundation Collection Ultra High Resolution Scanning Project
13. Henri Matisse’s Drawings
14. Portrait Photographs of Artists

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition title: STEPS AHEAD: Recent Acquisitions

Organizer: Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

Venue: 6, 5, 4F Galleries

Exhibition period: February 13 (Saturday) to May 9 (Sunday), 2021

Opening hours: 10:00 – 18:00 (Evening hours, with the museum open until 20:00 on Fridays, have been suspended until further notice. For the latest information, please check our website.)
* Last admission 30 minutes before closing.

Closed: Mondays (except May 3)

Admission (tax included): Online reservation starts from December 13 (Sunday)
Online ticket: 1,200 Yen
Same day ticket (on sale at museum): 1,500 Yen
Students free entry (Advance online booking required.)
*Same day tickets on sale at museum are only for time slots that have not reached full capacity.
*Advance booking is not required children up to junior high school.
*With your own smartphones and earphones, enjoy the free audio guide by simply downloading the app.

Curators: Shimbata Yasuhide, Shimamoto Hideaki, Ueda Anna (Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation)

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③ Fujishima Takeji, *Orientalism*, 1924

④ Henri Matisse, *Jacquy*, 1947

⑤ Jean Metzinger, *Still Life on the Pedestal Table*, 1916

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