

May 18, 2023
Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

ABSTRACTION

The Genesis and Evolution of Abstract Painting
Cézanne, Fauvism, Cubism and on to Today

June 3 [Sat.] - August 20 [Sun.], 2023

*The composition of the exhibition and the captions for the works on display have been changed



František KUPKA, *Study on Red Ground*, c. 1919, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent acquisitions]



Wassily KANDINSKY, *Study for Panel for Edwin R. Campbell No.4 (Carnival, Winter)*, 1914, The Miyagi Museum of Art

The Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation (Director: Ishibashi Hiroshi), presents *ABSTRACTION: The Genesis and Evolution of Abstract Painting Cézanne, Fauvism, Cubism and on to Today*.

From the late nineteenth century to the outbreak of World War I, France enjoyed a period of peace and prosperity. The lively, free spirit of that Belle Époque spurred artistic creativity. Fauvism, Cubism, and other new art forms blossomed, and those developments led to the birth of abstract painting, one outcome of stylistic evolution in painting. The subsequent evolution of Abstraction drove artistic expression in the twentieth-century art world in a dynamic wave that reached Japan during the same period.

This exhibition starts with Impressionism and continues through the revolutionary movements in painting at the start of the twentieth century and the birth of abstract painting. It then traces the development of Abstraction through two World Wars and beyond, up to the 1960s, showcasing movements in Europe, primarily in France, and in America and Japan.

The exhibits include about 150 works from the Ishibashi Foundation Collection, 95 of which are recent acquisitions. * They also include around 100 works on loan from private collections and museums both inside and outside Japan. The approximately 250 works on display will fill all of the Artizon Museum's galleries.

*Recent acquisitions are works added to the collection since 2015, when the Artizon Museum's predecessor, the Bridgestone Museum of Art, was closed for renovation.

Exhibition Highlights

1. A Major Exhibition Providing an Overview of the History of Abstract Painting

The invention of photography in the mid-nineteenth century was followed almost immediately by the birth of Impressionism. Abstract painting then emerged early in the twentieth century, amidst a succession of further transformations of the art world. This exhibition explores the development of Abstraction, one of twentieth-century art's most important movements, from that beginning through the 1960s. The approximately 250 works on display are from Europe, primarily France, America, and Japan. This large-scale exhibition will fill all of the Artizon Museum's galleries.

2. Ninety-five Works Recently Added to the Artizon Museum Collection

The Artizon Museum has made a major effort to collect abstract paintings. Works from Abstraction's early period by Kandinsky, Klee, Delaunay, and O'Keefe and other recent acquisitions will be displayed together in the same gallery. Also shown will be five recently acquired examples of Fauvism, the early twentieth century inspiration for Abstraction.

3. Works from Other Museums and Private Collections

More than thirty works from the Pompidou Centre, the Phillips Collection, and other overseas museums and private collections will travel to Japan for this exhibition, including some being shown for the first time in Japan. They will be joined by nearly seventy works on loan from national and private museums and private collections in Japan.

4. Late Masterworks by Hartung, Soulages, Zao Wou-Ki

Hans Hartung, Pierre Soulages, and Zao Wou-Ki were artists responsible for the flourishing of abstract painting in France immediately after World War II. They never gave up their desire to create new art and continued to work ambitiously throughout their lives. Each of them continued to paint until just before their deaths is a little-known fact providing insight into their passions. This special section is devoted to work that these maestros created late in their lives.

5. Selected Works by Contemporary Artists

Abstraction flourished during the twentieth century. But how has it been inherited and carried on today? The final section of this exhibition introduces new works by seven artists who carry on the Abstraction tradition while pursuing new forms of creative expression. This section introduces new works by Rita Ackermann, Anne Kagioka Rigoulet, Lou Zhenggang, Tsugami Miyuki, Shibata Toshio, Takabatake Yoriko, and Yokomizo Miyuki.

Composition of the Exhibition

*The main artists whose work is on display include those named in parentheses.

1. Origins of Abstract Art

(Paul CÉZANNE, Édouard MANET, Vincent VAN GOGH, Paul GAUGUIN, Odilon REDON, Claude MONET)

2. Fauvism and Cubism

(Henri MATISSE, André DERAIN, Maurice de VLAMINCK, Raoul DUFY, Pablo PICASSO, Georges BRAQUE, Jean METZINGER, Fernand LÉGER)

3. Genesis of Abstract Painting:

Orphism, Futurism, Der Blaue Reiter, Bauhaus, De Stijl, and Abstraction-Création

(Robert DELAUNAY, František KUPKA, LE CORBUSIER, Wassily KANDINSKY, Paul KLEE, Piet MONDRIAN, Constantin BRANCUSI, Georgia O'KEEFFE)

4. Roots and Branches of Abstract Painting in Japan

(ONCHI Koshiro, YOROZU Tetsugoro, KOGA Harue, HASEGAWA Saburo, OKAMOTO Taro)

5. Hot Abstraction and Lyrical Abstraction

(Wols <Alfred Otto Wolfgang SCHULZE>, Jean FAUTRIER, Georges MATHIEU, Maurice ESTÈVE, Maria-Helena VIEIRA DA SILVA, Hans HARTUNG, Pierre SOULAGES, ZAO Wou-Ki, DOMOTO Hisao, SUGAI Kumi)

6. Trans-Atlantic: Pierre Matisse and His Surroundings

(Jean DUBUFFET, Joan MIRÓ, Marcel DUCHAMP)

7. Abstract Expressionism

(Arshile GORKY, Hans HOFMANN, Willem DE KOONING, Jackson POLLOCK, Mark ROTHKO, Sam FRANCIS, Ad REINHARDT, Adolph GOTTLIEB, Elaine DE KOONING, Helen FRANKENTHALER, Lee KRASNER, Joan MITCHELL, Isamu NOGUCHI)

8. Evolution of Postwar Japanese Abstract Painting (to the 1960s)

(YAMAGUCHI Takeo, ONOSATO Toshinobu, KUSAMA Yayoi, KATSURA Yuki, SAITO Yoshishige, KAWABATA Minoru, SUGIMATA Tadashi, INOKUMA Gen'ichiro, OKADA Kenzo, EI-KYU)

9. Gutai

(YOSHIHARA Jiro, SHIRAGA Kazuo, TANAKA Atsuko, KANAYAMA Akira, MURAKAMI Saburo, MOTONAGA Sadamasa, MASANOBU Masatoshi)

10. Takiguchi Shuzo and Jikken Kobo (Experimental Workshop)

(TAKIGUCHI Shuzo, YAMAGUCHI Katsuhiko, FUKUSHIMA Hideko, KITADAI Shozo)

11. Future Paths of Postwar Abstractions: Hans Hartung, Pierre Soulages, and Zao Wou-Ki

12. Contemporary Artists:

Rita Ackermann, Anne Kagioka Rigoulet, Lou Zhenggang, Tsugami Miyuki, Shibata Toshio, Takabatake Yoriko, and Yokomizo Miyuki

Works on Display



Paul CÉZANNE, *Mont Sainte-Victoire and Château Noir*, c.1904-06, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation



André DÉRAIN, *Head of a Woman*, c.1905, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent Acquisitions]



Maurice de VLAMINCK, *Symphony in Colours (Flowers)*, c. 1905-06, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent Acquisitions] ★
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Robert DELAUNAY, *Windows on the City*, 1912, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent Acquisitions]



Fernand LÉGER, *Abstract Composition*, 1919, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation



KOGA Harue, *Cylindrical Figure*, c.1926, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation



Georgia O'KEEFFE, *Autumn Leaf II*, 1927, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent Acquisitions] ★
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Jackson POLLOCK, *Untitled (Composition with Vertical Trapezoid)*, c.1943, Private Collection



Willem DE KOONING, *January*, 1947-48, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation [Recent Acquisitions] ★
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Jean DUBUFFET, *Pierre Matisse a Dark Portrait*, 1947, Centre Pompidou, Paris Musée national d'art moderne - Centre de création industrielle ★
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FUKUSHIMA Hideko, *MP*, 1950, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation (Deposited Work) @Kazuo Fukushima

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition title: ABSTRACTION
The Genesis and Evolution of Abstract Painting
Cézanne, Fauvism, Cubism and on to Today

Organized by Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

Venue: Artizon Museum, 6, 5, 4F Galleries

Exhibition period: June 3 [Sat] – August 20 [Sun], 2023

Opening hours: 10:00 - 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays except August 11)
*Last entry 30 minutes before closing.

Closed: Mondays except July 17, July 18

Admission (incl. tax): Timed entry system
(Online booking starts from April 4, 2023)
Online ticket: 1,800 yen
In-Person ticket (on sale at museum): 2,000 yen
Students: Free entry (Advance online booking required.)
*In-Person tickets are available only for time slots that have not reached full capacity.
*Advance booking is not required for children up to junior high school age.

*The exhibition details are subject to change without notice.

Curators: SHIMBATA Yasuhide, SHIMAMOTO Hideaki

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Directions: 5 minutes on foot from JR Tokyo Station (Yaesu Central Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line Kyobashi Station (No.6, 7 Exit); Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Tozai Line, Toei Asakusa Line Nihombashi Station (B1 Exit)

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