News Release

ARTIZON MUSEUM | ISHIBASHI FOUNDATION

January 8, 2025
Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

Katarium

February 7 [Sat.]–May 24 [Sun.], 2026

Views in and around the City of Kyoto (detail), Edo period, 17th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation On view: 2/7–4/2

Illustrated by Yin Tuoluo　Inscription by Chushi Fanqi, Detached Segment of the Deeds of the Zen Masters, Priest Zhichang, Yüan dynasty, 14th century, National Treasure, Seikado Bunko Art Museum
On view: 4/24–5/7

The Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation (Director: ISHIBASHI Hiroshi), presents *Katarium*.
Katarium is a word coined from *katari,* "speaking, telling a story," and *-arium*, a suffix indicating a space. A place for storytelling, a *katarium*, is the exhibition's theme.
Listen to the person who conceived a certain work announcing the thoughts put into it, or to a soliloquy of a painter contemplating in the studio. Alternatively, lend an ear to the narratives unfolding in front of the works such as the reactions of the viewers having seen how a work has been completed, and imagine the scene depicted.
There are folding screens considered to have been commissioned by a daimyo in the Edo period, Meiji- and Taisho-era oil paintings and *nihonga* depicting mythological themes, and a collection of prints by Ben Shahn. Sister segments of "the Deeds of the Zen Masters" by Yin Tuoluo and "Caricatures of Animals", which once respectively formed a single work as a scroll, will be on view too. Enjoy lively narratives from different periods and genres.
This exhibition is composed of 56 works including 2 National Treasures, 7 Important Cultural Properties, and 5 Important Art Objects.

*Works on display will be changed. Please check our website before visiting the museum.

Highlights

1) “It’s Been a Long Time! ” “Good to See You Again.”

We set up a space in which the exhibits might be greeting one another. “Detached segment,” as each of these works is described, means a part that has been cut out. In other words, they originally formed “Deeds of the Zen Masters” and “Caricatures of Animals.” Such “segments” currently belonging to different collections are displayed alongside one another. Though they are segments, they are masterpieces, some designated as a National Treasure, Important Cultural Property, or Important Art Object.

Right: Detached Segment of Caricatures of Animals,
Heian period, 12th century, Important Cultural Property, MIHO MUSEUM On view: 3/27–4/23
Left: Detached Segment of Caricatures of Animals,
Heian period, 12th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation On view: 3/27–4/23

2) “Nice to Meet You.”

It is five years since Artizon Museum opened, but there are still works which we have been unable to put on display. For example, a pair of screens by Imamura Shiko depicting the myth of Umi-no-Sachi and Yama-no-Sachi and a set of twenty-four lithographs by Ben Shahn. Among them, “Edo Tenka Matsuri (Sanno Festival)” depicting the Sanno Festival at Hie Shrine, which flourished as a major Edo festival during the Tokugawa period, is a work whose whereabouts were once unknown, but whose existence was revealed in 1998.The Jinko Festival will make a tour from Hie Shrine in 2026. Prior to the actual festival held in June, find out what it was like in the Edo period from the folding screens.

★ Ben SHAHN,
XVII Memories of Many Nights of Love (For the Sake of a Single Verse ... from *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* by Rainer Maria Rilke),
Published in 1968, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
© Estate of Ben Shahn / VAGA at ARS, NY / JASPAR, Tokyo 2025 C5186

Left: IMAMURA Shiko,
Umi-no-Sachi and Yama-no-Sachi (Right Screen),
1908, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Right: Edo Tenka Matsuri (Sanno Festival) (detail),
Edo period, 17th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
On view: 4/3–5/24

3) “I’m Back.”

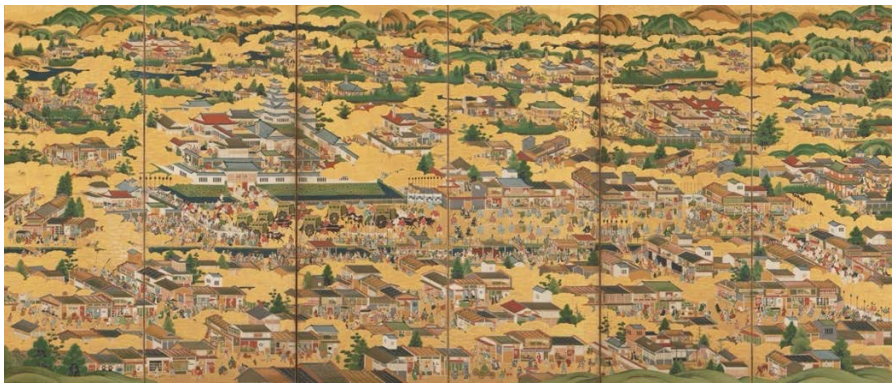
“Illustrated scroll of the tale of the Heiji rebellion, Tokiwa scroll”, which is designated as Important Cultural Property, after two-year-long restoration, has returned to our museum. Having undergone conservation, it can be displayed more appropriately than before. As it is more than sixteen meters long, the scenes on show will be altered from time to time. Please enjoy the dramatic unfolding of the narrative together with the audio guide by Yamaguchi Akira.

You can watch an explanatory video by Yamaguchi Akira on “Illustrated scroll of the tale of the Heiji rebellion, Tokiwa scroll” on your smartphone and earphones.

Photo: SOGABE Yohei

Composition of Exhibition

1. In Front of a Folding Screen



Views in and around the City of Kyoto (Left Screen), Edo period, 17th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
On view: 2/7–4/2

2. A Myth at a Certain Time

Left: AOKI Shigeru,
Paradise under the Sea,
1907, Important Cultural Property, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Right: KOSUGI Misei,
Yamasachi-hiko,
1917, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation

3. For the Sake of a Single Verse

★Left: Ben SHAHN,
VI The Gestures of the Little Flowers (For the Sake of a Single Verse … from *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* by Rainer Maria Rilke),
Published in 1968, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation © Estate of Ben Shahn / VAGA at ARS, NY / JASPAR, Tokyo 2025 C5186
★Right: Ben SHAHN,
XXII The First Word of Verse Arises (For the sake of a single Verse … from *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge* by Rainer Maria Rilke),
Published in 1968, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation © Estate of Ben Shahn / VAGA at ARS, NY / JASPAR, Tokyo 2025 C5186

4. For Future Generations

Illustrated Scrolls of The Tale of the Heiji Rebellion, Tokiwa Scroll,
Kamakura period, 13th century, Important cultural Property, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Partial display (scene rotation)

5. The Eloquence of a Fragment

Left: Detached Segment of Poem Anthology *Iseshu*, known as "Ishiyama-gire",
Heian period, 12th century Important Art Object, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation On view: 2/27–3/12
Middle: Detached Segment of *the Battle at Rokuhara Scroll of The Tale of the Heiji Rebellion*,
Kamakura period, 13th century, The Museum Yamato Bunkakan On view: 2/7–2/26
Right: Detached Segment of *the Battle at Rokuhara Scroll of The Tale of the Heiji Rebellion*,
Kamakura period, 13th century, Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation On view: 2/7–2/26

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition title:	Katarium
Exhibition period:	February 7 [Sat.]–May 24 [Sun.], 2026
Opening hours:	10:00 - 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays and May 2, 9, 16, 23 [except March 20]) *Last entry 30 minutes before closing.
Closed:	February 16 [Mon], March 16 [Mon], April 13 [Mon], May 11 [Mon]
Organized by	Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation
Venue:	Artizon Museum, 4F Gallery
Admission (incl. tax):	Timed entry system (Online booking starts from January 7, 2026) Online ticket: 2,100 yen In-Person ticket (purchase at museum): 2,500 yen Students: Free entry (Advance online booking required.) *In-Person ticket may be purchased at the museum, if the time slot is not full. *Advance booking is not required for children up to junior high school age. *This admission fee gives the visitor access to the concurrent exhibition.
Special site:	https://www.artizon.museum/exhibition_sp/katarium/en/
Curator:	HEIMA Rika

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https://www.artizon.museum/en/
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)

Concurrent exhibition

A Centenary Exhibition

Monet: Questioning Nature

The Impressionist painter Claude Monet (1840-1926) was fascinated by the beauty of natural light. While exploring ways to express that beauty, he created innovative landscape paintings that intertwine the worldview and lyricism of a new era.
This exhibition will display 90 works from the Musée d'Orsay, including 41 of the paintings by Monet that are the museum's pride and joy, plus works from the Artizon Museum, other museums in Japan, and private collections. Through these approximately 140 works we explore Monet's fascination as a landscape painter.

Claude MONET,
Study of a Figure Outdoors (Facing Right),
1886, Oil on canvas, Musée d'Orsay
Photo © GrandPalaisRmn (musée d'Orsay) / Stéphane Maréchalle/ distributed by AMF

Venue: Artizon Museum, 6, 5F Galleries
Organized by Artizon Museum, Ishibashi Foundation; Musée d'Orsay; Nikkei Inc.; NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation)
Under the auspices of Embassy of France / French Institute of Japan
With the Support of Japan Airlines Co., Ltd.
Special Site: https://www.artizon.museum/exhibition_sp/monet2026/en/

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Download image data for press use here: https://www.artpr.jp/artizon/katarium

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