Japanese Woodblock Prints and Brush Paintings Collection

MSS.2010.07.01

Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives
Title: Japanese Woodblock Prints and Brush Paintings Collection
Identifier/Call Number: MSS.2010.07.01
Physical Description: 1 flat file drawers (20 folders) 1 flat file drawers with 20 oversized folders. 50 artworks total: 47 prints and 3 brush paintings.
Date (inclusive): 1700-1958
Abstract: This collection consists of forty-seven woodblock prints by Japanese artists from the early 1700s to the mid 1900s, and three brush paintings by artist Shuho Kawashima in 1958.
Publication Rights
Copyright is not assigned to the San José State University Special Collections & Archives. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Special Collections & Archives. Copyright restrictions may apply to digital reproductions of the original materials. Use of digital files is restricted to research and educational purposes.
Preferred Citation
Japanese Woodblock Prints and Brush Paintings Collection, MSS-2010-07-01, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.
Processing Information
Related Material
Esther Shephard Papers, MSS-2009-11-01, San José State University Special Collections & Archives.
Humanities Art Collection, MSS-2019-07-08, San José State University Special Collections & Archives.
Scope and Content of Collection
The Japanese Woodblock Prints and Brush Paintings Collection consists of forty-seven woodblock prints by Japanese artists from the early 1700s to the mid 1900s in the ukiyo-e tradition. Prints in this collection include the works of masters of ukiyo-e, such as Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806), Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849), Toyokuni Utagawa (1769-1825), and Kuniyoshi Utagawa (1797-1861). Subjects of these prints include beautiful women, kabuki actors, landscapes, plants and animals, and scenes of everyday life.
Included in this collection are three brush paintings created by artist Shuho Kawashima, a student at San Jose State College in 1958. Kawashima painted the three works while a student in Dr. Esther Shephard's Oriental Literature (English 119) class.
Arrangement
This collection is arranged into two series: Series I. Woodblock Prints; and Series II. Brush Paintings.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Art, Japanese
Color prints, Japanese
Ukiyo-e
San José State University. Library. Special Collections & Archives
Series I. Woodblock Prints 1700-1942

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series is comprised of forty-seven woodblock prints on silk and rice cloth. Of special interest in this series is Hiroshi Yoshida's print *Cryptomeria Avenue*. Yoshida was one of the last artists to work in the traditional shop fashion. Coming from a family of printmakers he initially began his career as a painter, studying in the Japanese city of Kyoto, as well as in Europe. Yoshida is known to have made at least one visit to the United States where he exhibited at the 1915 World Fair in San Francisco, California. The print in this collection is known to be one of the few copies created by Yoshida himself.

Arrangement

The prints in this series are arranged alphabetically by the family name of the artist.

drawer 01-20, 
Folder 1

Asada Benji 1899-1984

The Pagoda of Ninnaji Temple

Chobunsai Eishi

Geisha Girls

Kan-Un

Geese and Leaves

Katsushika Hokusai

Landscapes

Physical Description: Envelope containing set of 5 small landscape prints. Includes conservator's note from 1982 about treatments which also references lost slides.

House Scene

Men (Diptych)

Physical Description: 2 prints mounted together on a paper frame.

The Great Wave

Kawanabe Kyosui (Gyosui) 1868-1935

Three Ladies Admiring the Maple Tree in the Garden 1890

Kitagawa Utamaro -1806

Anxious in Love

Beauties Enjoying the Cool Breeze on a Bridge

Kuniyoshi Yasuo 1893-1953

The Little Pond 1942

Ogata Korin

Magnolia

Three Cranes

Three Turtles

Shunkosai Hokushu active 1809-1832

Seated Woman with Fan 1830

Tomioka Eisen 1864-1905

Sailboats by Sunset

Torii Kiyonaga 1742-1815

Man With a Tea Housemate

Nihonbashi at New Years
Series I. Woodblock Prints 1700-1942

**Theatrical Group**
Women Going to the City

**Unknown Artists**

- Flower Cluster
- Hillside Villa
- Japanese Lady with Blossoms
- Japanese Plants
- Sacred Mountain and Treasure Stone Shrine Landscape
- Leafy Plant
- Mounted and Un-mounted Samurai Battling
- Crossing a Bridge during a Festival in November
- Rock and Flowering Branch
- Mikoshi being Carried during a Festival in June
- Two Japanese Men

**Urushibara Yoshijiro**

- Horse
- Lobster and Clams

**Utagawa (Ando) Hiroshige 1797-1858**

- Row of Trees

**Utagawa Kuniyoshi 1798-1861**

- Actor

**Utagawa Toyokuni 1769-1825**

- Geisha Girl
- Rich Man’s Servant

**Watanbe Shotei**

**Yamakawa Shuho 1898-1944**

**Yoshida Hiroshi 1876-1950**

- Criptomeria Avenue
- Evening at Hot Springs
- On the Lake (Ike-No-Hata)

Series II. Brush Paintings 1958

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series is comprised of three paintings created by artist Shuho Kawashima as a demonstration of the technique of Japanese brush painting in Dr. Esther Shepard's SJSU class in Oriental Literature (English 119) on May 15, 1958.

The paintings are described by the artist as being depictions of "Pine, Bamboo, and Plum Blossom, the 'Three That Do Not Fear The Winter.'" "They are especially honored by the Chinese and the Japanese, the first two because they remain green through the season of 'Great Cold,' the last because it lives to a gnarled old age and each year puts out its blossoms very early in the spring."

**Arrangement**

The paintings in this series are in one folder.

**Kawashima Shuho May 5, 1958**

Physical Description: 3 brush paintings.