

Collection Exhibition

Pictured Tales:

From Courtly Narratives to Medieval Short Stories

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Saturday, November 14 - Wednesday, December 23, 2015

Hours: 10a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed: November 24 and Mondays (except November 23).

Telling a tale in pictures has long been a source of delight. So compelling are pictured tales that, for example, the first written reference to *The Tales of Ise*, which occurs in *The Tale of Genji*, mentions an illustrated handscroll version, not the book itself. Of course, paintings telling *The Tale of Genji* also began to appear almost as soon as Murasaki Shikibu put down her brush. During Japan's middle ages, tales were depicted exclusively in small-scale formats such as handscrolls, books, and poem papers. In the early modern period, however, they began to become the subjects of folding screens, a much larger format. Tales told in pictures expanded into imposing pieces decorating interiors.

This exhibition brings together pictured tales, depictions of a great variety of narratives, in a wide range of forms. The tales range from Heian court literature, including *The Tales of Ise* and *The Tale of Genji*, through military epics such as *The Tale of the Heike* and *The Tale of the Soga Brothers*, *The Tale of Saigyō*, a biography of a monk-poet, and short stories such as "The Tale of Shutendōji." Enjoy the last of the autumn season with these combinations of tales and pictures.

Gallery 1 & 2: Pictured Tales: From Courtly Narratives to Medieval Short Stories



The Tale of Genji (Right, partial view)
By Sumiyoshi Gukei
Pair of six-panel screens; ink and color on paper
Japan Edo period, 17th century
Nezu Museum

The right screen depicts the celebration of Genji's fortieth birthday from the "Spring Shoots I" chapter of *The Tale of Genji*, while the left screen depicts Genji and Lady Murasaki on their pilgrimage to the Sumiyoshi Shrine, from the "Spring Shoots II" chapter. These screens brilliantly present Genji's happiness just before the tale takes a darker turn.



The Tale of a Toad
(partial view)
Attributed to Tosa Mitsunobu
Handscroll; Ink and color on paper
Japan Muromachi period, 16th century
Nezu Museum

An impoverished man helps a toad who had been shut up underneath a wealthy man's house. The daughter of the house, who had fallen ill due to the toad's grudge against the family, is cured, and the impoverished man becomes her husband.

Gallery 1&2: Pictured Tales: From Courtly Narratives to Medieval Short Stories

* © Important Cultural Property
○ Important Art Object

*	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period
1	Scenes from <i>The Tales of Ise</i>		Eight-panel folding screen; ink and slight color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
2	Scenes from <i>The Tales of Ise</i>	By Itaya Hironaga	Two hanging scrolls; ink and color on silk	Japan Edo period, 18th century
3	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Genji</i>		Eight-panel folding screen; ink and slight color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
4	Scene from the "Asagao" chapter in <i>The Tale of Genji</i>	By Tosa Mitsuoki	Hanging scroll; ink and color on silk	Japan Edo period, 17th century
5	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Genji</i>	Attributed to Tosa Mitsumoto	Album; ink and color on paper	Japan Momoyama-Edo periods, 17th century
6	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Genji</i>	Attributed to Sumiyoshi Gukei	Album; ink and slight color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
7	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Genji</i>		From pair of six-panel folding screens; ink and color on paper	Japan Momoyama-Edo periods, 17th century
8	Scene from the "Ukifune" chapter in <i>The Tale of Genji</i>		Six-panel folding screen; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
9	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Genji</i>	By Sumiyoshi Gukei	Pair of six-panel folding screens; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
10	Scenes from <i>The Tale of the Soga Brothers</i>		Pair of six-panel folding screens; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
11	Scenes from <i>The Tale of the Heike</i>		From three albums; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
12	Scenes from <i>The Tale of Saigyō</i>		Two handscrolls; ink and color on paper	Japan Muromachi period, 15th century
13	Scenes from "The Tale of a Toad"	Attributed to Tosa Mitsunobu	Handscroll; ink and color on paper	Japan Muromachi period, 16th century
14	Scenes from "The Tale of Tamamo-no-mae"		Two handscrolls; ink and color on paper	Japan Muromachi period, 16th century
15	Scenes from "The Tale of Kengaku"		Two handscrolls; ink and color on paper	Japan Muromachi period, 16th century
16	Scenes from "The Tale of Shutendōji"	Attributed to Kanō Sanraku	Three handscrolls; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century

* 1 Gift of Kobayashi Ataru
* 2 Gift of Mogi Katsumi

Gallery 3 - Hall - B1F: The Allure of Buddhist Art

Gallery 3 Daihannyakyō (Mahaprajnaparamita Sutra) and Cabinet Dedicated to Wakamiya of Kasuga Shrine

The nun Jōa (dates unknown) spent fourteen years transcribing the six hundred volumes of the Daihannyakyō with prayers for the repose of the deceased women of the line of regents, with whom she held deep ties, as well as for that of her own relations. She then dedicated them to Wakamiya, an auxiliary shrine of Kasuga Shrine in Nara. The existence of these sutra manuscripts, which date back to the early Kamakura period, together with the cabinet in which they were dedicated is highly significant, and the colophons at the end of each scroll as well as the information inscribed on the cabinet have also drawn scholarly attention. Having just undergone a two-year restoration, the cabinet is being shown for the first time.



Daihannyakyō (Mahaprajnaparamita Sutra) Dedicated to Wakamiya of Kasuga Shrine
By Jōa
540 folded books and 1 handscroll; ink on paper
Japan Kamakura period, dated 1229 to 1242
Nezu Museum



Sutra Cabinet
Lacquer on wood
Japan Kamakura period, dated 1243 and 1245
Nezu Museum

*	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period
1	<i>Daihannyakyō</i> (Mahaprajnaparamita Sutra) dedicated to Wakamiya of Kasuga Shrine	By Jōa	540 folded books and handscroll; ink on paper	1 Japan Kamakura period, dated 1229 to 1242
2	Sutra Cabinet		Lacquer on wood	Japan Kamakura period, dated 1243 and 1245
3	Standing Bodhisattva Maitreya		Stone (Schist)	Kushan Dynasty, 3rd century
4	Buddhist Images Engraved in Square Pillar		Stone (Limestone)	China Northern Wei Dynasty, 6th century
5	Standing Buddha Triad		Stone (Sandstone)	China Northern Wei Dynasty, 6th century
6	Standing Buddha Triad		Stone	China Northern Qi Dynasty, 6th century
7	Standing Buddha		Stone (White marble)	China Northern Qi Dynasty, 6th century
8	Head of Standing Bodhisattva	Tianlongshan Cave 10	Stone (Sandstone)	China Northern Qi Dynasty, 6th century
9	Head of Seated Bodhisattva	Tianlongshan Cave 21	Stone (Sandstone)	China Tang Dynasty, 8th century
10	Head of Seated Buddha	Tianlongshan Cave 16	Stone (Sandstone)	China Northern Qi Dynasty, 6th century
11	© Eleven-headed <i>Guanyin</i> (Ekādaśamukha)	Baoqingsi temple	Stone (Limestone)	China Tang Dynasty, 7th century
12	Head of Seated Buddha	Tianlongshan Cave 18	Stone (Sandstone)	China Tang Dynasty, 8th century
13	Temple Bell	Kim Elip, Kim Yebal Unhung-sa	Bronze	Korea Chōson Dynasty, dated 1690

Gallery 4: Ancient Chinese Bronzes

*	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period
1	☉ Three squared <i>He</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design	Attributed to be excavated from the Hou Family Grounds, Houjiazhuang, Anyang	Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
2	<i>Jue</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-11th centuries B.C.
3	<i>Gu</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-11th centuries B.C.
4	○ <i>You</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design	Attributed to be excavated from the Hou Family Grounds, Houjiazhuang, Anyang city, Henan province	Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 12-11th centuries B.C.
5	☉ <i>Jia</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
6	☉ <i>Bu</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
7	☉ <i>Zun</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design	Attributed to be excavated from Dasikong site, Anyang city, Henan province	Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
8	☉ <i>Zun</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
9	<i>Zun</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design	Attributed to be excavated from Anyang city, Henan province	Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
10	<i>Zun</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 12-11th centuries B.C.
11	☉ Double-Ram <i>Zun</i>		Bronze	China probably Hunan province, 13-11th centuries B.C.
12	☉ Squared <i>Lei</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design	Attributed to be excavated from Dasikong site, Anyang city, Henan province	Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 13-12th centuries B.C.
13	Squared <i>Lei</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang Dynasty, 12-11th centuries B.C.
14	<i>Bu</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Shang-Western Zhou Dynasties, 11th century B.C.
15	☉ Squared <i>Yi</i> with <i>Taotie</i> design		Bronze	China Western Zhou Dynasty, 10th century B.C.
16	Squared <i>Hu</i> with <i>Phoenix</i> design		Bronze	China Western Zhou Dynasty, 9th century B.C.
17	<i>Hu</i> with <i>Panchi</i> design		Bronze	China Spring and Autumn period, 7-6th centuries B.C.
18	<i>Bo</i> with <i>Panchi</i> design		Bronze	China Spring and Autumn period, 6-5th centuries B.C.
19	○ <i>Jian</i> with <i>Panchi</i> design		Bronze	China Spring and Autumn period, 5th century B.C.
20	○ <i>Jian</i> with Cloud design		Bronze	China Warring States period, 5-4th centuries B.C.
21	Mirror with Dragons and Phoenixes		Bronze	China Qin dynasty, 3rd century B.C.* 3
22	Mirror with Hunters and Animals		Bronze	China Qin dynasty, 3rd century B.C.* 3
23	Mirror with Four Phoenixes		Bronze	China Qin dynasty, 3rd century B.C.* 3

* 3 Gift of Murakami Eiji

Gallery 5: Fan-shaped Paintings with Waka Scroll



(partial view)
Handscroll; ink and color on paper
Japan Edo period, 17th century Nezu Museum

*	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period
1	Fan-shaped Paintings with <i>Waka</i> Scroll		Handscroll; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
2	Verse Composed at a Poetry Party	By Kajūji Haretoyo	Hanging scroll; ink and slight color on paper	Japan Momoyama period, 16th century
3	Verse Composed at a Poetry Party	By ōimikado Tsunetaka	Hanging scroll; ink and color on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
4	Verse Composed at a Poetry Party	By Hirohashi Yasumitsu	Hanging scroll; ink on paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
5	Poems from the <i>Hyakunin'isshu</i> Anthology	By Prince Yoshihito	One album; ink on decorated paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
6	Poem from the <i>Manisha</i> Anthology	By Hinami Kōetsu	Hanging scroll; ink on decorated paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century
7	Poem from the <i>Kokinshū</i> Anthology	By Hon'ami Kōetsu	Hanging scroll; ink on decorated paper	Japan Edo period, 17th century* 1
8	Poems from the <i>Wakanrōeishū</i> Anthology	By Hon'ami Kōetsu	Hanging scroll; ink on decorated silk	Japan Edo period, dated 1626
9	Poems from the <i>Shinkokinshū</i> Anthology	By Ogata Sōken	Hanging scroll; ink on decorated silk	Japan Edo period, dated 1672
10	Fan-Shaped Dish	Mino ware, <i>oribe</i> type	Glazed stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century
11	Fan-Shaped Dish with Stream Design	Hizen ware	Porcelain with underglaze cobalt	Japan Edo period, 17th century* 4

* 1 Gift of Kobayashi Ataru
* 4 Gift of Yamamoto Masayuki

Gallery 6: A Robiraki or Opening the Hearth Tea Ceremony

In November, the tea ceremony year begins with putting the kettle on the hearth in the tea house and making tea from the most recent harvest. Here we bring together about twenty exhibits that are suitable for a *robiraki* tea ceremony.



Tea Container, named *Aoyama*
Fuzhou ware group
China Southern Song – Yuan dynasties, 13th–14th centuries
Nezu Museum

* ◎ Important Cultural Property
○ Important Art Object

*	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period	
1	Three Old Men Tasting Tea	By Reizei Tametaka	Hanging scroll; ink on paper	Japan Edo period, 19th century	* 5
2	Small Brazier with Horse Design	Jingdezhen ware	Porcelain with overglaze enamels	China Ming dynasty, 17th century	
3	Tobacco Container with Striped Design		Lacquer on wood	South East Asia, 16th-17th centuries	
4	Charcoal Container		Rattan	Japan Edo period, 18th-19th centuries	
5	Feather Brush		Argus pheasant feather	Japan Edo period, 18th-19th centuries	
6	Pair of Charcoal Tongs		Iron, mulberry wood	Japan Edo period, 18th-19th centuries	
7	Pair of Rings for Carrying a Kettle	By Myōchin Masayuki	Iron	Japan Edo period, 18th-19th centuries	
8	Ash Container with Flame Marks	Bizen ware, <i>hidasuki</i> type	Stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
9	Spoon for Preparing Ash		Bronze, mulberry wood	Japan Edo period, 18-19th century	
10	◎ Religious Verse	By Yuejiang Zhengyin, a Chinese priest	Hanging scroll; ink on paper	China Yuan dynasty, dated 1348	
11	Kettle		Tenmyō ware, <i>jyūōguchi</i> type; iron	Japan Muromachi period, 16th century	
12	Fresh Water Container with Incised Line Design		Stoneware	Vietnam, 16th-17th centuries	
13	Tea Container, named <i>Aoyama</i>	Fuzhou ware group, <i>marutsubo</i> type	Glazed stoneware	China Southern Song-Yuan dynasties, 13th-14th centuries	
14	○ Tea Bowl, named Sōgyū		Kōrai-chawan, <i>ido</i> type	Korea Chosōn dynasty, 16th century	
15	Jewel-shaped Incense Container	By Raku Dōnyū	Glazed earthenware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
16	Tea Scoop	By Sen no Rikyū	Ivory	Japan Momoyama period, 16th century	
17	Lid Rest in the Shape of Three Figures	Longquan ware	Celadon	China Ming Dynasty, 16th century	
18	Waste-Water Container		Copper alloy	Southeast Asia, 15th-16th centuries	
19	Flower Vase, named <i>Miidera</i>	By Sen Sōtan	Bamboo	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
20	Fresh Water Container	Iga ware	Stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
21	Tea container, named <i>Tezutsuyama</i>	Seto ware, <i>kuchihiro-de</i> type	Glazed stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
22	Tea Bowl		Kōrai-chawan, <i>momiji-goki</i> type	Korea Chosōn dynasty, 17th century	
23	Fresh Water Container with Dragon Design	Jingdezhen ware	Porcelain with overglaze enamels	China Ming dynasty, Wanli era (1573-1620)	
24	Tea Container with Autumn Grasses Design		<i>Makie</i> lacquer on wood	Japan Momoyama period, 16th century	
25	Tea Bowl	Mino ware, <i>beni-shino</i> type	Glazed stoneware	Japan Momoyama–Edo periods, 16th-17th centuries	
26	Tea Bowl with Landscape and Pavilion Design	By Ogata Kenzan	Glazed stoneware	Japan Edo period, 18th century	
27	Chrysanthemum-Shaped <i>Mukōzuke</i> Food Bowl	Kyoto ware	Stoneware with overglaze enamels	Japan Edo period, 18th century	
28	Dish	Bizen ware	Stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	
29	Ewer with Checkered Design	Mino ware, <i>oribe</i> type	Glazed stoneware	Japan Edo period, 17th century	

* 5 Gift of Uemura Wado

Special Case: Decorated Clock

	Title	Artist / Kiln	Style/Material	Country/Period
1	Clock decorated with Ornaments and Various Movements	John Mottram		England, 18th-19th centuries
2	Clock decorated with a Bird on a Cup	Mechanism by C. Thompson		England, 18th century
3	Clock decorated with an Eagle on Top			England, 18th-19th centuries

Next Exhibition



Pine, Bamboo, and Plum: Auspicious Designs in Celebration of the New Year
Saturday, January 9 - Sunday, February 14, 2016



Come celebrate the arrival of spring with paintings and ceramic works featuring the auspicious motifs of pine, bamboo, and plum.

Dish with Pine, Bamboo and Plum Blossoms Design (partial view)
Porcelain with underglaze cobalt, Hizen ware, *Nabeshima* type
Japan Edo period.17th century Nezu Museum

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