

Rally! Japanese Heroes of legend



A Samurai

Kobori Tomoto

1909

Tokyo university of the Art

(first half)

Heroes of matchless valor of brave warriors: we know them from legends, myths and history. These tales of brave souls and their splendid achievements continue to be told, or read, today, thrilling young and old, men and women. Their stories also have an important position in the arts of Japan, for example, the subject matter for many Noh and Kabuki plays.

These heroes have also long been subjects in paintings. In the latter half of the Edo period, *ukiyo-e* warrior prints and paintings enjoyed an explosive surge of popularity and were created in great numbers. In the Meiji period, their heroism was addressed in a new genre, the “historical painting”, to heighten the Japanese people’s pride in being part of the newly formed nation-state. From the late 1920s on, its significance changed greatly as the drums of war beat more loudly.

This exhibition presents a wide range of works, from *ukiyo-e* warrior

prints to masterworks of modern “historical painting” and works by contemporary artists. Their subjects are characterized by more than strength or captivating integrity: the artists have presented, through their unique narratives and interpretations of character, heroes to suit their times, objects of popular admiration. A band of heroes of matchless valor that transcends time awaits our visitors.

Many of the works on display present mythical or historical personages associated with Yokosuka, including Yamato Takeru no Mikoto and the Princess Ototachibana and Miura Yoshiaki. This exhibition thus also offers an opportunity to encounter a part of proud history and culture in Yokosuka.

Date: Sat April 28 – Sun June 17

first half Sat April 28 – Thu May 24

Second half Fri May 25 – Sun June 17

Time: 10:00-18:00

Closed: May 7, June 4

Admission: Day ticket (Group of 20 persons or more)

Adults: ¥900 (720)

College Students/ High School students/ Senior over 65: ¥700 (560)

Fifteen and under: Free

*Persons with disability and one person accompanying them are admitted free of charge. *Entry is free for high school students residing in Yokosuka or students attending high school in Yokosuka.

*Including the admission fee for Collection Gallery.