



By Yuko Kyuma

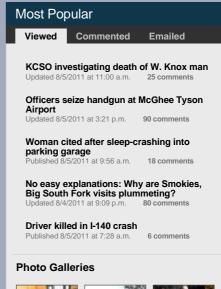


By Kazuo Yamakawa

More than 300 pieces of Japanese art, from traditional calligraphy to abstract paintings, will have its only United States show in Knoxville. The exhibit that opens June 5 is so large that it requires three University of Tennessee venues.

Called "From Japan to Tennessee," the exhibit from the Japan International Artists Society includes 315 pieces of art by 305 artists. It will be exhibited concurrently through July 2 in three locations - the UT Downtown Gallery on Gay Street, the Ewing Gallery of Art & Architecture on the UT campus and in the Art &













Hope District's tattoo work

Weather

Currently



By Koyo Makino



By Yuko Kyuma

From Japan to
Tennessee: The Japan
International Artists
Society Exhibition

What: More than 300 works of Japanese art When: June 5-July 2; 11 a.m.-6 p.m Wednesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. Sundays; Opening reception 5-9 p.m. Friday, June 5 Where: Ewing Gallery of Art & Architecture and Architecture Reading Room, Art & Architecture Building, 1715 Volunteer Blvd. University of Tennessee, and UT Downtown Gallery, 106 S. Gay St. Admisison: Free Special Events: Free calligraphy workshop 2:30-4:30 p.m. June 5 at Ewing, registration required by calling 865-974-3200; Japanese ceramic demonstration 6:30 p.m. June 5 at Ewing; calligraphy demonstration 5:45 p.m. June 5 at Ewing, 7:30 p.m. June 5 at Downtown Gallery. More information: www.ewing-gallery.org

Architecture Building's Architecture Reading Room, also called the Ewing Gallery Annex.

Director of the Ewing Gallery Sam Yates sees the exhibition as "a good opportunity to see another culture, to see their respect for the arts and how in Japan art is sort of woven into their culture and is not something outside of it. And hopefully it may increase our own awareness of the visual arts and respect for it."

For many of the Japanese artists, this will be the first time their work has been shown in the United States. And exhibit-goers will see a wide range of methods, media and styles. Works in the show include traditional and contemporary Japanese calligraphy as well as ceramics, sculpture, tapestries and paintings. The paintings themselves cover a range of approaches and subjects and include figure paintings, abstract paintings and landscapes.

"It runs the gamut from very traditional Japanese techniques to anything you would see at a gallery of modern art," said Mike Berry, manager of the Downtown Gallery.

The Japan International Artists Society membership includes both professional artists and "people who like making art even though they had other professions," said Yates.

"I don't think the Japanese separate as much as we do amateur and professional but just see it as people who have a commitment to art," Yates said. "There are a range of abilities but I think it's pretty inclusive of all different styles of art."

Exhibiting so many pieces of art in so many different styles is a challenge. "We will have to be innovative in the way we install," Yates said. Most of the work will be shown in the Ewing and Art & Architecture space on Volunteer Boulevard. About 30 pieces of traditional calligraphy and some five to 10 traditional ceramic objects will be at the Downtown Gallery, 106 S. Gay St.

The Japanese artists group has presented exhibitions in other countries over the years. It aims to increase

international awareness and understanding of Japanese culture through the art. Past exhibits have been in museums in Cuba, Spain, China, France, Canada and Russia.

The organization also presented an exhibit in Knoxville about 20 years ago. When thinking about an American location for their new exhibit, society members "remembered exhibiting here in Tennessee and that they had a nice experience," Yates said.

Twenty-eight society members are visiting Knoxville this week and will attend the exhibition's June 5 opening. During their stay they'll tour Knoxville and visit Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C., and the Museum of Appalachia in Norris.

During the opening ceramic artist Sadato Ichinose and master calligrapher Bokuzan Takada demonstrate their art. Ichinose will demonstrate pottery throwing at 6:30 p.m. June 5 at the Ewing. Takada will demonstrate traditional calligraphy at 5:45 p.m. at the Ewing and 7:30 p.m. at the Downtown Gallery. A free shuttle will travel between



ling the gallery, 865-974-3200.	es on opening night. Takada will hold a free m. June 5 at the Ewing. Registration is require	ed by	Hair Salons Insurance Lawn Services Movers	Hotels Jewelry Locksmiths Pizza
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