

## Kyoto Artisans and their Worlds

Wednesday 13:10~16:25

One of the attractions of the ancient capital of Japan is the variety of fine and applied arts that continue to feed the city. Geographically these include the textile workshops of Nishijin in the northwest of the City, the ceramic workshops in the southeast around Gojozaka, and the web of artisans supporting the traditional artist guilds: papermakers, gold leaf craftsmen, carpenters, printers, and bamboo workers. Through visits to studios and museums, the course will seek to give the students first-hand experience of not only the crafts, but also their changing role in supporting the lifeblood of Kyoto as a city. This year in the fall semester we will focus on materials--bamboo, wood, clay, cloth, and paper—and the processes by which they turn into objects integral to daily life in Japan—splitting, smoothing, shaping, dyeing, and printing. We will look at blinds and archery bows, architectural and interior accents, tea bowls and flower vases, kimono and obi, screens, scrolls, sliding doors, food, and more. Weekly lectures and readings will provide historical, cultural, and technical background for each topic. Students will be expected to choose a personal focus to explore in depth and to give a class presentation on it as well as write it up in a paper. Most classes include a fieldtrip, either before or after classroom discussion.

Due to the space restrictions of many of the workshops, enrollment will be limited to 12 KCJS students.

Requirements: no previous knowledge is required, but commitment and consistent class attendance is imperative. This is a class where each student is expected find his or her own meaning from varied first-hand experiences, not a course where the teachers present a singular theory and require the students to apply it to specific examples.

Project presentations and a final paper of around 10 pages should support research, fieldwork and/or hands-on projects.

Assessment will be based on class participation and quizzes (10%), weekly worksheets (30%), presentations (30%), and final paper (30%).

### Tentative schedule

Week 1: Introduction.

Week 2: Bamboo~ from fences, baskets, and screens to bow making. Visits to a bow maker, and hanging screen shop, and a bamboo workshop.

Read before class:

\*Nancy Moore Bess. *Bamboo in Japan*. (Kodansha International, 2001.) p. 15-51. Bamboo in the Home p. 114-125, Bamboo and Martial Arts p. 182-186

\*Robert T. Coffland. *Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Arts*. Art Media Resources. Ltd., 2000. 7-15, 30-34, 48-53

\*Hisako Sekijima. *Basketry: Projects from Baskets to Grass Slippers*. Kodansha International. 1986. P. 44-49; p. 115-118.

Week 3 City dwellings, *machiya*, their construction, maintenance and furnishings. Metalwork and visit to a kettle foundry.

\*Kyomachiya Council. *Kyoto Machiya Revitalization Project*. 2011. (whole book)

\*Cram, Ralf Adams. *Japanese Houses: A Classic Look at Japanese Architecture*. Tuttle. P. 11-21, 85-103, 104-114.

\* S. Azby Brown. *The Genius of Japanese Carpentry*. P. 20-24, 55-58, 59-65, 69-78.

\*Engel, Heinrich. *The Japanese House, a Tradition for Contemporary Architecture*. Tuttle, 1964. P. 410-450 + section on tools and materials passed out in class.

\*General/ Optional): Kazuo Nishi and Kazuo Hozumi, *What is Japanese Architecture?* Kodansha International. 1983. P. 74-7, 80-87

\* Tanizaki Jun'ichiro, *In Praise of Shadows*.

Week 4 : (SATURDAY OUTING) Clay, wood, and straw~ whole day outing to Shiga prefecture to visit a renovated country house (*minka*), stop by the Miho museum to see their Weber Exhibition, and investigate the pottery village of Shigaraki. Opportunity for some to try throwing pots.

Read before class

\*Richard Wilson, *Inside Japanese Ceramics*. (p. 15-34)

\*Cort, Louise Allison. *Shigaraki Potter's Valley*. Kodansha International, 1979. P. 6-18, 104-5, 183-5, 302-307

\*Carver, Norman F. *Japanese Folkhouses*. Documan Pr Ltd. 1984/2006, p. 7-15, 50-55, 170-174.

\*Brown, S Azby. *The Genius of Japanese Carpentry*. Kodansha Inter. 1995. Pp. p. 20-24, 55-65, 69-79.

\*Cram, Ralf Adams. *Impressions of Japanese Architecture and the Allied Arts*. Tuttle, 1982, p. 121-167.

\*Seike Kiyosi. *The Art of Japanese Joinery*, Weatherhill, 1977, 81. P. 7-24

Week 5: Patterning cloth: *shibori* and indigo dyeing. Visit to Fukumoto Shiho's indigo dyeing studio.

\* Ando Hiroko. *Japanese Tie-dyeing*. Nihon no Senshoku 11. Kyoto Shoin, 1993.

\*Sandberg. *Indigo Textiles: Technique and History*. (p. 13-29), & (p. 71-76) & (p. 93-97)

\*Wada. *Shibori: The Inventive Art of Japanese Shaped Resist Dyeing*: (p 7-52)

\* Dusenbury, Mary, ed. *Color in Ancient and Medieval East Asia*. Spencer Museum of Art, U. of Kansas, 2015. "Substance of Color" (a short introduction to major dye stuffs Pp. 236-251; and Goulong Lai, "Colors and Color Symbolism in Early Chinese Ritual Art" pp. 24-43.

\*Brandon. *Country Textiles of Japan: The Art of Tsutsugaki*.

“Indigo” (p. 43-52)

Week 6: Printing on cloth: stencil dyeing. Visit to Daiwa Senko *kata yuzen* workshop.

\*Kiriata Ken, “Yūzen Dyeing: A New Pictorialism” in *When Art Became Fashion*. (p 115-131)

\*Brandon. *Country Textiles of Japan: The Art of Tsutsugaki*. (p 3-20)

\*Yoshioka, Sachio. *Ryūkyū Bingata*. (Kyoto Shoin, 1995). P. 1-95 (much is photographs)

\*(Optional) Nakano. *Japanese Stencil Dyeing: Paste-Resist Techniques*. (p 3-19)

Week 7: Nishijin area and weaving textiles from gold thread to multi-colored patterns.

\*Hareven Tamara. “A World within a World” in *The Silk Weavers of Kyoto; Family and Work in a Changing Traditional Industry*. (p 25-50)

\*Bethe, Monica. “Historical Survey of Gold on Fabric.” Unpublished

\*Kiriata Ken. *Noh Costumes*. Kyoto Shoin’s Art Library of Japanese Textiles. Shikosha, 1993. P. 8-95 (lots of photos)

\*Kiriata Ken. *Meibutsugire*. Kyoto Shoin’s Art Library of Japanese Textiles. Shikosha, 1994. P. 3-24, 62-70, 92-95

\*(Optional): weaving vocabulary Bethe and Yamakawa. “Textile Terminology” in *Transmitting Robes, Linking Minds* (Kyoto National Museum, 2010) p 204-215

\*(Optional): Textile glossary in *When Art Became Fashion*, (LACMA) for reference.

Week 8: Paperworks and Printing

\*Barret, Timothy. *Japanese Papermaking; Traditions, Tools, and Techniques*.

\*Hunter, Dard. *Papermaking: The History and Technique of an Ancient Past*.

\**Kyōkarachō Paper*.

\*Salter, Rebecca. *Japanese Woodblock Printing*

Week 9: The art of food. From raw materials to elegant arrangement.

Read before class.

\* Yoshio Tsuchiya *A Feast for the Eyes*. (Kodansha International. 1985) pp 33-51, 67-73, historical background 137-152.

\* Eric Rath. *Food and Fantasy in Early Modern Japan*. (U. of California Press, 2010) pages to be decided

\*Leach, Bernard and Yanagi Soetsu. *The Unknown Craftsman: A Japanese Insight into Beauty*. (Chapter on Tea)

Week 10 : Craft in the wake of modernization: the *mingei* movement. Visit to the former home of potter and architect Kawai Kanjuro.

Read before class

\*Leach, Bernard and Yanagi Soetsu. *The Unknown Craftsman: A Japanese Insight into Beauty*. (pages to be decided)

\*Robert Moes, *Japanese Folk Art*. Art Services International, 1995. P 1-30.

\* (Review from Oct 5: Wilson. *Inside Japanese Ceramics* )

Week 11: Student presentations.

Week 12: Student presentations

Week 13: Final papers due to be handed in during class time.

### Reference books for further study.

#### General

Mason, Penelope. *History of Japanese Art*. Harry N. Abrams, Inc. 1993.  
Mizoguchi Saburo. Louise Cort, tr. *Design Motifs*. Weatherhill/Shinbundo,  
1973  
Paine, Robert and Alexander Soper. *The Art and Architecture of Japan*.  
Penguin Books. 1955,1981.  
The Japan Craft Forum. *Japanese Crafts*. Kodansha International, 2001.

### Bamboo

Bess, Nancy Moore. *Bamboo in Japan*. (Kodansha International, 2001.)  
Robert T. Coffland. *Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Arts*. Art Media  
Resources. Ltd., 2000.  
Rinne, Melissa. ***Masters of Bamboo: Artistic Lineages in the Lloyd  
Cotsen Japanese Basket Collection***. Asian Art Museum. 2008.  
Sekijima, Hisako. *Basketry: Projects from Baskets to Grass Slippers*.  
Kodansha International. 1986.

### Carpentry and architecture

Brown, S Azby. *The Genius of Japanese Carpentry*. Kodansha Inter. 1995.  
Carver, Norman F. *Japanese Folkhouses*. Documan Pr Ltd. 1984/2006  
Cram, Ralf Adams. *Japanese Houses: A Classic Look at Japanese  
Architecture*. Tuttle.  
Cram, Ralf Adams. *Impressions of Japanese Architecture and the Allied  
Arts*. Tuttle, 1982.  
Engel, Heinrich. *The Japanese House, a Tradition for Contemporary  
Architecture*. Tuttle, 1964  
Kyomachiya Council. *Kyoto Machiya Revitalization Project*. 2011.  
Ludvik, Catherine. Michiru Kanade, et al. *Chūgūji Imperial Convent*,  
Yashiro Asano pub. 2009  
Roderick, John. *Minka, My Farmhouse in Japan*. Princeton Architectural  
Press, 2007.  
Seike Kiyosi. *The Art of Japanese Joinery*, Weatherhill, 1977, 81.  
Kazuo Nishi and Kazuo Hozumi. *What is Japanese Architecture? A survey of  
Traditional Japanese Architecture*. Shokokusha pub., 1983

### Papermaking and printing

Barrett, Timothy. *Japanese Papermaking: Traditions, Tools, and Techniques*. Weatherhill, 1992, 2004.

Design Exchange. *Karacho: Karakami Paper in Kyoto*. Design Exchange, 2004.

Hunter, Dard. *Papermaking: The History and Technique of an Ancient Craft*. Dover Pub, 2011

Needham, Joseph. *Science and Civilization in China: Vol 5, Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Part 1, Paper and Printing*. Cambridge University Press, 1985.

### Textiles

Kyoto Shoin's Art Library of Japanese Textiles –20 volumes

Benjamin, Betsey Sterling. *The World of Rozome: Wax-Resist Textiles of Japan*. Kodansha International. 1996.

Bethe and Yamakawa. *Transmitting Robes, Linking Minds: the World of Buddhist Kasaya*. Kyoto National Museum. 2010

Bethe, "Reflections on *Beni*: Red as a Key to Edo-Period Fashion" in *When Art Became Fashion*. (p. 133-151)

Brandon, Riko Mochinaga. *Country Textiles of Japan: The Art of Tsutsugaki*. Weatherhill, 1986.

Hareven Tamara. *The Silk Weavers of Kyoto; Family and Work in a Changing Traditional Industry*. University of California Press. 2002.

Kirihata Ken, "Yūzen Dyeing: A New Pictorialism" in *When Art Became Fashion*.

Murashima, Kumiko. *Katazome, Japanese Paste-Resist Dyeing for Contemporary Use*. Lark Books, 1993

Nakano Eisha with Barabara Stephan. *Japanese Stencil Dyeing: Paste-Resist Techniques*. Weatherhill, 1982.

Noma Seiroku. Armins Nikovskis tr. *Japanese Costume and Textile Arts*.  
Weatherhill. The Heibonsha Survey of Japanese Art. Weatherhill, 1974.  
Sandberg. *Indigo Textiles: Technique and History*.  
Stinchecum, Amanda. *Kosode: 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Century Textiles from the Nomura  
Collection*. Japan Society and Kodansha International. 1984  
Takeda, Sharon, et al. *When Art Became Fashion*. Los Angeles County  
Museum, 1992  
Wada Yoshiko, et al. *Shibori: The inventive Art of Japanese shaped Resist  
dyeing: Tradition, Techniques, Innovation*. Kodansha International. 1983.

### Ceramics

Cort, Louise Allison. *Shigaraki Potter's Valley*. Kodansha International,  
1979  
Cort, Louise Allison, et al. *Isamu Noguchi and Modern Japanese Ceramics: a  
Close Embrace of the Earth*. Smithsonian Institute, Washington, 2003  
Fujioka Ryoichi. Louise Cort, tr. *Tea Ceremony Utensils*. Weatherhill/  
Shibundo, 1973  
Honolulu Academy of Arts, *Yakimono: 40000 Years of Japanese Ceramics*.  
2005  
Kawahara Masahiko. *The Ceramic Art of Ogata Kenzan*. Japan Arts Library.  
Kodansha International, 1985  
Leach, Bernard and Yanagi Soetsu. *The Unknown Craftsman: A Japanese  
Insight into Beauty*. Kodansha Amer. 1990  
Pitelka, Morgan. *Handmade Culture: Raku Potters, Patrons, and Tea  
Practitioners in Japan*.  
Wilson, Richard. *Inside Japanese Ceramics*. Weatherhill, 1995,1999  
Lee Anthony. *Japanese Tea Ceremony*. Robson Books, 2008.  
Sadler, A. L. *Cha-no-yu The Japanese Tea Ceremony*. Tuttle, 2001.

### Food (to be extended)

Yoshio Tsuchiya *A Feast for the Eyes*. (Kodansha International. 1985.  
Eric Rath. *Food and Fantasy in Early Modern Japan*. U. of California Press,  
2010.



Ishige: *History of Japanese Food*. Routledge, 2011.