

Kyoto Artisans and their Worlds

Wed. 13:10~16:25

Instructors: Monica Bethe, Douglas Woodruff

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 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, Buddhist statues, and more. Classes are focused around weekly fieldtrips backed by lectures and readings providing historical, cultural, and technical background for each topic.

Due to the space restrictions of many of the workshops, enrollment will be limited to 11 KCJS students.

Eligibility: 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 theory and require the students to apply it to specific examples.

Class Requirements: 100% class attendance with no absences allowed, without prior notice of sickness or other problem. Generally there is no way to make up a fieldtrip, and without the first-hand experience, there is no way to write a weekly report, which cumulatively count for 30% of the grade.

Students will be expected to choose a personal focus to explore in depth and to give a class presentation on it as well as to write it up as a final paper. The final project presentations and 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%).

Accommodating students with disabilities. Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs. Before registering for the course, however, please note that almost every class involves fieldtrips and many of these require considerable walking and negotiating narrow, steep steps. Students with

DS-certified accomodation letters should see the KCJS resident director to confirm their needs. If you believe you have a disability that requires accomodation, contact your home school's Disability Services or Columbia's Disability Services at disability@columbia.edu. The Office of Global Programs (OGP) can assist you in this.

Schedule

Sept 6: Introduction.

Sept 13: Bamboo~ from fences, baskets, and screens to bow making. Visits to a bow maker, and hanging screen shop, and a bamboo workshop.

Required reading:

*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

Extra reading:

*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.

Sept 20: Paper, papermaking, paper products. Hands-on experience of papermaking or book binding.

Required reading

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

*Kornicki, Peter. "Books as Material Objects" in *The Book in Japan*. University of Hawaii Press, 2001. pp 39-55.

Extra reading

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

*Needham, Joseph. *Paper and Printing* volume of Science and Civilization in China. Cambridge University Press, 1985 p. 1-52, 330-347

Sept 23 (National Holiday): (SATURDAY OUTING) Clay, wood, and straw~ whole day outing to Shiga prefecture to investigate the pottery village of Shigaraki, visit a renovated country house (*minka*) and stop by the Miho museum. Opportunity for some to try throwing pots.

Required Reading

*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.

Extra reading:

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

*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

Sept 27: No class.

Oct 4: City dwellings, *machiya*, their construction, maintenance and furnishings. Metalwork and visit to a kettle foundry.

Required reading

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

*Fujioka Ryoichi, "The Kettle and Lid Rest" in *Tea Ceremony Utensils* (Weatherhill) pp. 59-71.

Extra reading

*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.

*Kazuo Nishi and Kazuo Hozumi, *What is Japanese Architecture?*
Kodansha International. 1983. P. 74-7, 80-87

* Background culture: Tanizaki Jun'ichiro, *In Praise of Shadows*.

Oct 11: Printing on cloth: stencil dyeing. Visit to Daiwa Senko *kata yuzen* workshop.

Required reading

*Kaneko Kenji, *Katazome, Komon, Chūgata: Japanese Stencil Dyeing*.

* Nagasaki Iwao, "A History of Pictorial Pattern Dyeing and Paper Stencils in Japan" in *Katagami Style*.

Extra reading

*Maruyama Nobuhiko, *Yūzen*.

* Ikuta Yuki. "The Story Told by Paper Stencils: Tracing the Paths of Stencils that Crossed over the Ocean." In *Katagami Style*.

*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)

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

Oct. 18: Patterning cloth: *shibori* and indigo dyeing. Visit to Fukumoto Shiho's indigo dyeing studio.

Required reading

* 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)

Extra reading

*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)

Oct 25: Nishijin area and weaving textiles from gold thread to multi-colored patterns.

Required reading

*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

Extra reading

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

* For reference: Weaving vocabulary Bethe and Yamakawa. "Textile Terminology" in *Transmitting Robes, Linking Minds* (Kyoto National Museum, 2010) p 204-215

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

Nov. 1: Fall Break. No class.

Nov. 8: Buddhist altar items: implement and statue making.

Required reading

*Nara National Museum. *Viewing Buddhist Sculpture*. PP 3-19

*Kayu Matsuhisa pdf articles.

**Masterworks from the Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall*. Nara National Museum, 2016. Pp. 142-147

Extra reading

*Bethe, "Worship Sanctuary; Altars and their Surrounding" in *Amamonzeki: A Hidden Heritage* (Tokyo Geidai Catalog, 2009) p. 148-151)

*Mitsumori Masashi, "Nara Period Buddhist Implements" in *The Treasures of the Shōsōin: Buddhist and Ritual Implements*.

Mitsumori Masashi, ed. Shikosha, 1993, pp. 10-16

*Sekine Shinryu. "Buddhist Implements in the Shōsōin" in *The Treasures of the Shōsōin: Buddhist and Ritual Implements*.

Mitsumori Masashi, ed. Shikosha, 1993, pp. 17-29.

Nov. 15: Craft in the wake of modernization: the *mingei* movement. Visit to the former home of potter and architect Kawai Kanjuro.

Required reading

*Leach, Bernard and Yanagi Soetsu. *The Unknown Craftsman: A Japanese Insight into Beauty*. (87-100, 109-112, 120-126)

* Uchida Yoshihiko, *We Do Not Work Alone: The Thoughts of Kanjiro Kawai*. Kawai Kajiro's House. 1973 (p. 1-12)

Extra reading

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

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

Nov. 22: Tea Ceremony and craft.

Required reading:

*Ryoichi Fujioka. Tr. Louise Cort. *Tea Ceremony Utensils. Arts of Japan No. 3*. Weatherhill, 1973. (pp.10-30)

Extra reading:

*Louise Cort and Andrew Watsky, ed. *Chigusa and the Art of Tea*. Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, 2014. (pp, 19-72)

*A. L. Sadler. *Cha-no-Yu: The Japanese Tea Ceremony*. Tuttle, 2001 (pp. 1-29)

*Okakura Kakuzo. *The Book of Tea*. Dover Pub., 1964.

Nov. 29: Student presentations

Dec. 6: Student presentations.

Final papers due to be handed in on the exam date.

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.
Louise Cort and Andrew Watsky, ed. *Chigusa and the Art of Tea*. Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, 2014.

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.

Buddhist statues and implements (for sculpture, refer also to books on Art History in general and the Japan Arts Library)

Nara National Museum. *Viewing Buddhist Sculpture*. PP 3-19
Masterworks from the Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall. Nara National Museum, 2016. Pp. 142-147
Amamonzeki; A Hidden Heritage (Tokyo Geidai Catalog, 2009) p. 148-151
Mitsumori Masashi, ed. *The Treasures of the Shōsōin: Buddhist and Ritual Implements*. Shiksha, 1993

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

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.

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: 16th to 19th 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.