You're beautiful $\sim Bijin$ -ga from Fukuda Collection

Female beauty has been a perennial subject of art from the earliest times. Japanese artists evolved a distinctive way of exploring the inner and outward beauty of women in a genre known as bijin-ga, literally beautiful-woman painting. Some artists used celebrated beauties as their models. Others depicted figures from legend, stories, and drama, and some left lingering evidence of past encounters with beauty they could not forget. The artists' diverse ideas, and ways of expressing them, exert a lasting fascination. Each work seems to be fired by the desire of the artist to say to the subject, "You're beautiful."

Works on show in the first venue, Saga Arashiyama

Museum of Art and Culture, trace the roots of bijin-ga in ukiyo-e portrayals of women. Here you can see paintings by Utagawa Hiroshige and Hokusai and other noted ukiyo-e artists. To these are added paintings of beauties by artists who were active in Kyoto in the early modern period. Each incidentally documents the hairstyles, textiles, and mode of dress that were current at the time of painting. Arranged to show how bijin-ga evolved from ukiyo-e, the exhibition includes masterful works from the 19th and 20th centuries that illustrate the changing ways artists viewed women.

Accordingly, the show's second venue, the Fukuda Art Museum, presents modernperiod masterpieces from the Fukuda Collection. Representing the endless tug-ofwar between Tokyo and Kyoto, works showing the friendly rivalry of "Kiyokata of the East and Shōen of the West" form the core of the exhibition. Kaburaki Kiyokata and Uemura Shōen, each with their own conception of female beauty and contrasting techniques, were two of the major bijin-ga artists of the 20th century. Their paintings are supplemented by the different notions and techniques of Itō Shōha, Itō Shinsui, and other masters, as well as expressions of beguiling beauty by artists such as Kainoshō Tadaoto and Okamoto Shinsō. Before each work, you may hear an inner voice murmuring "You're beautiful." Which one will make you say it out loud?



Katsushika Hokusai "Beautiful Woman with Kinuta"



Miyagawa Chōshun "Tied Chaff Pillow and Beautiful Woman" "S



Utagawa Kuninaga "Standing Figure of a Girl about Town"



Gion Seitoku "Standing Beauty"

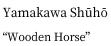


Iwasa Kokō "Scene from the Jōruri 'Asagao Nikki"



Oda Tomiya "Autumn Evening"







Uemura Shōen "Shizuka Gozen"



Ikeda Shōen "Spring Day"

Exhibition Overview

Title	You're beautiful $ \sim $ Bijin-ga from Fukuda Collection
Dates	April 19 (Fri.) 2024 to July 1 (Mon.), 2024 1st Period: April 19 (Fri.) to May 27 (Mon.) 2024 2nd Period: May 29 (Wed.) to July 1 (Mon.) 2024
Opening hours	s 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (last entry 4:30 pm)
Closed	May 28 (Tue.) June 18 (Tue.)
Entry fee	General / University student: ¥1000 (¥900) High school student: ¥600 (¥500) Elementary / Junior high school student: ¥400 (¥350) Disabled person and up to one helper: ¥600 (¥500) * Prices in parentheses are for groups of 20 or more * Free for preschool children <combo art="" fukuda="" museum="" the="" ticket="" with=""> General / University student: ¥2,300 High school student: ¥1,300 Elementary / Junior high school student: ¥750 Disabled person and up to one helper: ¥1,300</combo>
Organizers	Saga Arashiyama Museum of Arts & Culture
Supported by	Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto City, Kyoto City Board of Education, Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Industry