

# Shiko Munakata & Soetsu Yanagi

January 11th (Thu) - March 25th (Sun), 2018

THE JAPAN FOLK CRAFTS MUSEUM

www.mingeikan.or.jp/english/

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Thematic Exhibition

## Yanagi and Munakata - through Publications and Letters

The book/catalog "Wood block printings by Shiko Munakata" (1958), which edited by Yanagi, strongly reflects the vision of Yanagi toward Munakata's wood block printings. This room exhibits 'Sei-ten-sho (Blue Sky)' alongside publications such as 'Kogei (Crafts)' magazines and letters to research their relationship.

## Kanjiro Kawai and Shoji Hamada

Kawai and Hamada, who coined the word 'mingei' together with Yanagi, both led the Mingei Movement, too. In this room exhibit their works from our collection, especially once had belonged to and been loved by Munakata. Also, 'Sui-koku-sho (In Praise of Ryoichi Mizutani)', a work by Munakata dedicated to Mr. Mizutani who encouraged Mingei Movement is on display.

## Ceramics of Korean Peninsula

Ceramics of Korean Peninsula made by craftsmen during 15th to 19th century have been handed down as the quintessence of the crafts today. Yanagi recognized their beauty in his early stage, collected them, and exhibited them publicly. This room displays mainly gifts from Munakata's descendant such as a tea bowl 'Munakata-Ido', white porcelains, an iron-glazed dragon jar and so on.

※ 2018/2/1 ~

## Blue-and-white Porcelain from mid-17th century China

Old blue-and-white porcelains made in folk kilns at Jingdezhen during last years of Ming Dynasty, and Swatow wares manufactured at Zhangzhou kilns in Fuzhou province, both painted free and unconventional style, were beloved and inherited through generations in Japan. Furthermore, stone rubbings from carving on cliffs or stone figures are exhibited.

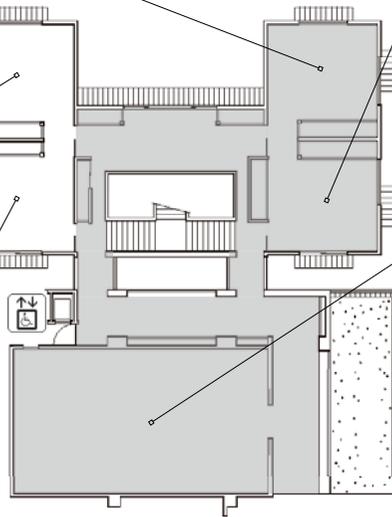
## Attractiveness of Old ceramics of Tamba

Tamba ware is counted as one of the oldest six wares in Japan and more than 300 works consist main stream of our museum's ceramic collection. Yanagi used terms "Beauty by Other-Power" or "Beauty of Oneness" to appraise its unintentional beauty.

Special Exhibition

Thematic Exhibition

## SECOND FLOOR



## Kokorouta (Poems from the Heart)

- Words by Yanagi, Printings by Munakata

*Kokorouta* was made to encourage Yanagi who was sick in bed, and indicates their affection between the master and the apprentice. Short poems express Yanagi's state of mind and Munakata added images for them. The poems were privately published as "*Kokorouta*" later on, and here exhibits, for the first time, its making, Yanagi's drafts, and their letters.

## Gandavyuha-sutra

- Encounter between Religion and Beauty

In spring of 1936 Yanagi and Munakata met for the first time. A half year later, the Japan Folk Crafts Museum opened, and the full wall of the grand hall then was decorated with "the Pantheon of the Gandavyuha-sutra" by Munakata. In this exhibition introduces Munakata's works which were based on his religious beliefs, blossomed through Yanagi's indication. The first term specializes on Heart Sutra, and the second term shows 'Umi-Yama no saku (Sea and Mountain)'.

## Museum Shop

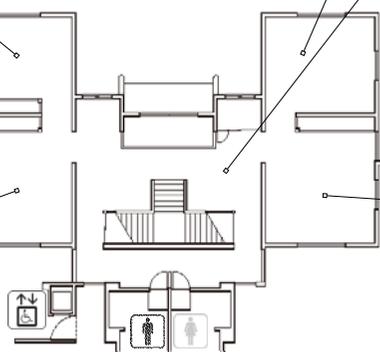
## Master and Apprentice

Not to pursue fame but radiant works which shine by themselves--- the philosophy of mingei had altered Munakata's way for 180 degree. Munakata followed Yanagi's instruction and his works selected by Yanagi have joined the museum collection. Here displays masterpieces by Munakata "born from Yanagi's words, mounted, and cherished by Yanagi".

## Dyeings and Weavings from Northern Region of Japan

In this room, textiles from northern region such as quilted garments called "*kogin*" or "*hishi-zashi*" (white cotton threads were stitched on indigo-dyed hemp cloths by counting for reinforcement), ceremonial hood garment (*Shonai-katsugi*), indigo-dyed hemp with resist designs, and textiles woven from torn yarns are displayed.

## FIRST FLOOR



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