# Sannose Gohonjin Art Museum

**Exhibition Title** Event period : April 16th to June 2th, 2025

Collection Exhibition I

## "HAYASHI, Takeshi Inquirer of formative beauty and composition"

### Exhibition Overview



▲ Flyer of this exhibition. Picture: 《*Woman of facing the front*》 HAYASHI, Takeshi (1896-1975),1967, Oil on canvas This year marks the 50th anniversary of the death of oil painter Takeshi Hayashi (1896-1975). He played an important role in the Japanese art world during the late Taisho and the Showa periods. His works are characterized by vivid primary colors and bold brushwork, he has painted many portraits, still lifes, and landscapes.

Takeshi Hayashi was born in 1896 in Koji-machi, Tokyo, into a family of three generations of Japanese classical scholars. However, family finances were difficult, and he was a self-supporting student from a young age, earning his living by delivering newspapers and milk and painting billboards, eventually aspiring to become a painter.

At the age of 25, he was awarded the Chogyu Prize at the NIKA ART EXHIBITION held by a renowned Japanese artists' organization, which brought him into the limelight of the art world and launched him on a full-fledged career as a painter.

At the age of 30, he joined the "Association of 1930," founded by up-and-coming painters of the time based on "Fauvism," an art movement that emerged in France. Four years later, he joined the founding members of the Dokuritsu Art Association, which succeeded this trend, and became one of the leaders of the art world with his high advocacy of establishing a new era of art.

His painting style changed over time, evolving from the delicacy of his early works to a more powerful expression after World War II, when he adopted a technique of applying thicker layers of paint.

He visited Europe at the ages of 34 and 64. He established a distinctive figurative style of painting, influenced mainly by French painting currents such as Cézanne, Modigliani, Buffet, Picasso (known for his cubism), and Matisse (famous for his Fauvism). He was also a professor at the Tokyo University of the Arts for 11 years from the age of 56, where he trained younger students and influenced many young people. He was awarded the Order of Cultural in 1967, and his achievements are still highly regarded today.



This exhibition will focus on paintings of women, which Hayashi continued to paint throughout his life, as well as landscapes and still lifes. Please enjoy his oil paintings and drawings, painted with his vivid colors and unique sense of form. Hayashi has also designed book covers for many works, including those of the writer Yukio Mishima, and this exhibition will feature some of these works.

During the exhibition, Hayashi Takeshi's drawings will also be on display at the Rantoukaku Art Museum Annex. Please enjoy them as well.

Concurrent Exhibition:

### "The world of SUDA, Kunitaro"

Part of the second floor of this collection exhibition features works by the oil painter SUDA, Kunitaro (1891-1961), who left a significant mark on the history of modern Japanese painting.

He was born and raised in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, and his various experiences and perspectives, including Noh chanting, which he studied from an early age, and his studies abroad in Spain, led him to explore and create a synthesis of Eastern and Western painting.

The exhibition features work from the museum's collection, including oil paintings with a spring-like feel, photographs he took around Europe during his four-year study abroad trip starting at the age of 28, Suda's favorite items, and pottery he made himself.



《*Flowers and Bird* 》 *SUDA, Kunitaro* (1891-1961) 1941-44 Oil on canvas

#### Other interesting exhibits

Additionally, visitors can appreciate Japanese armor and princess palanquins (vehicles used by feudal lords for their princesses and carried by several people) from the late Edo period.

The works of Suda Kunitaro (1891-1961), a painter active in Kyoto, are also on display here. His collection of many unusual little toys will also be interesting. These are the omake (free gifts) that come with the Japanese "Glico" caramel candy. These are extras that were included in the 1950s. Although the contents are different, they are still sold today and have a 100-year history.





▲ Armor and Princess Palanquins (Late Edo period) ▲ Toy attached to "Glico" (1950's)

#### Interesting points in front of this museum

#### ■Exterior

This location was an inn during the Edo period (1603-1867) and was an official inn where feudal lords and aristocrats stayed. In those days, such official inns were called "Honjin." This building is a reconstruction of the exterior of the "Honjin." Visitors can enjoy the atmosphere of old Japan.



#### ∎Naga-gangi

The stone steps of the sea in front of this building date back to the Edo period (1603-1867). These stone steps were built in an ingenious way to make it easier to get in and out of small boats. It is called "Naga-gangi."



#### ∎Kaidenma

The wooden boat in front of this building is a traditional Japanese small boat that was built in 1983, a relatively new period of manufacture. It does not have an engine and is rowed manually with oars. This wooden boat is called "Kaidenma." This kind of ship was used as a high-speed messenger boat. Today, "Kaidenma" is used for local festivals and events such as the Korean envoys' re-enactment procession in Shimokamagari, Hiroshima.