

Sannosegohonjin Art Museum

◆ Exhibition title

Yuji Okazaki, 100th anniversary of his birth

Period: April 22nd

◆ Exhibition Overview

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of oil painter Yuji Okazaki (1924-1991), whose oil paintings and watercolors are introduced. He was a leading force in the artistic world of Hiroshima. He was born on Innoshima Island in Hiroshima and grew up surrounded by the Seto Inland Sea. For this reason, he continued to create mainly on the theme of the sea and water. He sketched seas and harbors all over Japan. Based on this, he painted various aspects of the sea, including pollution, and the extreme cold. He was active in one of the most famous art organizations in Japan and trained many painters.

He also went to France to study painting when he was 36. He loved to travel and continued to travel around the world, painting the landscapes of his travels. We are pleased to exhibit, for the first time, some of the 38 sketchbooks donated by his family. Yuji Okazaki buried in snow and sketching.



▲ Yuji Okazaki buried in snow and sketching.

Introduction of recommended works



▲ OKAZAKI, Yuji
《*Flying · Hokutensen (Trawler)*》
1986, Oil on canvas



▲ OKAZAKI, Yuji
《*Byzantine style church in Athens*》
1980, Watercolor on paper

◆View Point

In addition to works by Yuji Okazaki, 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)

■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. 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.