

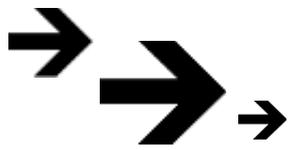


KIWA TOPICS

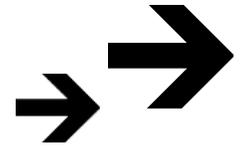
No. 4

March 2010

京都国際木版画協会
Kyoto International
Woodprint Association



GETTING UP TO SPEED



Richard Steiner, President

The next KIWA Exhibition, #6, will be held again in the Kyoto City Museum just one year from now. We have already started to receive prints from abroad (India, USA, Austria, Latvia, Australia, Switzerland, Rumania), and began cataloging and photographing them in the new storage/preparation space mentioned in previous issues of KIWA TOPICS. We are quite excited. There is a lot of work involved in putting together a major, international art exhibition. Some of the duties include collating, photographing and handling the prints; making proper archive storage boxes; meeting with the prize-givers to explain the next exhibition; designing the tickets, posters, flyers and catalog; raising funds; setting the judging date and renting the rooms; having the chosen prints professionally photographed; installing the show in the museum; and much more. KIWA has had five exhibitions so far, but still there's much to learn, and we always need more hands to help with all the preparation work. If you can be in Kyoto for the show, we will welcome you whole-heartedly. If you can give us a few hours beforehand to help put this show together, we will be extremely grateful. Otherwise, news and photos of our progress will go onto our homepage and in KIWA TOPICS as they are generated. Looking forward to KIWA #6 and your visit with us, in person or on-line.

PHOTOGRAPHY SPACE SET UP

Report on KIWA
Activities 1



At one end of the storage/preparation room we made a photo studio. There, we have begun to shoot every print received so far for the next KIWA exhibition. The prints are held against a gray background board by small, strong magnets. We are taking photos for the archives only, not for the exhibition catalog. It was Mr Takeda who was in charge of this department, but since he passed on last year, we had to make this studio in the preparation space. The lighting will be natural. Our camera is a recent digital model, set up on a strong tripod. We started shooting in early March, and plan on devoting at least two Sundays a month so that, as the deadline nears (July 30), we will not be overwhelmed with this task. If you are in the neighborhood and have some free time, stop by and give us a hand.

(R. Steiner)

Spring Event

“One-Minute Sketching Class”

by Mr. Shoji Nomura

Date : April 29 (Thur./National Holiday),
Place : 1:30-4:30 (Doors open at 1:15)
Kyoto City International Community
House, 3F, Rooms #3
Cost : 1300 yen (KIWA members);
1500 yen (non-members)

KIWA TALK IN TOKYO

Report on KIWA
Activities **2**

KIWA President Richard Steiner was invited last November by the Print Research Association in Tokyo to give a talk and slide presentation. He spoke about how KIWA got started, the reasons for making such an association, and how it is maintained. He presented many slides of prints that have been displayed in the five exhibitions, dealing at length on #5, the biggest show so far. Altogether there were about 20 people in the audience. Richard talked for two hours, so there was only a little time remaining for Q&A. But afterwards he got many very kind words and thanks for his presentation. We can say it was a very successful talk.

(K. Steiner)



Annual Meeting & Fall Event

Report on KIWA
Activities **3**

On December 6, 2009, about 20 KIWA members and friends made a trip to the Otsuka Museum of Art on Shikoku Island. On the way to the museum, we held the 2009 Annual Meeting in the bus. The executives gave reports on some of the activities of the year: the acquisition of the storage/workroom, the fund-raising campaign, publication of KIWA Topics, and our president's talks in Kyoto and Tokyo. These reports proved that it had been truly a busy and fulfilling year. Then, the president discussed the schedule for the KIWA #6 show and the possibilities of subsequent traveling exhibitions. In the meantime, the bus crossed the Naruto Bridge, and quickly brought us to the museum. The Otsuka Museum of Art is owned by one of Japan's and the world's largest drug companies, the Otsuka Pharmaceutical Group. The museum is unique in that the famous paintings and sculpture are all exactly reproduced in tile. Each artwork is a replica of the original in every detail. Not only this, but the Sistine Chapel in exactly the same dimensions as the original in Italy is there. This collection is housed in a mammoth multi-storey building erected on top of and down into a hill on the Inland Sea. It was made to serve primarily as an educational facility. Our day passed quickly and extremely satisfactorily.

(K. Steiner)

Essay

"Be a child once again"

Autumn, time for KIWA to take a trip outside Kyoto. This year, we headed to the Otsuka Museum of Art in Tokushima. The first and foremost views we witnessed were those framed by the bus windows, marvelous sights of the Seto Inland Sea. Another view was the famous Naruto whirlpools. It was a grand impression, the sound of the whirling currents below. The works of nature amazed us. We were just like children excited by Mother Nature. At the Museum, well-loved paintings reproduced on ceramic tile welcomed us. This time, it was the creation of humans that moved our hearts. Displayed are works from antiquity to the 20th century. More than 1,000 reproductions from about 190 museums and 25 countries were before us, in the actual sizes of the originals. We were speechless with admiration. During the bus ride back, the Onion Soup served at a rest stop on Awaji Island was crowningly delicious. For those of you who are now excited to know about our little excursions, be prepared! They are annual every autumn!

(Shigemi Yamagishi)



KIWA President Steiner on the left, TOPICS Editor F. Haritani, middle, and translator K. Steiner on the right.

Editor's note: On March 15, we had an editors' meeting at a lakeside hotel. Coincidentally, I found that it was the very day Mr Steiner came to Japan forty years ago. And what is more, one week later, he and his wife would celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary. How wonderful! Hearing such happy news, I felt that the advent of spring is also picking up speed. Our spring event, a special sketching class, will be held soon. After that, KIWA will be in full operation. KIWA Topics No. 5 will be issued sooner than usual, I hope. (Fuki Haritani)

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