Vivid Coloring and the Realistic Body

Lungs and Kidneys (1975) and Gourmet (1975) are works from Onagi Yoichi, which are made based from anatomical charts. They are so truly made, that a doctor who have seen the works claimed his wish for obtaining them for the school's specimen. Let's look into what made the artist produce such works.

In November of 1958, Onagi, who was drawing monochrome Western paintings back then, happened to see a carpet from the Middle East in the Kyoto National Museum's Dyeing and Weaving of India and South-East Asia Exhibition, and had a shocking experience of seeing the vivid coloring of textiles. The red color in textile, shining strongly in dim lighting was completely different from what the artist have seen before, that it altered his perception towards coloring. Unlike putting colors on the surface of the canvas, paint sinks deeply into textiles, resulting in the artist's perception as though the textiles were emitting colors itself. From this experience, Onagi converted from paintings to textiles, in order to produce intense coloring which can only be achieved from textiles.

Furthermore, the artist develops a technique called fukuro-ori (literally "sack weaving"), which is weaving self-dyed strings around a self-made, disk-shaped tool. Fukuro-ori was invented from clues inside the techniques of traditional Japanese basket weaving, and since it was suited in creating the human form, the artist attempted to create works which truly reproduces human parts. As a result, bodies which are hollow inside were completed, reaching to the idea that the body and internal organs are one "sack."

Through these series of events, the two works in motif of body parts with vivid coloring, were created.

The Museum Curator - Nagao Eriko

Onagi Yoichi, Lungs and Kidneys, 1975



Onagi Yoichi, Gourmet, 1975

Collection Room Fall

Special Display: Body, Decoration, and Humorous Sep. 30 (Fri) - Nov. 13 (Sun), 2022 Main Building (South Wing) 1F

List of Works

No.	Inv.No.	Artist	Birth and Death	Title	Date	Material; Shape	Size (cm)	First exhibition
А	dmirin	g the Moo	on					
1	N-179	NISHIYAMA, Suisho	1879-1958	Palace in the Lunar World of Chinese Legend	1907	Pigment on silk; pair of six-fold screens	167.0 × 378.0 each	1st Bunten
2	N-084	MITANI, Toshiko	1904-1992	Ring Around the Moon	1939	Pigment on silk; framed	291.0 × 181.0	3rd Shin Bunten
3	N-575	MATSUMOTO, Michio	1896-1990	Moon	1967	Pigment on paper; framed	156.5 × 148.0	10th Shin Nitten
G	rasp of	Nature						
4	N-318	IKEDA, Yoson	1895-1988	Reeds in the Wind	1981	Pigment on paper; framed	115.5 × 79.3	Solo exhibition
5	N-846	KONOSHIMA, Okoku	1877-1938	Japanese Pampas Grass	Taisho-Showa period	Pigment on paper; pair of six-fold screens	134.0 \times 273.0 each	
6	N-942	KATO, Miyozo	1912-2012	Mountain Lake	1930	Pigment on paper; two-fold screen	145.0 × 182.0	12th Teiten Exhibition
7	N-233	KANASHIMA, Keika	1892-1974	Thicket	1918	Pigment on silk; pair of two-fold screens	170.0 × 184.0 each	12th Bunten
8	N-1215	YAMASHITA, Maki	1890-1973	Flowers and Grasses	c. 1912-16	Pigment on cotton; two-fold screen	168.0 × 182.0	
9	N-305	INODA, Seii	1906-1976	Pampas Grass Field	1972	Pigment on paper; framed	172.3 × 225.6	4th Kaiso Nitten
10	N-024	UDA, Tekison	1896-1980	Millet	1935	Pigment on silk; framed	173.0 × 99.5	1st Shiten (purchased by Kyoto Cit
11	N-275	YAMAGUCHI, Kayo	1899-1984	Garden with Cockscombs	1977	Pigment on paper; framed	161.5 × 115.0	9th Kaiso Nitten
12	N-205	SAKAKIBARA, Shiko	1895-1969	At the Foot of the Mountain	1968	Pigment on paper; framed	160.0 × 110.0	20th Kyoten
13	N-137	ASADA, Benji	1899-1984	Wind and Frost	1959	Pigment on paper; framed	151.0 × 136.0	2nd Shin Nitten
14	Y-223	MAKINO, Katsuji	1864-1942	Fallen Leaves	1903	Oil on canvas; framed	90.8 × 151.8	5th National Industrial Exposition, Osaka
Bo	ody, Dec	oration, and	l Humorous	The means of	of "Sitting"			
15	N-129	NISHIYAMA, Suisho	1879-1958	Roses of Sharon	1923	Pigment on silk; hanging scroll	129.0 × 85.0	Japanese Art Exhibitio
16	N-186	ITO, Shoha	1877-1968	Summer	1920	Pigment on silk; framed	136.0 × 88.0	2nd Teiten

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17	N-290	KAINOSHO, Tadaoto	1894-1978	Woman in Green	1919	Pigment on silk; two-fold screen	145.0 × 165.5	4th Teiten
18	N-145	KIKUCHI, Keigetsu	1879-1955	Young Lady	1932	Pigment on silk; framed	118.5 × 145.5	8th Kikuchijuku Exhibition
19	N-568	MITANI, Toshiko	1904-1992	Spinning Top	1930	Pigment on silk; two-fold screen	166.5 × 167.4	11th Teiten
20	Y-699	TANIHARA, Natsuko	1989-	Child Room	2015	Oil, velvet, acrylics, metal powder, glitter, spangles, rhinestones	190.5 × 129.5	2015 Kyoten (awarded Suda Prize and Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art Prize)
21	Y-156	MIZUSEI, Kimiko	1891-1977	Black Fan	1953	Oil on canvas; framed	91.0 × 73.0	
22	Y-017	KANOKOGI, Takeshiro	1874-1941	Wife of the New Age	1909	Oil on canvas; framed	94.0 × 90.0	3rd Bunten
23	Y-497	KINOSHITA, Takanori	1894-1973	Portrait of Miss T.	1940	Oil on canvas; framed	90.5 x 72.5	Commemorative Exhibition (Tokyo Prefectural Art Museum, 1940)
В	ody, Dec	oration, and	l Humorous	Form and D	ecoration			
24	K-266	HAYASHI, Yasuo	1928-	Seated Figure	1954	Earthenware	59.0 × 58.0 × 28.0	1st Modern Art Fair (Daimaru, Osaka, 1954)
25	K-193	YAGI, Isso	1894-1973	Vase with Wicker Pattern, Celadon Glaze	c. 1935	Porcelain	H32.5, Body Diam. 13.7, Opening Diam.10.5	
26	K-052	KUSUBE, Yaichi	1897-1984	Vase with Orchid Design	1921	Porcelain	H32.5, Body Diam.9.5, Opening Diam.3.0	2nd Sekidokai Group Exhibition
27	K-776	SUZUKI, Yasuyuki	1926-2020	Work	c. 1948	Earthenware	24.0 × 18.0 × 20.0	
28	K-788	NAKANISHI, Yoshikazu	1929-2017	Work	c. 1950	Earthenware	17.4 × 17.5 × 14.5	
29	K-195	MIYANAGA, Tozan I (with the seal of "Kinkozan")	1868-1941	Vase with Color Glazed Turnip Pattern	1905	Earthenware	H39.5, Body Diam.21.0	
30	K-881	KINKOZAN, Sobe ₪	1868-1927	Plate with Japanese Radish Design	2	Earthenware	H4.0, Opening Diam.22.2, Body Diam.22.8, Bottom Diam.21.2	
31	K-879	KINKOZAN, Sobe ₪	1868-1927	Vase with Korin-Style Plum Design		Porcelain	H4.0, Diam.22.0, Bottom Diam.15.8	
32	K-841	KIYOMIZU, Rokube V	1875-1959	Kiseto Pot with Overglaze	c. 1912	Earthenware	8.5 × 17.6 × 17.5, Bottom13.7 × 13.7	
33	K-843	KIYOMIZU, Rokube V	1875-1959	Otowa-style Single-Flower Vase	1910-19	Porcelin	H19.5, Body Diam.8.0, Opening Diam.4.4, Bottom Diam.5.0	
В	ody, Dec	oration, and	l Humorous	You and I				
34	N-646	KAJIWARA, Hisako	1896-1988	Chatting	c. 1916	Pigment on silk; framed	86.0 × 113.0	
35	N-175	NONAGASE, Banka	1889-1964	Apprentice Geisha in a Town Near the Sea	1927	Pigment on canvas; framed	102.5 × 127.5	6th Kokuten
36	N-299	EBINA, Masao	1913-1980	Waiting for Their Turn	1979	Pigment on paper; framed	152.0 × 182.5	11th Kaiso Nitten
	N-915	OKUSA,	1905-1996	Chrysanthemum	1982	Pigment on paper;	177.5 × 197.5	14th Kaiso Nitten

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38	N-1021	NIWA, Akiko	1900-1988	Musical Performance	1936	Pigment on silk; framed	198.5 × 209.6	1st Kaiso Teiten
39	N-036	TERASHIMA, Shimei	1892-1975	September	1936	Pigment on silk; framed	190.0 × 128.0	Bunten Kansaten
40	N-171	NAKASE, Takashi	1910-1962	Bathroom	1954	Pigment on paper; framed	142.0 × 188.0	10th Nitten
41	N-178	HIROTA, Tatsu	1904-1990	The Two	1954	Pigment on paper; framed	135.0 × 121.0	18th Shinseisaku Group Exhibition
В	ody, Dec	coration, and	l Humorous	The Empty	"Body"			
42	K-927	ONAGI, Yoichi	1931-	Where are you going - quo vadis	2017	Polypropylene, three-dimentional weave	240.0 × 150.0 × 80.0	Addendum Ⅲ: where are you going - quo vadis (Art Space Niji, Kyoto, 2017)
43	K-923	ONAGI, Yoichi	1931-	Lungs and Kidneys	1975	Cotton, three-dimentional weave	190.0 × 70.0 × 30.0	Solo exhibition (GALLERY ITEZA, Kyoto, 1975)
44	K-924	ONAGI, Yoichi	1931-	A Furniture for Bachelors' Dorm in Company "D° H"	1977	Cotton, three-dimentional weave	60.0 × 400.0 × 300.0	13th Japan International Art Exhibition (Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum/ Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, 1977)
45	K-928	ONAGI, Yoichi	1931-	Anywhere is fine-Οπουδήποτε	2017	Polypropylene, three-dimentional weave	240.0 × 110.0 × 80.0	Addendum II: anywhere is fine - οπουδήποτε (Gallery Gallery, Kyoto, 2017)
46	K-922	ONAGI, Yoichi	1931-	Gourmet	1975	Cotton, three-dimentional weave	230.0 × 70.0 × 40.0	Solo exhibition (GALLERY ITEZA, Kyoto, 1975)
47	Y-783	FUKUDA, Miran	1963-	Coloring	2015	Crayon on copy paper (98 sheets); sketchbook	ketchbook : 3.0×43.5×29.7/ crayon : 1.5×18.5× 11.0	Disney Art Exhibition (KUNST ARZT, Kyoto, 2015)
48	H-188	KUROSAKI, Akira	1937-2019	Magic Square 6	1975	Woodblock print phototype on Echizen paper	79.4 × 55.0	Solo exhibition (Gallery Shirota, Tokyo/Gallery Heian, Kyoto, 1975)
49	H-091	SAKAZUME, Atsuo	1941-	Landscape '74: We Brothers II	1974	Mezzotint on paper; framed	50.0 × 63.5	Exhibition of 5th Nichido Print Grand Prix
50	H-093	SAKAZUME, Atsuo	1941-	Landscape '76: Efflorescing Head	1976	Mezzotint on paper; framed	50.0 × 64.5	28th Kyoten (awarded Kyoten Prize)
51	H-001	IDA, Shoichi	1941-2006	Angel's Campaign	1969	Lithograph on paper; framed	165.0 × 65.0	9th Contemporary Art Exhibition of Japan
52	K-382	SHIMURA, Mitsuhiro	1933-	Two Personalities	1985	Printing on cotton with quilting; set of 6 pieces	150.0 × 510.0	Solo exhibition (Gallery Maronie, Kyoto)
53	K-230	TAKAGI, Toshiko	1924-1987	Figure	1975	Woven tapestry	210.0 × 100.0 × 15.0	Three Artists (Imabashi Gallery, Osaka, 1975)
54	Y-782	FUKUDA, Miran	1963-	Whose Sleeves	2015	Acrylic on canvas; panel	181.8 × 227.2	Disney Art Exhibition (KUNST ARZT, Kyoto, 2015)
В	ody, Dec	coration, and	l Humorous	Humorous B	ody			
55	Н-593	ISHIHARA, Tomoaki	1959-	Self Portrait - Nijo-jo Castle #2	2003	Lambda print; framed	120.0 × 240.0	Nijo-jo Castle's 400th Anniversary Exhibition "Art of the Imperial Villa" (Kyoto Art Center, 2003)
56	Н-595	ISHIHARA, Tomoaki	1959-	Your World	2003	Video (Blu-ray disc)	29 minutes	Nijo-jo Castle's 402th Anniversary Exhibition "Art of the Imperial Villa" (Nijo-jo Castle, 2003)
57	H-585	ISHIHARA, Tomoaki	1959-	Self Portrait - Nijo-jo Castle #4	2003	Lambda print; framed	120.0 × 240.0	Nijo-jo Castle's 400th Anniversary Exhibition "Art of the Imperial Villa" (Kyoto Art Center, 2003)
58	H-462	SUZUKA, Yoshiyasu	1947-	COMMENCEMENT	1983-2002	Photographs; 20 pieces	37.5 × 35.0	