

PRESS RELEASE

Contemporary Japanese Prints

This exhibition is made possible through multiple gifts from Barbara & Eric Ottervik

Dubois Gallery, Maginnes Hall
January 22 – May 25, 2018

Opening Reception: Spring 2018 Exhibitions

LUAG Main Gallery, Zoellner Arts Center
February 8, 2018 6 PM – 8 PM



Fujita Fumio, *Bird Graffiti A*, 1968

The world of contemporary Japanese prints is a confluence of techniques, cross-cultural exchange, and historical influences. The effect of Japanese aesthetics on European artists like Whistler, Degas, and van Gogh is well-known; but Japanese artists also borrowed many ideas from their contemporaries in the West. Key among these ideas was the concept of self-expression. Whereas the Japanese system was founded on the idea of *hanmoto*: collaboration between draftsman, block cutter, printer, and publisher; contemporary Japanese artists have sought to embody these roles within themselves as individuals, advocating works that are self-drawn, self-carved, and self-printed.

Contemporary Japanese Prints focuses primarily on the *sōsaku-hanga* or *Creative Prints* movement which came into its own by the mid-20th century. It also offers a brief glimpse of 19th century *ukiyo-e* prints (traditional Japanese “pictures of the floating world”) as well as the early 20th century *shin-hanga* or *New Prints* movement, both of which set the stage for the emergence of *sōsaku-hanga*.

This exhibition has been made possible through the generosity of Barbara and Eric Ottervik, whose passion for collecting contemporary Japanese prints is reflected in multiple gifts to the Lehigh University Art Galleries / Teaching Museum collection.

Contemporary Japanese Prints continues until May 25, 2018 in the Dubois Gallery, Maginnes Hall. Hours are Monday through Friday 9 AM – 10 PM, Saturday 8 AM – 6 PM, and Sunday 7 AM – 10 PM. This exhibition is made possible through the generosity of Barbara and Eric Ottervik. Please join us for a reception celebrating all of this semester’s exhibitions at the LUAG Main Gallery on February 8, 2018 from 6 – 8 PM.

For more information visit our website www.luag.org
Or contact Alexandria Wismer at 610-758-3615 or alw414@lehigh.edu
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LUAG is the Teaching Museum at Lehigh University. LUAG inspires, develops, and promotes visual literacy and cultural understanding through cross-disciplinary educational opportunities that supplement formal classroom study. LUAG’s core educational resource is its world-class art collection, which it uses, along with traveling exhibitions from outside the university, to create settings for experiential learning.