Beyond Pillow Books: Japanese Woodblock Prints in the Edo Period (1615-1868)

OLLI East: Fall 2019

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There is no book for this 8-week course

Purpose/Goals:

a. Provide an overview of historical Japanese woodblock print making technique
b. Show the evolution of Japanese artists and their prints during the Edo Period
c. Highlight the lives and print work of some of the dominant figures during the period

1. Techniques of Japanese printmaking
   a. Background
   b. Woodblock Printmaking Process
   c. Evolution of woodblock printing (Sumizuri-e to Nishiki-e)
   d. Printmaking Pioneers (Masanobu and Harunobu)

2. The art of Ukiyo-e woodblock prints
   a. Ukiyo-e Prior History
   b. Emergence of Ukiyo-e Woodblock Prints (late 17th-early 18th centuries)
   c. Color prints (mid-18th century)
   d. Peak period (late 18th century)
   e. Late period (19th century)

3. The Genroku Era (1688-1704)
   a. Genroku Era Background
   b. Kabuki Theatre
   c. Hishikawa Moronobu (1618-1694)
   d. Torii Kiyonobu (1664-1729)
   e. Torii Kiyomasu (1690s-1720s)

4. Beauty & Desire
   a. Embracing Desire
   b. Suzuki Harunobu (1725-1770)
   c. Tōshūsai Sharaku (1770-1825)
   d. Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806)
   e. Torii Kiyonaga (1752-1815)

5. Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849)
   a. Background/Early life (1760-1795)
   b. The Art of Surimono (1796-1800)
   c. Chūshingura and Illustrations to the Kyōka Poets (1798-1806)
   d. Book Illustration – The Manga and Shashin Gwafu (1807-1819)
   e. The Great Landscape and Kacho Prints (1820-1832)
f. Waterfalls, Fuji and Imagery of Poetry (1833-1849)

6. Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858)
   a. Early life
   b. Famous Views of the Eastern Capital
   c. Fifty-Three Stations of the Tokaido
   d. Famous Views of Kyoto
   e. One Hundred Famous Views of Edo
   f. Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji

7. Warrior & Yōkai (ghost/demon/monster) Prints
   a. Special Guest Speaker from the Denver Art Museum: Douglas Wagner
   b. Social aspects of the samurai in the Edo Period
   c. Narratives and mythologies

8. The Utagawa school - at the forefront of 19th century woodblock prints
   a. Utagawa Toyokuni (1769-1825)
   b. Utagawa Kunisada (1786-1865)
   c. Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1798-1861)
   d. Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892)

VERY IMPORTANT

If you are unable to attend the first session of the class, or if you have decided to drop the class, please notify the facilitator either by e-mail or telephone, ASAP so someone from the wait-list may take the class.

Thank you for your cooperation.