

International Symposium:

Gifts of Diplomacy: The Japanese Missions and Their Legacies in Collections

[Master of Ceremonies: Katsura Washizu (NMJH)]

10 January (Sat) - 11 January (Sun), Hitotsubashi Hall (Webinar/Hybrid)

https://www.rekihaku.ac.jp/research/event/20260110_symposium.html

※ Presentations will be in Japanese and English with simultaneous interpretation

Programme

10 January (Sat)

13:30-13:40 Opening Remarks: Masaru Nishitani (NMJH)

13:40-13:50 Introduction: Kaori Hidaka (NMJH)

Part I: Late Tokugawa Diplomacy and the Gifts Preserved in Various Countries

[Moderator: Kaori Hidaka]

13:50-14:15 ①Masaki Yoshizaki (Yokohama Archives of History) The Shogunate's Missions and Social Climate of Edo during the Bakumatsu Period

14:15-14:40 ②Mariko Fukuoka (National Museum of Japanese History) Late Tokugawa Diplomacy and the Gifts of the Japanese Mission to the United States

14:40-15:05 ③Estelle Bauer (Guimet National Museum of Asian Art) Current State of Research on the Diplomatic gifts from Japan to European countries: Focusing on French Collections

15:05-15:20 (Q&A)

15:20-15:30 (Break)

[Moderator: Akira Takagishi]

15:30-15:55 ④Rachel Peat-Underhill (Royal Collection Trust) (Video presentation)

Gifts to Queen Victoria from the late Edo Court in 1860, 1862 and 1864: Display and Dispersal

15:55-16:20 ⑤Alexandra Curvelo (New University of Lisbon) Diplomatic Gifts from Japan to Portugal in the Nineteenth Century

16:20-16:45 ⑥Daan Kok (The World Museum) Misunderstanding the Value of Culture – Reception of Japanese diplomatic gifts in the Netherlands

16:45-17:00 (Q&A)

11 January (Sun)

Part II: Exploring Diplomatic Gifts

[Moderator: Mariko Fukuoka]

9:30–9:55 ⑦Akira Takagishi (University of Tokyo) Japanese Envoys to Europe in 1862 and the Order of Official Painters at the End of the Edo Period: Analysis of Paintings Presented to European Monarchs by the Shogun Tokugawa Iemochi

9:55–10:20 ⑧Kaori Hidaka (NMJH) Lacquerware Gifts from the Japanese missions

10:20–10:45 ⑨Miyeon Jung (Jinju National Museum) The Gift of Folding Screens to Joseon as Early Modern Shogunal Diplomacy: Rediscovered Screens in Korea and Recent Findings on Preliminary Sketches from the Shimazu Clan's Tamazato Collection

10:45–11:00 (Q&A)

11:00–11:15 (Break)

11:15–11:40 ⑩Kazunori Araki (Kyushu University) Use of Gold and Silver Decorated Paper in Diplomatic Documents of Early Modern Japan

11:40–12:05 ⑪Miyuki Aoki Girardelli (Istanbul Technical University) Japanese Diplomatic Gifts for the "Egyptian King" Khidiv: Cairo in the Eve of the Opening of Suez Canal and the First Contact Between Ottoman Empire and Japan

12:05–12:15 (Q&A)

12:15–13:30 (Lunch)

General Discussion

[Moderator: Estelle Bauer, Akira Takagishi]

13:30–15:10 Panel Presentations (10 minutes each)

①Hiroko Kurokawa (The University Art Museum, Tokyo University of the Arts) Ornamental Gifts from the Japanese Missions, focusing on Metal and Crystal Objects

②Masaaki Arakawa (Gakushuin University) Ceramic Gifts from the Japanese missions

③Jin Matsushima (Shizuoka Prefecture Mount Fuji World Heritage Centre) *The Cranes Flying over Mt. Fuji* by Kano Nakanobu and the Paintings as the Diplomatic Gifts from Shoguns

④Hirosuke Sato (Tokyo National Museum) The symbolism of Japanese armor

Followed by discussion with all speakers

15:10–15:15 Closing Remarks: Atsushi Miura (Ohara Museum of Art)

■ How to apply

Please apply in advance using the QR code or URL below. (Deadline: January 4, 2026)

If the English translation of the application form is not displayed, we would appreciate it if you could use the translation function of your browser.

<https://forms.office.com/r/RrFf7VavYR>

