"Master HIRAMATSU Reiji" continued

This is a sequel to the diary entry of 7 January 2022 on the painting 'Japanese Prayer' by the master of Japanese painting, Mr HIRAMATSU Reiji. After the donation of Japanese Prayer, it was displayed in the sitting room of the official residence of the Consul-General and is estimated to have been viewed by a total of more than 1,000 people. This work expresses the hope that Japan will do its best and get back on its feet again after the Great East Japan Earthquake. This beautiful work attracts viewers regardless of nationality, ethnicity, age or gender.

I wanted more people in Australia to see 'Japanese Prayer', and in the middle of last year, the Art Gallery of South Australia approached us about loaning it to them. We could not wish for a better opportunity and so we started the procedure. When I returned temporarily to Japan in March this year, I visited Mr Hiramatsu's studio and told him about this opportunity and he was very pleased.

The Art Gallery of South Australia's special exhibition 'Misty Mountain, Shining Moon: Japanese landscape envisioned' will run from 29 July to 12 November (NOTE: the exhibition has been extended until 28 July 2024) (https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/misty-mountain-shining-moon-japanese-landscape-envisioned/).

Upon invitation, I went to a special tour on the first day of the exhibition. Mr Hiramatsu's 'Japanese Prayer' appeared to shine in the vast space. The exhibition is a wonderful opportunity to compare and contrast distinctive Japanese landscapes from different periods, such as Katsushika Hokusai's stunning Red Fuji ('Clear Day with a Southern Breeze') from the Edo period. Do not miss this opportunity!

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone involved at the Art Gallery of South Australia for their support and would like to include a message from Mr Hiramatsu below.

'It is a great honour for me to have my work exhibited at the Art Gallery of South Australia. It would be my greatest pleasure if my sensitivity and expression as a Japanese painter could be conveyed to all those who view my work.

In September next year, my solo exhibition will be held at the Musée de l'Impressionisme in Giverny, France. I sincerely hope that the expression of Japanese painting will be seen by many people around the world.

I wish this exhibition great success!'

Hiramatsu Reiji 29 July 2023









Message from Mr Hiramatsu Reiji

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