

Complete Full-scale Reproductions in a Set of Two Handscrolls Supervised by Kobayashi Tadashi

Designated
National Treasure

Hell Scroll Hungry Ghost Scroll

Collections: Tokyo National Museum, Nara National Museum and Kyoto National Museum

As in today, in the last decades of the Heian period (794-1185), social disturbances, along with earthquakes, tsunami and epidemics broke out frequently in Japan, and a Buddhist doctrine known as *mappō* (a period of lawlessness) spread around among people who sought salvation by becoming devout Buddhist believers.

In Buddhism, the afterlife world of reincarnation is called the Six Realms (*rokudo*), out of which Animals, Hungry Ghosts and Hell are regarded as three evil realms and reserved for those fallen by



▲ Complete set of "Hell Scroll" and "Hungry Ghost Scroll" with Commentaries

evil deeds. Hell, in particular, has been so frightening as to be often visualized in the picture form as the most painful place to inhabit.

Pictures of the Six Realms were extensively illustrated, but most of them have been scattered and lost now. It is fortunate to introduce "Hell Scroll" and "Hungry Ghost Scroll" that were created during the last years of the Heian period in order to convey the substance of "Pictures of the Six Realms." Both Scrolls are designated as National Treasure.



To commemorate the publication of a set of "Hell Scroll" and "Hungry Ghost Scroll," the DVD featuring "TALK on Pictures of Illustrated Handscroll" and Performing Arts for Hell: Joruri "An Actor Plays the King of Hell (Yama)" plus Noh "Ukai (cormorant fishing)" is given as a compliment to those who place an order in the first fifty sets. (DVD: Limited edition of 50 pieces)

Original Joruri
"An Actor Plays
the King of Hell (Yama)"

Nozawa Matsuya
Narrative and shamisen player for Kabuki/
Gidayu performance
Holder of Important Intangible
Cultural Property

TALK on Pictures of
Illustrated Handscrolls

Okimatsu Kenjiro
Chief Curator of Painting and Sculpture
Curatorial Research Department
Tokyo National Museum
+
Oka Junsho
Chief Priest
Tendai-sect Enyu-ji Temple

Noh
"Ukai(cormorant fishing)"
Partial performance

Shite : Toyama Junji
Waki : Obinata Hiroshi
Jigashira : Imai Yasuyuki
Shite at Hoshō School of Noh,
Holder of Important Intangible
Cultural Property

Viewing Joruri and Noh is available in the following online platform.
Please view after membership registration
JPY330 (one-time view, tax included)
Viewing period: 7 days after payment



Kan-geki
(live-streaming)



U-NEXT



360ch



eplus



▲ Hungry Ghost of hot ashes (Part)
Tokyo National Museum

Features :

1. Manufactured by an on-demand printing system, we can always provide customers with the newest products.
2. Toppan Forms' innovative technology of seamless printing on one long sheet allows for the production of a scroll over 10 meters in length.
3. Commentaries (w/English translation) by Ueno Tomoe, senior curator at the Suntory Museum of Art, are extremely detailed and provide valuable reference material for scholastic purposes.
4. This exquisite facsimile reproduction is recommended as an exclusive document for libraries or individuals, which would be a treasured cultural piece for decades to come.

Specifications :

A set of two scrolls with Commentaries
Dimensions;
Scroll one (Hell Scroll):
27.6 by 707.0 cm
Scroll two (Hungry Ghost Scroll):
28.6 by 920.0 cm
Printed on Bagasse paper
Mounted by hand in the handscroll
format with a box of paulownia wood
Price: ¥250,000 (excluding shipping charge)

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Organized by
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For further information, please contact :
Shinka Co., Ltd. <https://shin-flower.jp/> • Mail : norikokii@shin-flower.jp (Kii Noriko) • Phone : 090-4703-6989