

YOSHIHARA Hideo: A Retrospective

We are proud to present "YOSHIHARA Hideo: A Retrospective" on view from November 19, 2011 through January 15, 2012, as the first retrospective show after his death in 2007. It consists of our collection and a large number of artifacts remained at his studio.

YOSHIHARA was born at Hiroshima in 1931, and began to take a keen interest in art in his high school days at Tennoji High School, Osaka.

Although he took part in the founding of Gutai, whose leader YOSHIHARA Jiro was one of his distant relatives, soon he disaffiliated himself and joined in the Demokrato Artist Association, where he got significantly impacted by IZUMI Shigeru, the leader of Demokrato in Kansai district and began print making. His approach to lithograph bore fruit in

Sunflower, which is full of narrative and lyrical expression, and won a prize at the 1st International Biennial Exhibition of Prints in Tokyo, 1957.

In the 1960s, his style moved on to a somewhat abstract form, and once again he explored his technique in the latter half of '60s by combining

lithograph and etching on a single sheet of paper. This unique mixture of different techniques brought not only the surprise at his mastery of skill to us but also the sense of tense resulting from advantages of each characteristic to the surface. These experimental works were highly praised and successively presented in large shows including the Bienal Internacional de Artes de São Paulo (where he represented Japan), the 8th Contemporary Art Exhibition of Japan (where he won the award for excellence) and the 6th International Biennial Exhibition of Prints in Tokyo (received the award from the Ministry of Education). Even after gaining these acclaim, YOSHIHARA never stopped exploring his expression, and kept on trying to capture various phases of human beings.

In this show we trace his experiment and progress, marking the 5th anniversary of his death and the 80th anniversary of his birth.