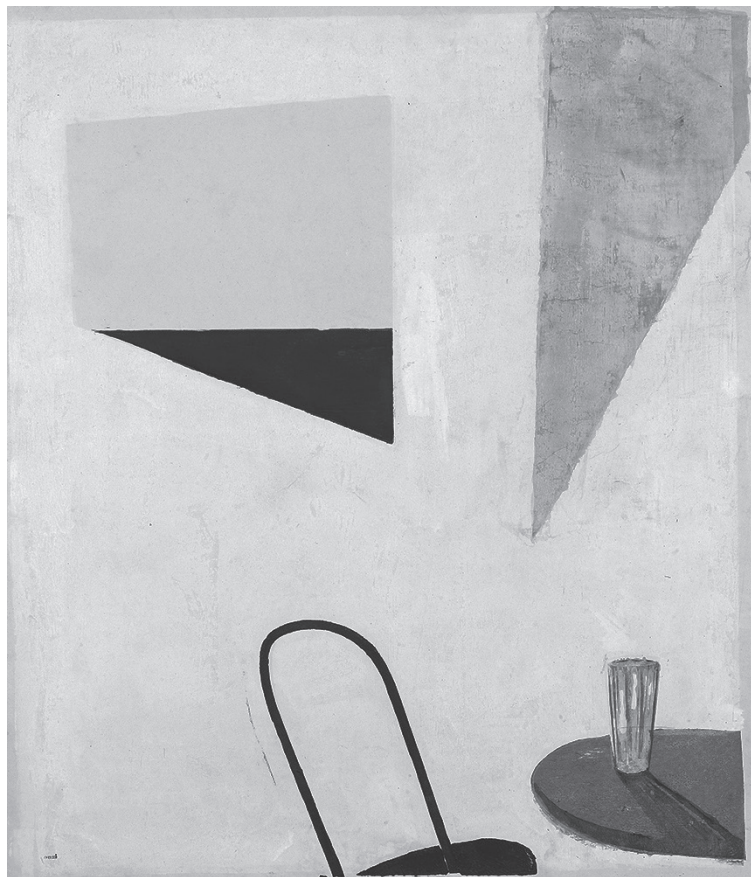


ONCHI Koshiro: Lyric and Modernism

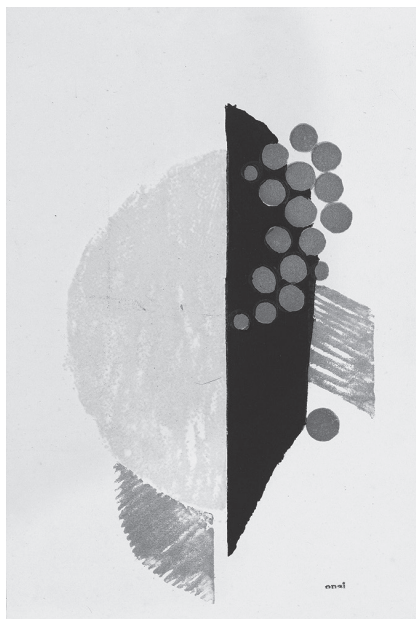
April 29 (fri) – June 12 (sun), 2016

ONCHI Koshiro is widely known as a promoter of the modernization of woodcuts and a pioneer of abstract expression in Japan. This exhibition holds the largest number of ONCHI's various art works for the first time in about 20 years. Wakayama is the second and the last venue of this Tour exhibition.

ONCHI Koshiro (1891-1955) looked up to TAKEHISA Yumeji as his model in his teens and in 1914, together with TANAKA Kyokichi and FUJIMORI Shizuo, who were students at Tokyo Fine Arts School, he founded *Tsukuhae*, a coterie magazine of woodcuts and poems. Lyric: "The Clear Hours" (1915) and other works published in this magazine are known as harbingers of abstract expression in Japan. Once the Showa period began, amidst efforts to revive Tokyo



Window with a View of the Sea, 1940, Woodcut on paper, Yoseido Gallery



Lyric on Musical Composition, Debussy, "Golden Fish (Poisson d'Or)", 1936, Woodcut on paper, Yoseido Gallery

after the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923 as a modern city, while, on the one hand, ONCHI sympathized with the new trends in Europe and produced series of works inspired by constructive figures and contemporary music, on the other hand, he also produced profound portrait prints comparable with oil paintings. Aiming at the synthesis of image, language, and design, he was also involved in the production of numerous illustrated books, which are innovative even in our eyes today. After World War II, with appreciation and encouragement from American collectors who came to Japan under GHQ occupation, ONCHI began to concentrate on abstract expressions. The final ten years of his life became an extremely fruitful period in his lifetime. This exhibition consists mainly of 243 prints including approximately 52 important works owned by major art museums abroad. Together with 11 oil paintings, 25 watercolors and drawings, 20 photographs, and 79 book designs, it demonstrates this artist's cross-genre work. We hope you will enjoy the versatile world of ONCHI Koshiro, who left behind a tremendous achievement towards the modernization of print expressions from the Taisho period to the postwar Showa period.

▼ General Information

- The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama
- April 29 – June 12, 2016
- Open 9:30 to 17:00
- Closed on Monday
- 700 (560) yen for adults, 400 (320) for college students, free of charge under 18, over 65, disabled, and foreign students studying in Wakayama. Prices in brackets indicate group rate.
- Free entrance for college students on May 28 (Kiyo cultural foundation day)
- Organizers: The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama
The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
The Sankei Shimbun

The Museum of
Modern Art,
Wakayama



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