



▲ KAWANISHI Hide, Circus, March of the Horses, 1928

In reference to the special exhibition *The Kokuga Sosaku Kyokai: Celebrating the Centennial of Its Birth*, print artists related to the association are featured in the collection gallery. As the *Kokuga Sosaku Kyokai* (lit. National Painting Creation Association: *Kokuten*) was a contest exhibition organizing group that was established by Japanese painters, Japanese paintings are usually introduced in *Kokuten* related exhibitions.

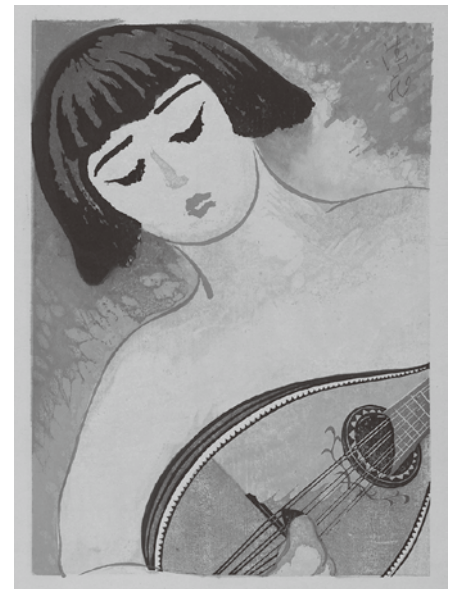
# Prints of KOKUTEN

However, the association officially accepted prints and drawings from the fourth exhibition in 1924 and created the second department for oil paintings in the following year. At the sixth show, crafts and sculptures were specially exhibited, and these two categories became accepted in the second department from the seventh show. *Kokuten* was getting wider and wider with each exhibition.

Especially print works had been accepted the same in the first department as Japanese paintings even after the founding of the second department for oil paintings. The reason is not clear, but the similarity could be found in these two categories: using water-based color on paper, or traditional art genres that had already existed in Japan before the Meiji period. In any case, print works in *Kokuten* were treated in the same department as Japanese paintings.

Following up the exhibition catalogues of the time, HIRATSUKA Un'ichi and KAWAKAMI Sumio seems to have been the central figures from the number of selected times and exhibits. Other than these two, leading print artists in the Showa period like KAWANISHI Hide and AZECHI Umetaro were exhibiting print works at the very beginning of their careers. In the catalogues, eight names in total can be found as exhibitors of print works. In this feature show, TOKURIKI Tomikichiro and NAKAGAWA Isaku, who exhibited Japanese paintings in *Kokuten* shows but became print artists later on, are introduced in addition to the seven of these eight artists. All these works are selected from the collection of the museum.

Visitors are invited to enjoy the atmosphere of the new age from the Taisho period to the Showa period, and the freshness of the new expression.



▲ HIRAKAWA Seizo, Girl with a Mandolin, 1926

## ▼ General Information

- October 30 – December 24, 2018
- Open 9:30 to 17:00
- Closed Mondays, but open Mon. December 24

## ▼ Admission

- Adults: 340 (270) yen, Students: 230 (180) yen. Prices in parentheses for groups of 20 or more.

## ▼ Admission Free

- Under 18, (High School Pupils), over 65, the disabled, and foreign students studying in Wakayama. / Free entrance for all visitors on November 22 (Anniversary of foundation of Wakayama-prefecture). / Free entrance for college students on November 24. (Every fourth Saturday: Kiyo cultural foundation day)

The Museum of  
Modern Art,  
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