



▲ KAWAGUCHI Kigai, *Nudes*, c1925, oil on canvas

The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama has held many exhibitions related to artists and groups in the Taisho era. Through these exhibitions, the collection of that age has grown up. Among these fulfilled collections, this exhibition mainly picks up oil paintings and print works focusing on the people and society at that time.

The Taisho is the name of the era for the Emperor Taisho from July 1912 to December 1926, more than 14 years. An age is a mass of the consecutive time with a specific viewpoint such as civilizations, social conditions, and political systems. After the Modern ages in Japan, by contrast, the name of the emperor's reign has been the name of the period.

As we learned a several month ago, just simply because of the change of the age's name, people's mind and society do not drastically change in one day. However, if we look over the Taisho era and its before and after, we can trace—domestically and internationally—important events and incidents which can be regarded as

historical turning points: annexation of Korea, the High Treason Incident, First World War, launching of the first full-scale party cabinet, the Great Kanto Earthquake, promulgation of the General Election Law and the Maintenance of the Public Order Act, and Manchurian Incident.

As long as fine art is “production” by human beings, affairs and incidents, or social and cultural trends often give an impact on expressions and themes of that age. It is of course one-sided observation to connect the features of art works to the age. But we can surely find social conditions, living situation, and the shifts in art, regardless of intent of the creators.

We can sometimes feel sympathy for these senses and thoughts, but sometimes not. This exhibition is an occasion to gaze the connection and discontinuation between present time and 100 years ago, on the occasion of the new era.

Art at the Turn of the Eras: Before and After the Taisho

September 18 - October 20, 2019



▲ TANAKA Kyokichi, *Boy with Rose Thorns on His Face*, 1914, oil on canvas



▲ ONCHI Koshiro, *Perspective View of Greater Tokyo* 1929, wood block, paper

▼ Organized by

- The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama

▼ General Information

- September 18 – October 20, 2019
- Open 9:30 to 17:00
- Closed on Mondays, except September 23 and October 14 (closed on September 24 and October 15 instead)

▼ Admission

[Until September 29] Adults: 510 (410) yen.
Students: 300 (250) yen.

[From October 1 *for increase of consumption tax rate]

Adults: 520 (410) yen. Students: 300 (260) 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 college students on September 28 .

(Every fourth Saturday: Kiyo cultural foundation day)

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