

October 8, 2021

Keio University

**Unveiled for the First Time – The History of Conservation of Artworks from
the Keio University Collection Exhibition**

**"*Tangite me*: Reconsidering Conservation during the Pandemic"
(October 18 – December 3)**

Conservation is a process that can be described as “care” for works of art, much in the same way that we treat injuries. This exhibition features 13 artworks conserved at Keio University, ranging from bronze statues of the Meiji era to contemporary pieces, and introduces the history of the artworks and the stories behind their conservation. The exhibition also includes a display of professional tools and digital content allowing visitors to compare works before and after conservation. Through this exhibition, and the accompanying symposiums and talks, we hope it will open your eyes to the world of conservation, which begins when you “touch” the work.

1. Overview

Date:

Monday, October 18 – Friday, December 3, 2021

Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays [open: 11/6 Sat., closed 11/8 Mon.]

Venues:

South Venue: Keio University Art Space (South Annex 1F)

East Venue: Keio Museum Commons (East Annex)

Opening Hours: 11:00-18:00

Reservation: Advance reservation required. For more details: <https://bit.ly/3F5Axhn>

*Depending on the status of COVID-19, the exhibition period is subject to change.

Please check the exhibition website for the latest information (<https://bit.ly/3F5Axhn>).

2. About the Exhibition

“*Tangite me (Touch me)*” — perhaps an artwork in need of conservation tells us in this way. Normally, we are expected to keep our distance from artworks, to appreciate them without touching. But the conservation of artworks is not possible without getting up close and touching them directly. When an artwork says, “Touch me”, and we are permitted to do so, what is the appropriate response?

Keio University has long been involved in the conservation and restoration of the artworks in its collections. These works are diverse in materials and in their style of installation. They include a large marble statue that suffered damage along with the library in the Great Tokyo Air Raid, a mural that adorns the Mita Campus cafeteria after being relocated, and a 12-meter-long work made of cyanotype paper.

In this exhibition, we will focus on the various methods for conserving each artwork according to its characteristics, and aim to exchange ideas about conservation with you through a symposium and workshops. We hope that this program provides an opportunity to encounter artworks from the perspective of “touch” during the Pandemic that reduces direct contact among us.

3. Exhibitions Highlights

1. Ujihiro Okuma and Chokichi Suzuki, *Miniature Lighthouse, Gifted in Celebration of Fukuzawa Yukichi's 60th Birthday*, 1897
2. Michisei Kono, *Ashinoko Lake Scene, Hakone*
3. Isamu Noguchi, *Stool*, 1951
4. Natsuyuki Nakanishi, *General Catalogue of Males*, 1963
5. Shikai Kitamura, *The Maiden Tekona*, c.1909



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6. A conservator cleaning
The Maiden Tekona

4. Events

1. **Symposium | *Tangite me: Reconsidering Conservation during the Pandemic***
Saturday, November 6, 13:00–17:00 *Zoom Webinar (free / advance reservation required)
2. **Public Open Days of the Ex-Noguchi Room**
Monday, November 1–Saturday, November 6 (except 11/3 Wed.)
3. **Gallery Talk | Take a Closer Look at an Artwork with Conservator: *Miniature Lighthouse, Gifted in Celebration of Fukuzawa Yukichi's 60th Birthday***
Wednesday, November 17, 17:00–18:00 *Online (free / advance reservation required)
4. **Exhibition Record Book**
Scheduled for publishing in March of 2022

*For more details about each event: <https://bit.ly/3F5Axhn>

5. Venues and Access

Venues:

South Venue: Keio University Art Space (South Annex 1F)

East Venue: Keio Museum Commons (East Annex)

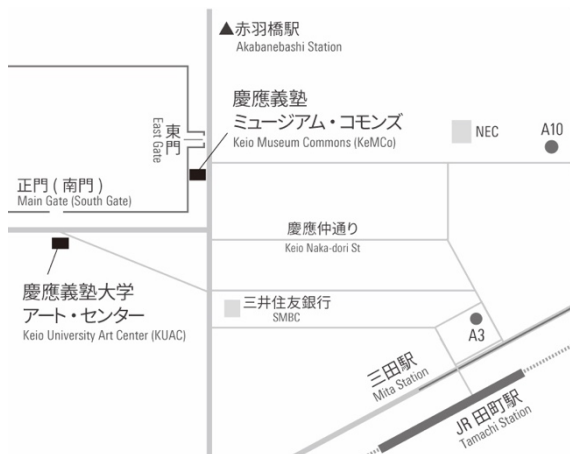
Address:

2-15-45 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8345

South Annex / East Annex, Keio University Mita Campus

Access:

- Tamachi Station (JR Yamanote Line / Keihin Tohoku Line) 8 minutes walk
- Mita Station (Toei Subway Asakusa Line / Mita Line) 7 minutes walk
- Akabanebashi Station (Toei Subway Oedo Line) 8 minutes walk



Keio University Art Center
(South Annex, Mita Campus)



Keio Museum Commons
(East Annex, Mita Campus)

6. Organizers

Organizers: Keio University Art Center, Keio Museum Commons, Keio Art Committee

Cooperation: Art Restoration Studio 21, Bronze Studio

※Please direct any requests or inquiries to the contact information provided below in advance.

Inquiries about press release:

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