

December, 2 2022
Keio University

KeMCo New Year Exhibition 2023
Where the Rabbits Are
Special Exhibit Featuring Kyoka's Favourites
(January 10 – February 9)

The year 2023 is the year of the rabbit in the Chinese zodiac.

To mark the beginning of the New Year, this exhibition introduces the rabbits hidden among the diverse collections of Keio University — from the familiar tales with rabbits, to objects that makes you wonder "is this really a rabbit?" We hope that you will visit this exhibition to delight in the depictions of rabbits from throughout history and in a wide range of media.

In cooperation with the Izumi Kyoka Kinenkan Museum, the exhibition introduces the rabbit collection of Kyoka Izumi, a novelist who was known for his love of rabbits, as well as works by members of his circle of friends, which they dubbed the "Ku-Ku-Ku Kai." This group included several artists, such as Kiyokata Kaburaki, Settai Komura, and Sabrosuke Okada, in addition to the authors Takitaro Minakami and Mantaro Kubota, who were both graduates of Keio University.

It is our hope that this exhibition provides visitors with an opportunity to experience the breadth of the Keio University collection through the lens of the interaction between Kyoka and his circle of friends.

1. Overview

Date: January 10 (Tue.) to February 9 (Thurs.) 2023 *Closed Saturdays and Sundays

*Special open days: January 21 (Sat.) & February 4 (Sat.).

**Closed on January 16 (Mon.) & Jan 30 (Mon.)

Venue: Keio Museum Commons (East Annex, Keio University Mita Campus)

Opening hours: 11:00—18:00

Admission: Free

Talk event: February 4 (Sat.), 13:30–15:00

Speakers: Tamaki Anakura (Curator, Izumi Kyoka Kinenkan Museum)

Peter Bernard (Assistant Professor, Keio University Faculty of Letters)

Venue: G-Lab, East Research Building, Keio University Mita Campus

Admission: Free, however advance registration is required

*We will host several special events during the exhibition.

Please check our website for the latest information: <https://kemco.keio.ac.jp/en/>

2. About the Exhibition

What words and images do you use to celebrate the new year? Well-wishes, major life updates, pictures of loved ones? For many, celebrating the new year includes images and reference to the oriental zodiac.

The Zodiac symbol for 2023 is the rabbit, which is familiar to us in many tales such as Alice in Wonderland and the Tortoise and the Hare. What kind of impressions do you have when you think of rabbits?

To celebrate the New Year, this exhibition shares a sampling of objects related to rabbits from the seven faculties based at Keio University's Mita Campus, guiding visitors into the cute but sometimes slightly dark world of rabbits.

The exhibition also displays items from the collection of Kyoka Izumi, a novelist who was known for his love of rabbits. Kyoka's Zodiac sign is the rooster, which is on the opposite side of the Zodiac circle to the rabbit, and he surrounded himself with a collection of rabbit objects, many of which were gifts from his acquaintances. The exhibit also explores Kyoka's personal life, highlighting his friendships with fellow members of the "Ku-Ku-Ku Kai".

3. Main works

1. *Kachi-kachi Yama (Kachi-Kachi Mountain)*, Y. Nishinomiya, Crepe-paper book, 1886
2. *Fables*, La Fontaine, Book, 1668
3. *Water Chestnut-Shaped Octagonal Mirror Depicting the Moon Palace*, Bronze, Tang dynasty (7th century)
4. *Mirror Case with Pampas Grass and Rabbits*, Lacquered wood with maki-e, Edo period (17th century)
5. *Chinese poetry* 「無所思還有所思…」, FUKUZAWA Yukichi, Ink on paper, 1883
6. *Angenehmer und nützlicher Zeit-Vertreib mit Betrachtung curioser Vorstellungen allerhand...Thiere*, Johann Daniel Meyer, Book, 1752
7. *Book of Hours in Latin*, Ink on Parchment, Southern Netherlands, mid-15 th century
8. *Chromatopoiema*, Yoshikuni Iida and Junzaburo Nishiwaki, Silkscreen, 1972
9. *Procession of Foolish King* from the performance "Hijikata Tatsumi and the Japanese: Rebellion of the Body", Mitsutoshi Hanaga, Gelatin silver print, 1968
10. Rabbits, Crystal
11. Rabbit-shaped Hand-warmer, Pottery
12. Stationery belonging to Kyoka Izumi
13. *Artworks for Selected Works of Kyoka*, Settai Komura, Colour on paper, 1915

Repository:

- 1, 2, 7, 8, 13 = Mita Media Center (Keio University Library),
3-4 = Keio University (Century Akao Collection),
5 = Calligraphic works of Yukichi Fukuzawa, Mita Media Center (Keio University Library),
6 = Hiroshi Aramata Natural History Book Collection, Mita Media Center (Keio University Library),
9 = Hijikata Tatsumi Archive at Keio University Art Center,
10-12 = Kyoka Izumi Collection, Mita Media Center (Keio University Library)



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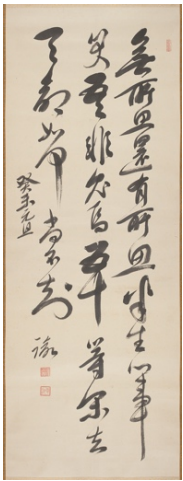
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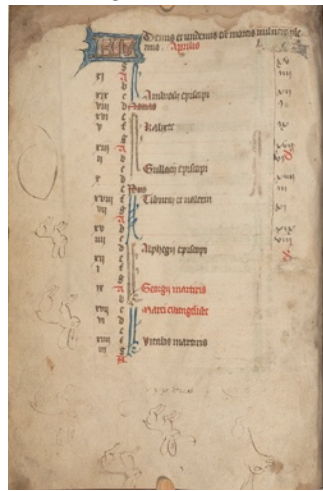
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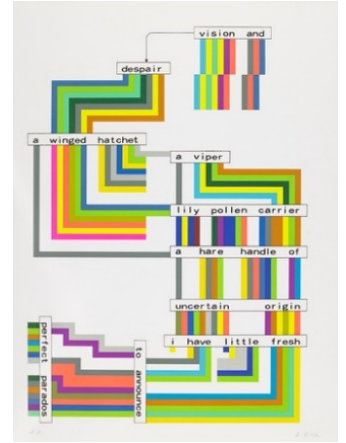
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9 (Photo: Mitsutoshi Hanaga)



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4. Venue and Access

Venue: Keio Museum Commons (Keio University Mita Campus East Annex)

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

East Annex, Keio University Mita Campus

Access: Tamachi Station (JR Yamanote Line/Keihin Tohoku Line) 8 minutes on foot

Mita Station (Toei Subway Asakusa Line/Mita Line) 7 minutes on foot

Akabanebashi Station (Toei Subway Oedo Line) 8 minutes on foot



Keio Museum Commons
(East Annex, Mita Campus)

5. Organisers

Organisers: Keio Museum Commons
Mita Media Center (Keio University Library)

Cooperation: Izumi Kyoka Kinenkan Museum
Keio University Art Center
Keio Institute of Oriental Classics (Shido Bunko)
Keio University Faculty of Letters, Department of Aesthetics and Science of Arts
Fukuzawa Memorial Center for Modern Japanese Studies, Keio University
Keio University Faculty of Letters Department of Archaeology and Ethnology

※Please direct any requests or inquires to the contact information provided below.

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