

Spring Special Exhibition Hiroshige's Travelscapes: Rain, Snow, and Man

広重の代表作
保永堂版
東海道
五拾三次
全図一挙公開

April 10 (Sun.) - May 22 (Sun.) 2022
at Exhibition Rooms of
Hosa Library and
The Tokugawa Art Museum



The Lake at Hakone. / Hoeido Tokaido version. (1832-1833)

INTRODUCTION

The landscape print artist Utagawa Hiroshige (1797–1858) was a pillar of the Ukiyo-e print tradition in the late Edo period along with fellow artist Katsushika Hokusai. The collection of Tokugawa Yoshitsugu, the 13th Lord of Owari, also includes a significant number of Hiroshige's landscape prints.

Around the age of 37, Hiroshige released the series *Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road*, Hoeidō edition, which became very popular, and he continued to produce landscape prints for the rest of his life, becoming a leading artist of the landscape genre. His landscapes range from images of Japan's major arterial roads, known as *kaidō-e*, which allow viewers to experience the feeling of traveling without leaving their homes, to *meisho-e* (literally, "pictures of famous places"), which depict well-known scenic spots in various regions of the country.

This exhibition introduces the full range of Hiroshige's landscape prints, which appeal to the viewer through their combination of various elements, such as season, weather, and time of day. We hope that you will enjoy the ingenuity and artistry of these travelscapes by Hiroshige.

PART 1

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, Hoeidō edition

Without question, this series is Hiroshige's masterpiece. In it, he reinterprets the world of landscape prints that Hokusai pioneered with his series *Thirty-six Views of Mt. Fuji* according to his own sensibilities, resulting in a world rich in lyrical sentiment. He wraps the scenery along his route in motifs and settings, such as rain, snow, fog, and dusk, that almost seem as if they could be the titles of popular songs. It is no wonder that this series has long held a special place in the hearts of the Japanese people. By empathizing with the subjects depicted in this work and becoming immersed in the pictures, viewers are able to enjoy the unparalleled experience of a vicarious trip around Japan.



Driving Rain at Shono. / *Hoeidō Tōkaidō* version. (1832-1833)

PART 2

The Tōkaidō Road

Before Hiroshige, Katsushika Hokusai was the first to illustrate the fifty-three stations of the Tōkaidō Road. However, when the Hoeidō edition of the Tōkaidō series became a hit, other publishers commissioned Hiroshige to create additional works featuring the Tōkaidō, and ultimately he produced a total of more than twenty different series of images of this subject. The prints vary in size, length, and width, but each series has its own unique appeal. In order to distinguish among the different series of Tōkaidō pictures, they are often referred to by abbreviations such as "the Hoeidō edition," the "Gyōshoban (semi-cursive) version," and so on.



No.9 Ōiso. / *Reisho Tōkaidō* version. (1849)

PART 3

The Sixty-nine Stations of the Kisokaidō

This work stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the *Tōkaidō* Hoeidō edition as one of Hiroshige's greatest landscape print series. The set of prints depicts each post town along the mountainous route of the Kisokaidō starting in Edo and proceeding through Takasaki, Karuizawa, Suwa, and Kisoji, then further to Sekigahara and then Ōtsu. The task of illustrating the series was shared between Hiroshige and Keisai Eisen. Despite the constraints of the mountainous terrain of this route, which offers little variation in scenery, Hiroshige skillfully used his signature motifs, such as rain, nighttime, and fog, to produce a number of masterpieces.

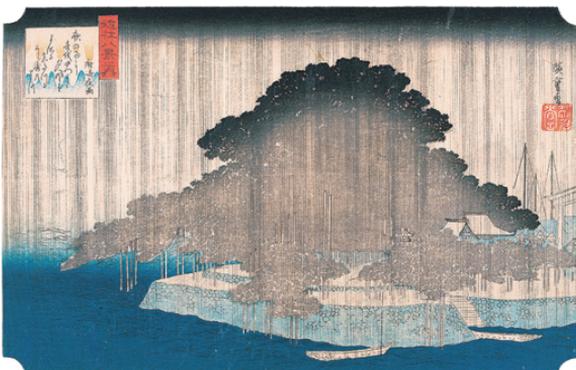


Miyanokoshi. / Sixty-nine Stations of the Kisokaidō Road. (1836-1838)

PART 4

Edo, Various Provinces, and Ise

Hiroshige depicted famous places in every part of Japan. Although he produced the most images of famous places in Edo (present-day Tokyo), he also depicted a wide range of other famous places, such as the traditional painting subject of the "Eight Views of Ōmi," as well as famous places in Kyoto and Osaka, series of pictures of Mount Fuji, and the *Famous Places in the Sixty-odd Provinces*, a collection of famous places all over Japan. It would have been impossible for him to visit all of the locations in person, and his designs were often borrowed from illustrated travel guides, but through his ingenuity Hiroshige generated numerous masterpieces. Since the collection lending the works is located in Mie Prefecture, this exhibition also includes images of the Ise region.



Night Rain at Karasaki. / Eight Views of Ōmi. (1834)

Hiroshige's works featured in this exhibition

No.1-No.55 東海道五十三次之内 (保永堂版) <ca.1832-1833>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, *Hoeidō Tōkaidō* version.
Publisher: Takenouchi Magohachi (Hoeidō) and Tsuruya Kiemon (Senkakudō)

No.56-No.65 東海道五十三次之内 (行書版) <1842>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Gyōsho Tōkaidō* from the style in which the title is written.
Publisher: Ezakiya Tatsuzō and Ezakiya Kichibei

No.66-No.73 東海道 (隸書版) <1849>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Reisho Tōkaidō* from the style in which the title is written.
Publisher: Maruya Seijirō

No.74-No.81 東海道五拾三次 (狂歌入) <1842>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Kyōka-iri Tōkaidō* because on each print has a comic poem (*kyōka*).
Publisher: Sanoya Kihei

No.82-No.89 東海道 (人物東海道) <1852>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Jinbutsu (Figure) Tōkaidō*.
Publisher: Murataya Ichigorō

No.90-No.97 五十三次名所図会 (豎絵東海道) <1855>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as the *Tate-e (Vertical) Tōkaidō* from the portrait (vertical) orientation of the prints.
Publisher: Tsutaya Kichizō

No.98-No.104 双筆五十三次 <1854-1857>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Sōhitsu (Two Brushes) Gojūsan-tsugi*, by Hiroshige and Kunisada (Toyokuni III)
Publisher: Maruya Kyūshirō

No.105-No.108 東海道五十三対 <ca.1843-1846>

Fifty-three Pairings for the Tōkaidō Road; the traditions and historical characters associated with the stations of the Tōkaidō.
Publisher: Ibay Senzaburō

No.109-No.116 東海道五拾三次之内 (有田屋版東海道) <ca.1843-1847>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as *Aritaya-ban Tōkaidō*.
Publisher: Aritaya Seiemon

No.117-No.119 東海道張交図会 <ca.1847-1852>

Cutout Pictures of the Tōkaidō Road.
Publisher: Ibay Senzaburō

No.120-No.122 東海道五十三図会 (美人東海道) <ca.1850-1851>

The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, known as the *Bijin (Beauty) Tōkaidō*.
Publisher: Fujiokaya Keijirō

No.123-No.132 木曾海道六拾九次之内 <ca.1836-1838>

The Sixty-nine Stations of the Kisokaidō Road.
Publisher: Takenouchi Magohachi (Hoeidō) and Iseya Rihei (Kinjudō)

No.133-No.139 江戸の名所

Famous Places in Edo.

No.140-No.145 諸国の名所

Famous Places in Various Provinces.

No.146-No.148 伊勢

Ise Province.



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