

2009 Summer Exhibitions

Tales of the Buddhas (North Wing)

From the Lands of Oxus (South Wing, China Gallery)

Saturday, July 11 to Sunday, August 16, 2009

A long, long time ago, an Indian prince named Siddhartha went out of his castle and discovered men living in poverty, suffering illness, old age and eventually death. After realising that human beings cannot escape such fate,



Prince Siddhartha went on to seek a way to overcome these sufferings and achieved enlightenment. Today, his teachings are known as Buddhism with many followers around the world, especially in Japan and China.



Segment from *Illustrated Sutra of Cause and Effect* Nara Period, 8th century

This scene depicts the historic Buddha Sakyamuni, dressed here as a monk, preaching to the Zoroastrians.

Bactria and Sogdiana,

which prospered along the Oxus

River in Central Asia, were known since ancient time for supplying precious metals and stones as well as

Golden Light of the Most Victorious King Sutra, Volume 2 Nara Period, 8th century

This sutra was hand copied with gold paint onto paper that was dyed dark purple. It is said that wild boar tusk was used to polish the gold letters to make them lustrous.

for bridging the ancient cultures between the East and the West. This extensive cultural exchange in time influenced the creation of the cosmopolitan culture of the Tang Dynasty. This exhibition proudly

features five ancient Bactria and Sogdian masterpieces from the Tajikistan National Museum of Archaeology as well as over 100 pieces from ancient Persia to Tang Dynasty-China, covering a span of more than a thousand years.



**Four-Armed Deity (wall painting)
Excavated from Panjikent, 6th-8th century
Tajikistan National Museum of Archaeology**

The Sogdians borrowed images of Indian gods to depict their own deities. Multi-armed gods were originally gods of combat and protection. This figure represents a heroic god.

2009 Schedule Autumn Exhibition : September 1 to December 13, 2009

「**Jakuchu Wonderland**」 (North Wing)

「**From the lands of Oxus**」 (South Wing, China Gallery)

MIHO MUSEUM Facilities

The Miho Museum has gift shops, a cafe room and restaurant. An audio guide to the exhibits and a special project for children are available.

◎ Gift Shop (South Wing, North Wing, Reception pavilion)

Many original goods and handmade items are on sale at the museum.



◎ Restaurant & Tea room

At both the Miho Museum restaurant and café, the finest natural ingredients are carefully selected and used to prepare all the dishes. Lunchboxes for groups are available by advanced reservation only. (Five days notice is required)



Pine View (basement)



◎ Learning

Audio guide (rental fee : 500 yen)

Japanese, English, Chinese

You can listen to a short commentary on 85 works from the permanent collection.



Audio Visual room (Basement)

Japanese, English, Chinese, German, Korean, French

A video and various commentaries about the Miho Museum architecture and art works are available.

《 For further information . . . 》

MIHO MUSEUM information@miho.or.jp

Tel : +81-748-82-3411 Fax : +81-748-82-3414

Sightseeing spots around the MIHO MUSEUM

Near the Miho Museum is a Natural Agriculture farm which provides fresh vegetables to the museum, as well as architecture designed by I.M. Pei. We invite you to visit these places if you have time.



The Natural Agriculture Farm, *Shigaraki no Sato*

Approaching the main drive leading to the museum complex, is *Shigaraki no Sato*, a Natural Agriculture farm on which two vintage *kominka* (traditional Japanese farmhouses) stand. Both of these homes are many generations old. They were relocated to the site and have been fully restored. Simply by being inside one of these *kominka*, you can rediscover the harmonious accord that the farmers once held with nature - a sense that contemporary society unfortunately has long forgotten.



«For more information» **Specified Nonprofit Organization Shumei Natural Agriculture Network**

Tel: +81-748-82-7855 www.snn.or.jp/index.php (Japanese)

The Principles of Natural Agriculture www.shumei.org/agriculture/principles.html

The Bell Tower designed by I.M. Pei, called *The Joy of Angels*

The Joy of Angels was built on this Shumei site in 1990. It, as well as the Miho Museum, was designed by I.M. Pei. This monument is modelled in the shape of a shamisen pick and is 59 metres tall. It contains 50 bells. A peaceful melody is automatically played three times a day. There is also a group of stone sculptures designed to represent heaven's gate, a waterfall designed by Nagare Masayuki, a Japanese moss garden, and a plum garden at this site. The site is private property and not usually open to the public, but it may be possible to visit, depending on the day. Please contact the museum to arrange a tour of this magnificent place.



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