



Art Appreciation Lecture Series 2019
Being human: The figure in art

More than human: supernatural bodies in Japanese art
Melanie Eastburn

18/19 September 2019

Lecture summary: The paranormal beings of Japan began to take their current popular forms in the 1770s. This lecture introduces some of the extraordinary supernatural creatures populating Japanese art – from ghosts to shapeshifting foxes.

Slide list

1. KITAZAWA Hideta (b1968) *kagura* mask of a fox, *kyōgen* mask of a *kappa*, *kagura* mask of a demon (*oni*), 2013–18, cypress and paulownia, paint; carving
2. Toriyama SEKIEN (1712–88) *Night procession of the hundred demons*, 1776, book, MFA, Boston
3. SEKIEN, *Night procession of the hundred demons*, handscroll, MFA, Boston
4. Utagawa KUNIYOSHI (1797–1861) *The earth spider conjures up demons at the mansion of the regent Minamoto no Yorimitsu* c1843, colour woodblock print, NLA
5. Tsukioka YOSHITOSHI (1839–92) *Kusunoki Tamonmaru vanquishing the old badger* 1860, colour woodblock print, Mia
6. Itaya HIROHARU (1831–82) *Night procession of the hundred demons* c1860, handscroll; ink and colour on paper, AGNSW, Asian Collection Benefactors Fund 1995
7. Kawanabe KYŌSAI (1831–89) *Kyōsai's illustrations of the hundred demons* 1890, book, NLA
8. Isao TAKAHATA (director, 1935–2018) *Pom Poko* (still) 1994 / HIROHARU *Night procession ...*
9. Utagawa KUNIYOSHI *Mitsukuni defies the skeleton spectre conjured up by Princess Takiyasha* 1845–46, colour woodblock print, British Museum
10. KUNIYOSHI *Tanuki fishing ... & Tanuki in a shower* c1843–44, colour woodblock print, MFA, Boston
11. Masaki KOBAYASHI (director, 1916–1996) *Kwaidan* (stills) 1964
12. Miwa YANAGI (b1967) *Hitotsuya* 2006 from the series *Fairy tale*, gelatin silver print
13. YOSHITOSHI *The lonely house at Adachigahara in Ōshū* 1885, colour woodblock print, NGA / YOSHITOSHI *Moon of the lonely house* 1890, colour woodblock print, AGNSW
14. YANAGI *Hitotsuya* / KUNIYOSHI *The dutiful girl of the lonely house* 1843–47, woodblock print, NLA
15. YANAGI *Gretel* 2004 from the series *Fairy tale*, gelatin silver print, private collection
16. YOSHITOSHI *Picture of the demon disguised as an old woman ...* 1885, colour woodblock print, Mia
17. Shibata ZESHIN (1807–91) *Ibaraki* 1882, folding screens; ink, colour and gold on paper, Mia
18. YOSHITOSHI *The old woman retrieves her arm* 1889, colour woodblock print, AGNSW
19. Utagawa YOSHIMORI (1830–84) *The tongue-cut sparrow* 1864, colour woodblock print, AGNSW
20. YOSHITOSHI *The greedy old woman* 1865, colour woodblock print, Mia / HŌMEI, *Opening a treasure box*, ivory with lacquer and inlay, AGNSW
21. YOSHITOSHI *The lucky tea kettle of Morin Temple* 1892, colour woodblock print, AGNSW / *The enlightenment of Jigoku-dayū* 1890, colour woodblock print, Mia
22. KYŌSAI *Hell Courtesan (Jigoku-dayū)* early–mid 1880s, hanging scroll; ink, metallic pigments, and colour on silk, AGNSW Foundation, with funds from the Jean Milner and Mary Tancred bequests

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23. KYŌSAI *Hell Courtesan* (detail) / *Writing box with Hell Courtesan robe* c1850–70, lacquer, Met. Museum
24. KYŌSAI *Kyōsai's treatise on painting* 1887, woodblock-printed book, NLA
25. *Jacket (haori)* Shōwa period, 1930–50s, crepe silk; paste-resist dyeing, AGNSW / *Under-kimono (nagajuban)* Shōwa period, mid 1900s, crepe silk; paste-resist dyeing, Met. Museum
26. Fuyuko MATSUI (b1974) *Joining the conversion, The parasite will not abandon the body & Unification of the four limbs* 2011, hanging scrolls; colour on silk, collection of the artist
27. KYŌSAI *Dokuro to tokage* 1869–70, private collection
28. MATSUI *Nyctalopia* 2018, hanging scroll; colour on silk / YOSHITOSHI *Ghost* late 1800s, hanging scroll; ink and colour on silk, Mia
29. Chiho AOSHIMA (b1974) various works, watercolour on paper
30. Katsushika HOKUSAI (1760–1849) *The ghost of Kohada Koheiji* and *The mansion of plates* from the series *One hundred ghost stories (Hyaku monogatari)* c1831–32, colour woodblock prints, Mia
31. Suzuki KASON (1860–1919) and Terasaki KŌGYŌ (1866–1919) *Ghosts* 1900, pair of hanging scrolls; ink and light colour on silk, Mia
32. Utagawa KUNIMUNE II (1792–1857) *Kuzunoha: writing a farewell poem to her child* c1830, hanging scroll; ink and colours on silk, AGNSW, purchased with funds donated by Tony Schlosser 2019
33. Takashi MURAKAMI (b1962)
- 34–35. MURAKAMI *In the Land of the Dead, Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow* 2014, acrylic on canvas mounted on wood panels, The Broad Art Foundation, Los Angeles
36. Itō JAKUCHU (1716–1800) *Elephant and whale* 1795, pair of folding screens, Miho Museum
37. Soga SHŌHAKU (1730–81) *Immortals* 1764, pair of folding screens, Bunkacho
38. MURAKAMI (b1962) *Embodiment of 'A' & Embodiment of 'Um'* 2014, fibre-reinforced plastic, stainless steel, zelkova wood and acrylic
39. Soga SHŌHAKU (1730–81) *Sessen-dōji offering his life to an ogre*, 1764
40. MIZUKI Shigeru (1922–2015) *Hiratsuka* 2008 from the series *Fifty-three stations of the Yōkaidō* 2008 colour woodblock print, AGNSW, Yasuko Myer Bequest Fund 2019
41. KUNIYOSHI *Mitsukuni defies the skeleton spectre conjured up by Princess Takiyasha* 1845–46
42. MIZUKI, *Nihonbashi*, 2008, AGNSW / Utagawa HIROSHIGE, *Nihonbashi* 1833-34 Brooklyn Museum
43. MIZUKI, *Shono*, colour woodblock print, 2008, AGNSW

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