



❁ A Great Step Forward ❁

Richard Steiner, President

This year's highlight, the main one of several events actually, has to be the acquisition at last of a proper storage area and print preparation space. I designed and build with others a sturdy rack to hold the Collection, a long exhibition preparation table, the set-up for photographing works for the Collection's archive department, and some more necessary items to bring the space to nearly perfection.

None of this would have been possible without the generous donations we received for the Storage Campaign. The names of the donors are on the KIWA homepage <<http://www.kiwa.net>> . We thank them all with true sincerity.

The 6th KIWA Exhibition is scheduled for spring, 2011, and we have already started to receive prints. From this exhibition we are planning on making a new division for Japanese artists in order to meet the demand of requests for future world KIWA Exhibition tours. The closing date for applications to #6 will be the end of July, 2010.



❁ Rack assembling ❁



We made it!

I participated in the KIWA Collection's rack-building crew in June. Following the plan that our president, Mr. Steiner, designed, we cut pipes in various lengths and assembled them together. Everything was quite new to me.

The pipes were jointed one by one, and through a long process of trial and error, frames and shelves took shape. Finally, a gigantic rack appeared just the same as the original design. It was, indeed, an interesting experience for me, and I truly enjoyed the whole process.

Since the rack occupies a lot of space in the storage area, our room looks a little smaller now. I look forward to seeing our Collection being properly placed on the rack.

(M. Morino)



Report on 2009 KIWA Activities

Spring Event: Accordion Book Making Workshop

For our Spring Event, we invited Ms. Reiko Amano to come and teach us how to make an accordion book. About 20 people attended this wonderful class and enjoyed making their own unique books.



Special Monthly Meeting

Our monthly meeting is usually held at the president's house on a Friday night. Around half past six, members drop in one by one after their work. While having dinner, we discuss the long list of items on the agenda. To our surprise, we always suddenly notice that the clock shows it's already past eleven. "Time flies! Sometimes, we need to have an easy and relaxed gathering!" Responding to such an utterance, one of the members suggested we hold a meeting at her parents' hotel and spa located on the shores of Lake Biwa.

We arrived at the hotel in the late morning of an early July day. We enjoyed the hot spa overlooking Lake Biwa, an excellent lunch and a home-brewed beer in the friendly atmosphere. Of course, we didn't forget the real purpose: we had discussions on our on-going projects, but this time, in a leisurely pace. On the train back, we enjoyed the feeling of fullness and our smooth skin. (K. Steiner)



Special Event: Hasan Kiran's Talk

In February, Mr. Hasan Kiran from Turkey came to give us a presentation entitled "Visual Implications of Shamanistic Images" introducing his latest prints.

He is a university teacher and a woodblock print artist. He won KIWA's Sirius Prize in 2003 and visited Kyoto during the exhibition. He "discovered" the Japanese way to make woodblock prints then. He came to study at the graduate course of the Tokyo University of Arts the following years, where he presented a doctoral dissertation and produced a series of large-scaled prints using water-based pigment and Japanese paper. He showed us the very interesting world of Turkish Shamanism through his large-scale prints.

He married a beautiful Japanese woman in March. Congratulations!



The 2009 Fund-raising Campaign Report

We have received generous donations from many people. Here is the present total as of this issue:

**Total donations:
358,700 yen from 28 individuals.**

The repair of the storage room has been completed; however, our Collection will continue to grow. We welcome any donation amount, any time. Please use the following 15 digit account number for this purpose.

Thank you very much for your continued cooperation. (Y. Shimode)

Chase Bank
Account name: Richard Steiner
Account number: 000004221440532

About Mr. Takeda

On a very hot mid-August day, I bid farewell to Mr. Kosuke Takeda at his funeral in Darumaji Temple, Kyoto. Mr. Takeda was one of the important core staff members. He used to come to our monthly meetings regularly by bicycle with freshly-grilled, hot octopus dumplings in his hand. He was a very generous man with a joyful spirit, and also fond of drinking beer. His contribution to KIWA was significant. He was in charge of the KIWA Collection archive, taking pictures of all the prints sent to us, putting them into the computer, and making a fine Collection catalog. We all will miss his presence. We pray for the repose of his soul. (H. Hirohata)



■Editor's note:

Due to various reasons, the publication of TOPICS No. 3 has been delayed. We are sorry about this. However, in this beautiful foliage season, we could finally come to publish it. The leaves will fall soon and return to the soil, then come to life again in the spring. That is the nature of all creation. With this in mind, we offer our sincere prayers for the repose of Mr. Takeda's soul. (F. Haritani)

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