HIROSHIGE

An Exhibition of Colour Prints from the collection of

Frank Lloyd Wright

ARCHIVES

The Art Institute of Chicago

March the twenty-ninth
Nineteen hundred six

O OBSCURE is the origin of the mass of work bearing the name of Hiroshige; so conflicting and useless is most so-called expert testimony concerning the chronology and proper assignation of the color prints here represented to a single artist or group of artists, that attributions of this nature can be little better than speculation. The real virtue of the work is none the less apparent and qualified to speak for itself; for properly considered it is the art not of a Hiroshige merely but of a people.

The appeal that it makes is a spiritual one unlikely to be heard by western materialism with more than amused tolerance. It is too restrained, too chaste, for our immediate comprehension. It has little in common with the literal. It is far removed from literature. It is in kind a delicate musical instrument that has no need of lifted dampers nor loud pedals, nor does it need fleshly shade nor materialistic shadow. It is in itself a pure, loving sentiment, reserved and restrained as Shinto, serene as Buddhism.

The phase of art presented in this collection is that of the artisan class, the common people in the strict sense of the term, and attests the infinite delight, the inherent poetic grace not of the Japanese nobleman but of the hard-worked, humble son of Nippon of seventy-five years ago. His face was deeply furrowed with pleasant lines and tanned the texture and color of brown leather; he wore out patiently and soon;—yet this art, in which he found delight, shows that he was a MAN,—not a slave!

This proof of spiritual quality so near to the heart of a people who have made a harmonious unit of their land and their life becomes daily more precious as our own pet commercial expedients sweep it forever into a past fast becoming dim—never to be reclaimed. Entirely lost it will never be for already it is become a timely ferment in the artist mind of our own epoch. It is no longer the sequestered art of an isolated people but one of the most valuable contributions ever made to the art of the world.

Frank Lloyd Wright

- OMI HAKKEI. (Eight views of Lake Biwa, province of Omi.) "Hakkei," a poetic form or graphic sonata consisting of a group of eight views of some famous locality, fixed by custom as follows:
 - 1. Outgoing Ships at Dawn.—Awazu.
 - 2. The Music of the Wind (sometimes Twilight Reverie).
 - 3. Incoming Ships, Sunset.
 - 4. The Evening Bell.
 - 5. The Evening Rain, Karasaki.
 - 6. An Autumnal Moon.
 - 7. Homing Geese.
 - 8. Snow at Evening. Hira.

The views sometimes varied as themes were varied in the sonata form, but usually approximate the foregoing arrangement.

KINKO HAKKEI. Neighborhood of Yedo.

- 9. A Spring Rain (Midnight.)
- 10. The Autumn Moon Over the Tamagawa.
- The Evening Bell ("A gentle breeze at evening").
- 12. The Evening Snow Over the Cherry Hill Asukayama ("Surpassing the cherry blossoms").

KANAZAWA HAKKEI.

- 13. Geese Coming Down (oyster gatherers).
- 14. Incoming Boats.
- 15. Snow Scene. (Evening) Uchikawa.
- 16. The Evening Bell. Bansho.
- Calm After Storm Dripping Willows. Susaki.
- **KYOTO MEISHO.** "Meisho"—meaning a collection of celebrated views, usually including views of famous localities, in all changing seasons.

- 17. Kinkaku-ji. The Golden Palace.
- Cooling Off at Evening—The River Bed of Shijo.
- 19. Kiyomidzu Temple, in cherry blossom time.
- 20. Red Maples Along Tori-yama Bridge.
- 21. Home Coming of Fagot Gatherers.
- 22. The Willow-Shimbara exit of Yoshiwara.
- 23. A Night Passenger Boat on the Yodo.
- 24. A Shower on the Kawabara.
- 25. In the Snow-Gion Temple.
- 26. Cherry Blossoms by the Rapids—Yoshimo (a later print completing the set).

 An early printing of a delightful series of views of the ancient capital.

HONCHO MEISHO.

- 27. Cave Temple; Soshu, province of Sagami.
 TOTO MEISHO-I—Signed Ichiyusai Hiroshighe.
 Toto or Yedo (now Tokyo.)
 - 28. The First Snow of Susaki.
 - 29. A Lotus Pond of Shinobagu.
 - 30. Cherry Flowers at Dawn. A very early work showing traces in color and drawing of Hokusai.

ROKA MEISHO ZUYE Osaka Meisho.

- Osaka—a manufacturing community dedevoted to trade. Characteristic scenes of the streets and busy water fronts.
- 32. Arrival of freight boats at Ikkamya.
- 33. Trading in rice at the rice market of Dojima.
- 34. A View of Dentonbari District.
- 35. A Night Fair on Junker-machi.
- 36. The Peerless Pine of Naniwaya.
- The Girls' Procession on Kunken Street— Shinmachi.

- 38. A Fish Market.
- 39. A Toka-ebisu Temple Festival.
- The Annual Flower Celebration on Tenjiu Hill—Yasui.
- SETSU-GEKKA. Set of three—Snow, Moon and Flower.
 - 41. Snow—Bensaiten Temple.
 - 42. Cherry Trees in Full Bloom.
 - 43. The Moon, Rising over the River.
 - 44. Azuma Temple.
 - Cherry Blossom Celebration—The Sumidagawa.

NIHON MINATO ZUKUSHI. (Japanese Harbor Collection.)

46. The Mouth of the Aji River.

YEDO MEISHO.

47. Cherry Flowers in Rain. On the bank of the Sumida River.

YEDO MEISHO.

48. The Plum Garden-Kameido.

- OMI HAKKE—Signed Hiroshige Second generation.
 - 49. Twilight Scene-The Evening Bell.
 - 50. Evening Rain-"In the stillness."
 - 51. The Autumnal Moon at Ishiyama (Rocky Hill).
 - 52. Snow at Night-Hira.
 - 53. The Summer Moon.
- SAUKAI MITATE SUMO. A set of views wherein Mountains and Ocean are compared with Wrestlers.
 - 54. Yukayama—Bizen.
 - 55. Sea Shell Gatherers at Twilight off Bensaiten.

SUMIDA HAKKEI.

56. Dusk at Mimegri.

YEDO-MEISHO.

- 57. Hachiman (Shinto Temple).
- 58. Flowers in Rain.
- 59. Moon at Takanawa.
- The Rising Sun on New Year's Day— Susaki.
- Picnicking Under the Cherry Flowers— Noble Hill.
- 62. On the Way to Sumiyo Temple.
- 63. Spring Scene Along the Sumida.
- 64. Cooling Off at Evening-Ryogoku Bridge.
- Spring at Benten Temple—Shinobazu Pond, Ueyno.
- 66. A Snow Scene Around "the Tea Water."
- 67. Flower Garden at Asakusa.

TOTO-MEISHO.

- 68. Nihonbashi in Rain (Famous View of Fuji).
- 69. Snowy Morn on Sumida River.
- 70. Scene in "Theatre Street"-Nicho machi.
- 71. Evening Recreation.—Ryogoku Bridge.
- Drinking to the Cherry Blossoms on the Sumidagawa.
- 73. Cherry Blossoms at Night-Yoshiwara.
- Drinking to the Mume (plum flowers) in Garden of Kameido.
- 75. Snow in the Temple Garden-Kameido.
- 76. At Evening-Takanawa.
- 77. Spring Dawn at Uyeno.
- 78. Pilgrims at Fudo Temple.
- 79. Rainbow over Yodo and the Bay—From Atago Hill.
- 80. Cryptomeria and Cherry-Inari Temple.

TOTO MEISHO.

- Calm after Snow—Temple Garden of Kanda.
- Cherry Blossoms at Night—Shin Yoshiwara.
- 83. Fishing Boats in Tsukuda Water.

KISO KAIDO—SIXTY-NINE POST STA-TIONS. (Main Path) A great highway of Old Japan.—A number of the prints in this series signed by Keisai Yeisen.

84. Snow-laden Travelers at Oi.

85. Itahama in Snow-By Keisai Yeisen.

86. Bamboo and Birds of Meiji.

87. Fagot Gatherers at Evening Seeking Rest.

88. Going Home by Moonlight.

89. Moonlight at Araima.

90. A Sudden Rainstorm at Suwara.

91. Tired Travelers by Moonlight.

92. Cryptomerias of Mochizuki.

93. Wada-Snow.

94. Wood Cutters at Rest.

95. Evening at Shinmachi.

96. Inspection Gate at Fukushima.

BIRDS AND FLOWERS—Literal translation of script.

97. Hibiscus. "Just after the setting of the moon in the marning."

98. A Pair of Ducks. "Picking goose rice."

99. Wistaria at Rest. "Troubled by no Breeze."

100. Wild Carnation Courted by Butterfly.

101. Finch and Wistaria.

102. Wistaria at rest.

103. Spring at Osaki. "Many birds circling among the plum blossoms."

104. "Hibiscus Bathed in a beautiful moon." Kingfisher and other birds.

105. Wild Wistaria "Overhanging the Valley."

106. Red Camelia and Finches.

107. Snow! "Thou art beautiful, far superior to the bird with its glorious plumage and a splendid crown on its head."

108. Pine. "Flourishing after dews and covered by many frosts yet showing deep green during a thousand years." 109. A Moon with Geese Coming Down.

110. "A Wild Duck Quacks! Unruffled is the Bosom of the Water."

111. "Frogs Singing Beneath Yamabuki Flowers in Spring Showers."

112. "Snow White the Herons Fly O'er the Iris."

- 113. "An Owl Harkens to the Music of the Wind in the Pine as the New Moon Goes Slowly Down."
- 114. A Cuckoo. "Crying in a Shower." Yozaki.
- 115. A Nightingale Singing in the Wistaria Blossoms.
- 116. "Oh the Beautiful Moon! A Cry Brings Before Clouds a Pair of Geese!"
- 117. "A cuckoo Sings Once Outside the Twilight Clouds." "Beneath in the jungle of autumnal plants are myriads of bright, watery fire-flies."

118. "A calm night with full moon—dewdrops over the grass, hares enjoying all, though they are tired and would sleep."

118A. Yedo Meisho. Lonely Raftsman on the Sumidagawa in Winter.

119. "Up high beyond, there the wistaria blossoms!"

120. Cuckoo, pine and moon.

121. Fruit and bird.

122. Wistaria.

123. Wistaria.

TOTO MEISHO.

124. A Bright Autumnal Moon—A flock of geese descending. Shinyoshiwata.

125. Rain about Azumabashi—east of Asakusa.

TOKAIDA-FIFTY-THREE POST STA-

TIONS. The ancient highway from Yedo (Tokyo) to Kyoto.

126. Nihonbashi (Japan bridge). Daimyo procession starting for Kyoto. No. 1 of Series.

127. A Ferry at Sunset.

128. The Bluff at Kanagawa.

120. Evening at Shinmach-bashi.

130. A Tea House (sign Komeya).

131. Slight Rain.

132. Lake Hakone (Fuji).

133. Morning Mists.

134. Belated Mnistrels.

135. "Fujisan at the Left,"

136. Evening Snow.

137. Sotta Pass.

138. Letter Ferry Crossing Okitsu.

130. Miho Pines and the Sea.

140. A Tea House.

141. Morning Tea.

142. Ferry in the Mist.

143. A Daimyo's Pleasure Boat.

144. Daimyo Approaching.

145. Ferry at Hichiri.

146. Windy Day.

147. Temple Ishiyakushiji.

148. Rainstorm.

149. Snowy Morn.

150. Daimyo-kan Inspection Gate.

151. Spring Rain Daimyo Procession with Rain Covers.

152. Toyokawa Bridge.

153. Fishing Scene.

3. Kawasaki.

4. Kanagawa.

5. Hodogava.

6. Totsuka.

q. Oiso.

II. Hakone.

12. Mishima.

13. Nunnagu.

15. Yoshiwara.

16. Kambara.

17. Yui.

18. Okitsu.

19. Yejiri.

21. Marucho.

28. Fukuroi.

29. Mitsuke.

32. Arai.

38. Fujikawa.

43. Kuwana.

44. Yokkaichi.

45. Ishiyakushi.

46. Shoya.

47. Kameyama.

48. Seki.

50. Tsuchigama.

35. Yoshida.

31. Maizaka.

FUJI SANJU-ROK KEI—Thirty-six Views of Fujisan.

154. Twilight.

155. Cherry Trees on the Bank of the Sumida.

156. Over the Sea of Setta-Saruga Province.

MEISHO YEDO HYAKKEI. Hundred Views of Yedo.

157. A Wide Expanse of Snow. Susaki.

158. Snow in the Garden of Asakusa Temple.

159. A Summer Shower over Ohashi (Great Bridge).

160. From Under the Cherry Flowers.

161. "The Last Night of the Year." Fire Foxes Under Enoki.

162. "In the Snow." Wild Boar Restaurant on left, on right a Sweet Potato Shop.

163. Wistaria Garden-Kameido.

164. Moonlight. Saruwaka-cho.

 Evening Snow. Drum Bridge (Daikobashi).

166. Fireworks—Ryogoku.

TOTO SANJU-ROK KEI.

167. Early Moonlight on the Band of Sumidagawa.

168. "In the Garden." Temmangu.

169. Fishing Boats at Night; Tsukudajima.

170. The Viaduct—Tea Water (Ocha-no-Mizu).

171. "Just After the Snow." Kard Temple Garden.

172. Temple Scene at Yanagishima.

173. A Light Shower Near Uyeno.

174. A Morning Mist. Zojojiu Temple.

175. Red Maples-Temple Garden.

176. Temple Majichiyama in Snow.

177. Yushima Temple in Snow, Yedo Beyond.

ROKU-JU-YO-SHU. Meisho Zuye.

- 178. Rainstorm—Yamabuki Valley.
- 179. Oyoshiro-"The great Temple" Izumo.
- 180. Snowy Morning over the Sumida-gawa.
- 181. Maiko Pines-Shore of Harima.
- 182. Snow-covered Island. Iki.
- 183. Red Maples about Sarubashi (Lit. Monkey Bridge).
- 184. Uramino-Taki. The Waterfall that may be seen from behind.

CHUSHINGURA. Forty-seven Ronin, or Royal Heroes.

- 185. The Fifth Act.
- 186. The Eighth Act.

SHOKOKU-MEISHO.

187. "The Sweep of Foam on Maiko's Famous Shore."

YOSHITSUNE ICHIDA ZUYE Life Career of Yoshitsune.

188. Lady Tokiwa Wanders with Her Two Boys in Winter (First of the Series.)

TOKAIDO. Fifty-three Post Stations.

- 189. Sailing Boats in Yedo Bay.
- 190. Travelers by Moonlight-Akasaka.
- 191. Main Road of Tokai.
- 192. The (Three Mile Sea) Asai.
- 193. At Dusk-Pilgrims at Mizuguchi.
- 194. Ejiri in Winter.
- 195. Daimyo Procession Caught in Rain. Isuchiyama.
- 196. Pass at Ishiyakushi in Winter.
- 197. The Sea at Imakiri.
- 198. The Main Road at Fukuroi.
- 199. Wayside Inn. Eating Rice. Sign reads Famous Rice, Fish, etc.

- 200. Traveling Along the Main Road. Totsuka Pass.
- 201. Ferry for Travelers. Fujiye.
- 202. Ferry at the Irimagawa.
- 203. Snowy Mount of Kiso.
- 203A. Waves of Naruto. Triptych.

OMI HAKKEI. By Fusa Tane.

- 204. Outgoing Boats.
- 205. Boats Coming into the Harbor of Awatsu.
- 206. Evening Bell of Mii.
- 207. Evening Rain over the Pine at Karasaki.
- 208. The Autumnal Moon-Ischiyama.
- 200. Homing Geese. Katata.
- 210. Snow at Dusk-Hira.
- 211. Snow Scene by Kesai Yeisen.
- 212. Snow-covered "Mume." "Snow, Plum and Sake," by Kesai Yeisen.
- 213. Spring-Plum, Moon and Nightingale, by Kesai Yeisen.

In letter and in spirit the drawings for the most part are true delineations of specific localities.