

Washi paper museum

The Abe Eishiro Memorial Hall

Eishiro Abe himself established the Memorial Hall in October 1983 in order to spread the art of handmade Japanese paper. The folk art collection and the papermaking research materials that he was so passionate about are on public exhibition here.

There is also a hands-on workshop where everyone—from children to adults—can experience papermaking. Every year children come to make their own graduation certificates, and many visitors from abroad come to learn about Japanese paper.

Bernard Leach 1887-1979

International ceramic artist. Travelled Japan and the world, offering guidance and instruction. Played a bridging role in cultural exchange between East and West.

Shiko Munakata 1903-1975

Known for his bohemian touch and his bold, violent expression. Won top awards at the Sao Paulo and Venice Biennale international art exhibitions. Munakata was said to belong to the world.



Golden box with illustration of the Imperial Palace



Round paper cushion



Crafted gourd-shaped gunpowder container



Hat woven from paper plant fibers



Sleeveless paper haori coat

The old life article which was made with Japanese paper

A collection of artists, united in friendship by the Mingei folk art movement



Woodcut print Female figure /Shiko Munakata



Black-and-white cross-shaped dish /Shoji Hamada



Ceramic plate People in the paper village /Kanjiro Kawai



Water pitcher/Bernard Leach



Stencil dyeing Diagram of Abe's workshop /Keisuke Serizawa

Keisuke Serizawa 1895-1984

Serizawa produced countless fresh, creative works that went beyond the conventional understanding of the dyer's art. He maintained a clean and humble artistic style throughout his life, and many came to love his work. Designated a Living National Treasure in 1956.

Kanjiro Kawai 1890-1969

Along with Muneyoshi Yanagi and Shoji Hamada, Kawai was a powerful advocate of the Mingei folk arts movement. Through his life, he worked to build his own unique art rather than seek glory. His ambitious work still remains as a part of Japanese ceramic history.

Shoji Hamada 1894-1978

Hamada's work was produced by the fusion of three lands: his art is said to have started in England, studied at Okinawa, and grown up in Mashiko. Many of the pieces that he been produced are still in daily use, and they have a rustic, robust beauty.

1. Exterior view of the Eishiro Abe Memorial Hall
2. 2nd floor exhibition room
3. 1st floor exhibition room
4. Museum Shop



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