

Major Works of Art Discussed in the Presentation

PART I: Buddhist Divinities and Buddhist Temples Spaces

1. *Guardian Figures* (J. also known as Niō or Kongō Rikishi; and individually, as Agyō and Ungyō). Freer Gallery, National Museum of Asian Art (Washington D.C.). Wood sculpture (Cryptomeria japonica), joined-wood construction. H: 233.5 cm (91 15/16 in). Kamakura Period (1185-1333).
2. *The Buddha Amida* (Skt. Amitābha). National Museum of Asian Art, Washington DC. Wood sculpture, H: 74.5 cm. Kamakura period (1185-1333).
3. *The Welcoming Descent of Amida with Attendants Seishi and Kannon*. Hanging scroll format. Ink, colors, and gold on silk. Late fourteenth century/ Nambokuchō period (1336-92). Metropolitan Museum of Art. H x W 113.1 × 49.6 cm (44 9/16 × 19 1/2 in)

PART II: Kami Veneration and Shinto Shrines

4. *A Pair of Shinto Guardian Dogs* (J. *Koma-inu*). Wood (Japanese cypress), single-wood block construction, H: 53.3 cm (21 in). Kamakura period (1185-1333). National Museum of Asian Art, Washington DC .
5. *Male and Female Kami*. Wood, single-wood block construction. Male: H. 40cm. Female: 28.9cm. Nara National Museum.
6. *Male Kami*. Wood (Japanese cypress), single-wood block with traces of color. H: 98cm. Ninth century (Early Heian Period). Matsuno-o Shrine collection, Kyoto.
7. *Female Kami*. Wood (magnolia) with traces of color, tenth century (Heian period). H: 52.4 cm (20 5/8 in. Metropolitan Museum of Art (Mary & Jackson Burke Foundation)
8. *Kichijoten* (Buddhist female deity), late ninth or tenth century (Heian period), wood (Japanese cypress), single-wood block construction. H x W (119 x 48cm). Philadelphia Museum of Art.

PART III: Buddhas as Kami, Kami as Buddhas

9. *Kasuga Shrine Mandala*. Hanging scroll format; ink, color and gold on silk. Early fourteenth century/ Kamakura period. Metropolitan Museum of Art. H100.2 × W 39.7 cm.

10. *Kasuga Deer Mandala*. Hanging scroll format; ink, color and gold on silk. Sixteenth century/Muromachi period. The Cleveland Museum of Art. H 95.6 x W 39.1 cm
 11. *Kasuga Deer Mandala*. Hanging scroll format; ink, color and gold on silk. Fifteenth century/Muromachi period. Minneapolis Institute of Art, Mary Briggs Burke Collection. H 89.69 x W 40.01 cm
 12. *Fuji Pilgrimage Mandala*. Hanging scroll format; ink, color and gold on silk. Sixteenth century/Muromachi period. Fujisan Hongū Sengen Taisha, Shizuoka.
- ★ *Shinto: Discovery of the Divine in Japanese Art*, by Sinead Vilbar and Kevin Gray Carr. The Cleveland Museum of Art, 2019. A highly recommended exhibition catalog on Shinto art, with beautiful, high-quality photographs.

JAPAN–Timeline of Historical Period

	EARLY PERIOD
ca. 4000 BCE	Jomon Prehistoric culture characterized by handmade pottery with rope pattern design
ca. 300 BCE	Yayoi Culture More advanced agricultural society, using metals and wheel-turned pottery
ca. 300 CE	Tomb Period Kofun (250-538) Asuka (538-710) Great earthen grave mounds and their funerary objects, such as clay haniwa — terra cotta figurines of people and animals, models of buildings and boats — attest to emergence of powerful clan rulers. Among these was the Yamato clan, whose rulers began the imperial dynasty that has continued to the present.
	CLASSICAL PERIOD
538 or 552 CE	Introduction of Buddhism
645 CE	Taika Reform Reorganization and reform based largely on learning imported from China: Buddhism, writing system, bureaucratic organization, legal theories.
710-814 CE	Nara Period Establishment of first permanent capital at Nara; emergence of Japanese patterns of administration and institutions. Beginning of classical period.
794-1185 CE	Heian Period; Late Heian (Fujiwara) Great flowering of classical Japanese culture in new capital of Heian-kyo (Kyoto). Court aristocracy, especially women, produced great body of literature — poetry, diaries, the novel <i>The Tale of Genji</i> — and made refined aesthetic sensibility their society's hallmark.
	MEDIEVAL PERIOD
1185-1333 CE	Kamakura Period Beginning of military rule, as samurai (warriors) replaced nobles as real rulers of Japan. Imperial court remained in Kyoto but shoguns governing organization based in Kamakura, south of modern Tokyo.

	MEDIEVAL PERIOD
1333-1336 CE	Kenmu Restoration
1336-1573 CE	<p>Ashikaga (Muromachi) Period New warrior government in Kyoto retained weak control of the country, but from its base in Kyoto's Muromachi district became patron of newly flourishing artistic tradition, influenced by Zen Buddhist culture as well as samurai and court society.</p> <p>Country at War Warring factions engaged in lengthy, destructive civil wars.</p>
1568-1598 CE	Unification
1600-1867 CE	<p>Tokugawa (Edo) Period Country unified under military government which maintained 250 years of secluded peace, leading to development of vibrant urban, "middle-class" culture with innovations in economic organization, literature, and the arts.</p>
	MODERN PERIOD
1868-1912 CE	<p>Meiji Restoration</p> <p>Meiji Era Emergence, with Western stimulus, into modern international world, marked by dramatic alterations in institutions, traditional social organization, and culture.</p>
1912-1926 CE	Taisho Era
1926-1989 CE	Showa Era
1945-present*	<p>Contemporary Japan:</p> <p>Heisei Era (1989-present)</p> <p>Reiwa (2019-present)</p>

Source: Prepared by Dr. Amy Vladeck Heinrich, Director, C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University, for the Columbia University Project on Asia in the Core Curriculum.

* 2020. http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/japan_timeline.htm#