

# Transcending Time and Space: Pioneering New Insights into Japanese Studies

日本の文化を世界へ発信する「日文研」コレクション

The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) was founded in 1987 to pursue international, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive research on Japanese culture, and to provide research cooperation and support for Japanese studies scholars around the world. Nichibunken, as the international hub of Japanese studies, promotes original research by scholars Japanese and foreign, and is active in disseminating research outcomes. Nichibunken has a magnificent library, with over 550,000 books. Among its special collections are

books and maps relating to Japan published in Europe prior to 1854, and a multiplicity of other material including a unique collection of erotic ukiyo-e (shunga) prints, picture scrolls, genre paintings, *yōkai* prints, ancient maps and photographs. Many of these materials are uploaded on Nichibunken's online databases, and with permission can be consulted for academic research purposes. The Nichibunken library regularly lends its archival material to museums and galleries at home and overseas.

## Previous Exhibition Records

出展実績(例)

### Overseas

- 2013-2014 "Shunga: Sex and Pleasure in Japanese Art" (「春画—日本美術における性とたのしみ」) / British Museum (大英博物館)
- 2005-2006 "YOKAI-Bestiaire du fantastique japonais" (「YOKAI—日本のお化け図鑑」展) / Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris (パリ日本文化会館)
- 2002-2003 "Kielletyt kuvat: vanhaa eroottista taidetta Japanista" (Forbidden Images: Erotic Art from Japan's Edo Period / 「春画：秘めたる笑いの世界 浮世絵春画展」) / Helsinki Art Museum (ヘルシンキ市立美術館)

### Japan

- Apr.-Jun. 2019 「The Body—身体の宇宙—」展 / Machida City Museum of Graphic Arts (町田市立国際版画美術館)
- Apr.-May 2019 「女 おんな オンナ〜浮世絵にみる女のくらし」展 (Women's Life Depicted in Ukiyo-e) / The Shoto Museum of Art (渋谷区立松濤美術館)
- Oct.-Dec. 2018 「描かれた『わらい』と『こわい』展—春画・妖怪画の世界」展 (Depictions of "Laughter" and "Fear": The Illustrated World of *Shunga* & *Yōkai*) / The Hosomi Museum Kyoto (細見美術館)
- Apr.-Oct. 2012 「KATAGAMI Style」展 / Mitsubishi Ichigokan Museum, Tokyo (三菱一号館美術館); The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto (京都国立近代美術館); Mie Prefectural Art Museum (三重県立美術館)
- Sep.-Nov. 2008 「アジアとヨーロッパの肖像」展 (Self and Other: Portraits of Asia and Europe) / The National Museum of Art, Osaka (国立国際美術館); National Museum of Ethnology (国立民族学博物館)



At the Hosomi Museum Kyoto  
細見美術館での展覧会風景



©The Shoto Museum of Art  
画像提供：渋谷区立松濤美術館

## How to access the Nichibunken Library

国際日本文化研究センター図書館 利用案内



**Opening hours:**  
Monday-Saturday 09:00-17:00  
\*Please be aware of some services are not available on Saturdays.

**Closed:**  
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**開館日時：**  
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**休館日：**  
日曜日・祝日・年末年始（12/28～1/4）ほか

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# Nichibunken Collections & Databases

国際日本文化研究センターの  
所蔵資料とデータベース



# Nichibunken Collections & Databases

国際日本文化研究センターの  
主な所蔵資料／データベース

<http://db.nichibun.ac.jp>



(Fig. 4)

**Ehon** (erotic Ukiyo-e books)

## 艶本資料

Basic bibliographic data and digitized high resolution images of Edo period *ehon*.



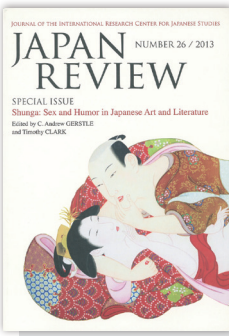
(Fig. 3)

**Examples:**

- Sugimura Jihee, *Ketsudai kumimono* 欠題組物. 17c. (Fig. 3)
- Torii Kiyonaga, *Sode no maki* 袖の巻. 1785. (Fig. 4)
- Kitagawa Utamaro, *Negai no itoguchi* 願ひの糸口. 1799.

**Related publications:**

- Japan Review No. 26, Special Issue Shunga: Sex and Humor in Japanese Art and Literature. 2013.
- Hayakawa Monta, *SHUNGA: Ten Questions and Answers*, Nichibunken monograph series vol. 14. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2013.
- Hayakawa Monta, ed., *Kinsei enpon shiryō shūsei*, 6 vols. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2002–2018.



## Folklore Illustrations

### 風俗図会

High resolution images of the *ezōshi* (illustrated story books from the Edo period).

**Examples:**

- Utagawa Toyoharu, *Chaya yūkyōzu* 茶屋遊興図 (Merrymaking at a Teahouse). 18c.
- Takai Kōzan, *Gunyōzu* 群妖図 (A Flock of Ghosts). 19c.
- Kawanabe Kyōsai, *Saiyūki: nishitenjiku kyōmon tori no zu* 西遊記：西天竺經文取之圖 (Journey to the West for Searching a Buddhist Texts). 1864. (Fig. 7)



(Fig. 7)

## Early Photographs

### 古写真

Hand-colored photographs of Japan (late Edo/ Meiji).



(Fig. 9)

**Examples:**

- “Musical Party” (Fig. 9) and “Fusi-yama from Yoshida” from *Views of Japan*. Yokohama: F. Beato & Co., 19c.

## Namazu-e Collection

### 鯰絵〈なまずえ〉コレクション



(Fig. 8)

Collections of *namazu-e* (catfish prints), which are color prints based on the legend that large catfish living underground can cause earthquakes.

**Examples:**

- Namazu to kanameishi*. Late Edo period. (Fig. 8)
- Utagawa Kuniteru, *Kawariken*. 1847.



(Fig. 1)

## Rare Books and Maps on Japan in European Languages

### 日本関係欧文貴重書

Rare books and maps related to Japan in European languages (1550–1860s). In addition to graphic images of all pages of these rare books, the database contains bibliographic information, tables of contents, and illustration captions.

**Examples:**

- Arnoldus Montanus, *Atlas Japannensis*. 1670. (Fig. 1)
- Engelbert Kaempfer, *The history of Japan*. 1727.
- Philipp Franz von Siebold, *Nippon. Archiv zur Beschreibung von Japan und dessen Neben- und Schutzlandern*. 2 vols. 1852.

### Related publications and websites:

- Catalogue of pre-1900 printed books on Japan in European languages in the Library of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies*, 4 vols. + General index. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 1998–2018.
- Website *Nihon kankei Ōbun shiryō no sekai* 日本関係欧文史料の世界 (Historical Documents on Japan in European Languages) <https://kutsukake.nichibun.ac.jp/obunsiryo/>



## Illustrated Guidebooks to Kyoto

### 平安京都名所図会

Digitized high-resolution images of Edo-period and Meiji-era illustrated guidebooks of famous places in Kyoto.

**Examples:**

- Miyako meisho zue* (Illustrated Guidebooks to Kyoto), 6 vols. 1780.
- Miyako rinsen meishō zue* (Illustrations of Famous Gardens in Kyoto), 5 vols. 1799. (Fig. 2)



(Fig. 2)



(Fig. 5)

## Paintings of Strange Phenomena and Yōkai

(Ghosts, Monsters, Spirits)

### 怪異・妖怪画像

Database of images of strange phenomena and *yōkai* depicted in paintings.

**Examples:**

- Kappa
- Yotsuya kaidan (Yotsuya ghost story)
- Tengu (Fig. 5)

**Related publications:**

- Komatsu Kazuhiko, ed., *The Tradition and Creation of Yōkai Culture: From the Viewpoint of Inside and Outside*, International Symposium Proceedings vol. 45. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2015.

## Nichibunken Map Collection

### 所蔵地図

Images of urban maps made in early modern Japan.



(Fig. 6)

**Examples:**

- Yoshida Hatsusaburō, *Kyoto meisho an'nai chōkanzu* (Birds-eye Map of Famous places in Kyoto). 1928. (Fig. 6)
- Dairizu* (Map of the Imperial Palace). 1863.

## Emakimono (Picture Scrolls)

### 絵巻物

High-resolution digital images of *emakimono* (picture scrolls).

**Examples:**

- Hyakki yagyō emaki* 百鬼夜行絵巻 (Midnight Parade by Hundred Ghosts). Artist unknown. Late Edo period.
- Fujiwara Koreyasu, *Shuten dōji emaki* 酒天童子繪巻. 3 vols. Date unknown. (Fig. 11)
- Dōjōji engi* 道成寺縁起. Artist and date unknown.

## Overseas Images of Japan

### 外像

Photographs, illustrations, and other images extracted from Japan-related publications from around the world.

**Examples:**

- Rembert Dodoens, *Cruydt-boeck van Rembertus Dodonaeus* (レンベルト・ドドネウスの本草書) 1608.
- Dominique Bouhours ブーオール, *Vie de S. Francois Xavier, Apotre des Indes et du Japon* (聖フランシスコ・ザビエル、イエズスのインドと日本への布教者) v.1.1820. (Fig. 10)

**Related publications:**

- Ichōjin no manazashi* (Japan as Seen from Abroad) Series, 10 vols. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2007–2014.
- Kaigai Nihon zō shūsei* (Images of Japan in Non-Japanese Sources), 5 vols. International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2007–2014.



(Fig. 10)



(Fig. 11)

**Related publications and websites:**

- Quitman Eugene Phillips, “Kano Motonobu’s *Shuten Dōji Emaki* and Anti-demon Rituals in Late Medieval Japan,” *Japan Review* No. 32, 2019.
- National Institute for the Humanities, *Hyakki yagyō no sekai* (The World of Hyakki Yagyō). KADOKAWA, 2009.
- Manga “Shuten dōji emaki” 『まんが訳 酒天童子繪巻』 by the Japanese Popular Culture Research Project, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2019. [https://comic-walker.com/contents/detail/KDCW\\_CW01200695010000\\_68/](https://comic-walker.com/contents/detail/KDCW_CW01200695010000_68/)
- Manga “Dōjōji engi” 『まんが訳 道成寺縁起』 by the Japanese Popular Culture Research Project, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2019. [https://comic-walker.com/contents/detail/KDCW\\_CW01200990010000\\_68/](https://comic-walker.com/contents/detail/KDCW_CW01200990010000_68/)

