Shurijo Castle Park Exhibition
King’s Portraits (Ogoe) and Ryukyuan Paintings

Special exhibit room of the Kugani-udun

October 12th (Fri) 2018 through November 29th (Thu) 2018

I The World of Ogoe
- Kamakura’s Phonous and Colic Restoration/Replication Process -

II Portrait Painting as Seen in Ryukyuan Paintings
- Religious Paintings, Bijin-ga (Paintings of Beautiful Women) -

Exhibition of New Collections
Preserve the Treasures of the Ryukyus!
Collection of Ryukyuan Cultural Assets Displayed for the First Time

October 5th (Fri) 2018 through December 13th (Thu) 2018

Special exhibit room on the 2nd floor Nanden
The first exhibition of newly acquired “Ryukyuano Treasures” – Introducing valuable paintings, lacquerware, pottery, etc. from the Ryukyu Kingdom era!

During the era of the Ryukyu Kingdom, the Ryukyu formed its own culture through trade with neighboring countries such as Japan, China, and countries of Southeast Asia, producing various arts and crafts and developing relevant technology. Since then, the Ryukyu (Okinawan) people experienced the collapse of their kingdom and devastation of Okinawa during World War II. Many valuable treasures were lost or destroyed each time. At Shuri Castle Park, we have been collecting cultural and lost arts and crafts from the Ryukyu Kingdom era, in a bid to regain the superior skills that had reached the height of glory. We also repair the materials so that people can safely appreciate the Okinawa cultural assets that we have collected for handing down to future generations for ever. In this year, this new collection exhibition is titled “Let’s Preserve Ryukyuanna Treasures”! In this exhibition, we will introduce for the first time materials that we have collected so far, as well as materials that we have reprocessed through our repair and restoration work.

The World of Ogoe – Kamakura Photos and Color Restoration/Replication Process

Ogoe were portraits of each king of the Ryukyu Kingdom painted after the death of the king. In the past, the king’s portraits were murals painted on the walls of the Enkouji (Buddhist Temple), but it is believed that because the temple was damaged by a fire in the time to Sitsi, Sakai Yajumaguchi, court painter for the Ryukyu Kingdom, converted all ogoe into kakujyu (hanging scrolls) in 1717. It is said that when the Ryukyu Kingdom was dissolved following the abolition of the han system, the ogoe were transferred and stored at Nakanagashuku Udon, the residence of the Crown Prince of the Ryukyu Kingdom. Yoshitaro Kamakura, a leading author on Okinawan studies, photographed the portraits of 10 kings at Nakanagashuku Udon before World War II. These images can be confirmed in black-and-white photographic dry plate pictures, making them valuable materials for precision restoration/replication of the portraits. From documents and verbal evidence provided by those who actually saw the portraits before World War II, it is known that they were painted on paper in rich, bright colors.

Portraits of King Sho Ko, 17th King of the Ryukyu Kingdom

Shuri Castle Park

King Sho Ko Ogoe Post-mortem Portrait of the King (color facsimile replica)

11 Portrait Painting as Seen in Ryukyuano Paintings – Religious Paintings, Portraits, Bijin-ga (Paintings of Beautiful Women) -

The following works will be on display: “Carthlicus and His Four Disciples” (religious painting), “Tai Jumoku” portraits, and “Ryukyu Bijin portrait” which belong to the type of biji-ga drawn on a folding screen. We will introduce the features, etc. of each work.

Admission Fee Information

- Admission Fee *Wheelchairs are also available.

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- Entrance fee apply to 20 persons or more.

- Open Hours
  - Apr. to Jun.: 8:30 to 19:00
  - Jul. to Sept.: 8:30 to 20:00
  - Oct. to Nov.: 8:30 to 19:00
  - Dec. to Mar.: 8:30 to 18:00
  - Last entry: 18:30

- Closed
  - The Park is closed on the first Wednesday and Thursday of every month.

Shurijo Castle Park Management Center

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http://shuri-park.org/en/