

2023 Spring Special Exhibition

Commemorating the 2023 Centennial Birthday
of Urasenke 15th Generation Iemoto, Hōunsai

Hōunsai's One Hundred Years

Apr 15 (Sat) – Jul 2 (Sun), 2023

Term I: Apr 15 (Sat) – May 21 (Sun)

Term II: May 27 (Sat) – Jul 2 (Sun)



Urasenke's fifteenth-generation iemoto, Hōunsai, was born on April 19 in the 12th year of the Taishō era, 1923, and thus his birthday in 2023 comes as his grand 100th. In this exhibition commemorating his centennial birthday, we reflect on his life and work which has been witness to the Taishō, Shōwa, Heisei, and current Reiwa eras.

Hōunsai was the first-born son of Urasenke's fourteenth-generation iemoto, Mugensai, and received the name Masaoki at birth. Japan was deep into the Pacific War when he was around the age of twenty, and because of the student draft that was being imposed, he joined the imperial navy. Albeit he was assigned to the Special Attack unit of the naval air-force division, the war ended without his receiving the order to go into action. Ever since that war, he has dedicated himself to contributing to world peace through the Way of Tea, and traveled around the world energetically advocating the philosophy of "Peacefulness through a bowl of tea". This exhibition introduces calligraphic works, paintings, and handmade articles by Hōunsai, tea implements favored by him, and other related materials, to trace his career.

Sampling of some of the exhibits



Tea bowl with purple phoenix design favored by Hōunsai. Made by Eiraku Sokuzen. Commemorating Hōunsai's decoration with the Medal with Purple Ribbon. Konnichian Collection. Photo: Watanabe Yasufumi.



White-glazed Ohi ware tea bowl with incised kanji 和寿, made by Hōunsai. Konnichian Collection. Photo: Ogasawara Toshitaka.



Black medium-size natsume with peony-arabesque design, favored by Hōunsai. Made by Hiki Ikkan XIV. Konnichian Collection. Photo: Watanabe Yasufumi.



Black hira- (broad-style) natsume with gold makie phoenix decoration, favored by Hōunsai. Made by Nakamura Sōtetsu XI. Konnichian Collection. Photo: Watanabe Yasufumi.



Bamboo tea scoop named "Sengoku" (Thousand Stones), made by Hōunsai. Chado Research Center Collection. Photo: Takemae Akira.



Red Raku ware water vessel, made by Hōunsai. Konnichian Collection.

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Incense container on carp basin theme, favored by Ennōsai (Urasenke 13th generation iemoto; grandfather of Hōunsai). Made by Miki Hyōetsu. Chado Research Center Collection.



Kettle with cast design of clouds and waves, favored by Hōunsai. Made by Miyazaki Kanchi XIII. Commemorating 300th Memorial of Senso (Urasenke 4th generation). Konnichian Collection.

Hours: 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. (admission ends at 4:00 P.M.)

Days closed: Every Monday, the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, and between exhibition terms (May 23–26).

Exhibition admission fee: ¥1,000 (College student discount, ¥600; Jr. & Sr. High School student discount, ¥350. Elementary school students and under, and students of membership schools, free.)

*The information given in exhibition displays is in Japanese-language only.

■ Reservations for the tea service which is available to exhibition visitors, only may be made by phone at 075-431-6474, or through the booking site

https://reserva.be/chado_research_center

Tea Service (a wagashi and usucha, available only to exhibition visitors)

Days available: Weekdays and Saturdays during the exhibition period. Fee (separate from exhibition admission fee): General, ¥500; Students showing student I.D. card, and children below Jr. High, ¥300