

Japan Society of Boston

presents



INTO THE LIGHT: Mine Okubo An Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings

hosted by

The Bank of Boston

March 10 – April 23, 1993

Bank of Boston Gallery
36th Floor
100 Federal Street, Boston

"I do not attempt to depict realism but to probe beyond reality, to create something which is beautiful in itself."

"It is difficult for an artist to explain all that is involved in his creation because the process of painting is a series of revelations and discoveries. For me, painting requires careful thought and planning but the actual painting is spontaneous, a literal idea merely acting as a guide and stimulus."

"I begin with simple color shapes, developing the painting in this manner, and bringing the canvas to completion only when I feel that I have arrived at an interesting and satisfactory solution. In the process, the original idea may be lost by the development of more interesting shapes, for imagination is continually at work. Each painting is more or less an experiment rarely turning out as visualized but discoveries are made to apply to future pictures."

Pictures, Painters and You
Ray Bethers, 1948
Pitman Publishers

About Japan Society of Boston

The Japan Society of Boston, Inc. is a tax-exempt, non-political, educational organization whose mission is to promote understanding between the people of Massachusetts and Japan. Founded in 1904, it is the only major regional institution devoted exclusively to fostering economic and cultural ties between Japan and the United States and serves as a community resource center connecting a rich network of Japan-related educational, business, and cultural organizations and individuals. One thousand individuals and 150 corporations, American and Japanese, are presently members of the Society.

Through an active schedule of public programs, the Japan Society of Boston provides Boston area residents with an opportunity to experience the best of Japan's traditional and contemporary arts, to hear distinguished academic, business and government leaders from both sides of the Pacific discuss pressing issues in U.S.-Japan business or political relations, and to gather together for informal socializing and networking. The Society also offers a full program of courses in the Japanese language for adults, and is currently working with the Boston Public Schools to introduce Japanese language classes into the city's high schools. In addition, our newsletter, monthly *Japan Calendar*, and other publications and informational services keep members and the public abreast of Japan-related activities in the region.

The history of the Japanese community residing in America and the personal experiences and accomplishments of Americans of Japanese descent are integral pieces of the larger story of U.S.-Japan relations. As part of its effort to educate New Englanders about these issues, the Japan Society of Boston is very pleased to be able to present in Boston for the first time this one-woman retrospective exhibition of paintings and drawings by Japanese-American artist, Mine Okubo.

Japan Society of Boston wishes to thank The Bank of Boston, Westin Hotel Copley Place and an anonymous donor for making the Mine Okubo exhibition possible.

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Mine Okubo Biography

		1972	Exhibit: <u>Mine Okubo, An American Experience</u> Retrospective exhibition, Oakland Museum, CA
1912	Born in Riverside, California	1974	Exhibit and Award: Distinguished Alumni Award and one-man exhibition, Riverside Community College
1933-34	Education: Riverside Junior College	1975	Exhibit: <u>Executive Order 9066</u> opens in Tokyo and tours Japan during 1976-77
1935-36	University of California, Berkeley, B.A., M.A.	1977	Exhibit: <u>A View from the Inside</u> , Oakland Museum, CA
1938-39	Awarded: Bertha Henicke Taussig Fellowship, UC Berkeley. Provided expenses for tour of Europe	1978	Exhibit: <u>Expressions from Exile</u> , San Francisco State University, CA
1939	Returned from Europe at outbreak of World War II	1983	Publication: <i>Citizen 13660</i> , reprinted in paperback, University of Washington Press
1939-41	Commission: WPA Federal Arts Program Designed and installed paintings, murals, mosaics and frescoes for Government Island, Oakland Hospitality House Fort Ord and Treasure Island, CA	1984	Publication: <i>Citizen 13660</i> translated and published by Ochanomizu Shobo Ltd., Tokyo, Japan Award: <i>Citizen 13660</i> receives The American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation, CA
1942-44	Internment: Tanforan Relocation Camp, San Bruno, CA and Central Utah Relocation Camp, Topaz, Utah	1985	Exhibit: Retrospective exhibition at The Catherine Gallery, NY
1942-43	Editor: <i>TREK</i> literary magazine, Camp Topaz	1987	Sketches: Courtroom sketch artist for class action lawsuit brought by the National Coalition on Japanese American Relocation, Supreme Court of the U.S.
1944	Illustrator: Interventive assistance from <i>Fortune</i> magazine in New York results in release from Topaz. Moves to New York to illustrate for <i>Fortune</i>	1990	Publication: Chapter is devoted to Mine Okubo works in <i>The Forbidden Stitch</i> , Calyx Press, Corvallis, OR
1944-52	Illustrator: Free-lance work for major magazines	1991	Award: Women's Caucus for Art honors Mine Okubo for lifetime contribution to visual arts, The National Museum of Women, Washington, D.C.
1945	Group Show: Nationwide travelling group show, paintings and drawings of Japanese American Relocation camps sponsored by Common Council for American Unity	1992	Publication: Evacuation drawings are featured in <i>California History</i> magazine, winter issue. Publication: <i>Women Artists: Multicultural Visions</i> by Betty LaDuke, features the life work of Mine Okubo, Red Sea Press, Trenton, NJ
1946	Publication: <i>Citizen 13660</i> , a personal account of the relocation camp experience, published by Columbia University Press	1993	Exhibition: <u>Into the Light: Mine Okubo</u> a Retrospective Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings, sponsored by The Japan Society of Boston at the Bank of Boston, MA
1948	Commission: Murals painted for American Export Lines		
1950-52	Lecturer: University of California, Berkeley		
1951	One-man exhibition, Mortimer Levitt Gallery, NY		
1965	Television appearance: "The Nisei, The Pride and the Shame" CBS News		

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