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# **American Dance** Scene



To Vic Daumit

Sor Picky - With fond memories,

our first-lady

of dance-timetely,

" Nie"

### DECLARATION BY THE A.D.T.A. INC

The American Dance Teachers Association is an OFFICIAL NATIONAL ORGANIZATION associated to form a non-stock, non profit corporation, under the provisions of Chapter 2, Title 13.1. of the Code of Virginia, and is officially empowered to pursue the following activities, lawfully and with legal status, operating in the United States of America:-

- 1) To provide a united INTER-ASSOCIATION AGENCY to REPRESENT BALLROOM DANCING TEACHERS and their students of the UNITED STATES, as a non-profit organization.
- 2) To establish standards and requirements for the testing and awarding of medals to students, conducting qualifying examinations for professionals, AND ARRANGING AND PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR TOURNAMENTS IN BALLROOM DANCING, for the advancement of standards.
- 3) To acquaint the Public with the nature & benefits of Ballroom Dancing as a social, recreational and family oriented activity.
- 4) To act as an AGENCY for co-operation with similar organizations, in achieving recognition of Ballroom Dancing Teachers, by WORLD, FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL, and private organizations.
- 5) To provide a center for Ballroom Dance Teachers for the interchange of ideas and promote better understanding and co-operation between the various Ballroom Dance Teacher Organizations.

In consideration of the above lawful articles of incorporation, the A.D.T.A. establishes its right to claim official authority in matters concerning ballroom dancing, teachers and dancing, in the U.S.A. as in section 1., and it also established its' legal right to authorize, recognize, approve & arrange any form of tournament, including CHAMPIONSHIPS, as granted in section 2. It is, therefore, an OFFICIAL VEHICLE for teachers, dancers, promoters, organizers, competitors etc., through which they may pursue their right to peace, liberty & happiness, if this be by the means of ballroom dancing. The officers and directors are listed below.

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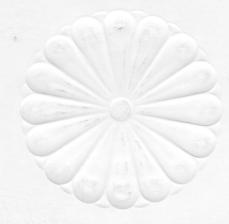
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WHY NOT JOIN US & HELP SERVE AMERICAN BALLROOM DANCING ?



# THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN



# THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN



The Emperor and Empress of Japan on a quiet stroll in the gardens of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo.

# 大 全 THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN

**A Profile** On the Occasion of The Visit by The Emperor and Empress to the United States

September 30th to October 13th, 1975

by Edwin O. Reischauer

Published by

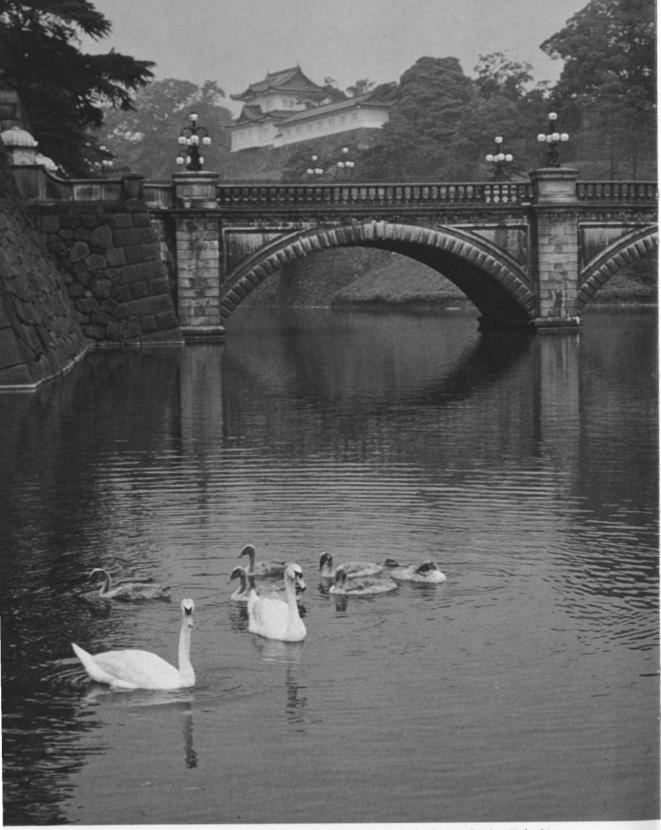


JAPAN SOCIETY, INC. 333 East 47th Street New York, N.Y. 10017 Few events in the long history of international relations carry the significance of the first visit to the United States of the Emperor and Empress of Japan. Only once before has the reigning Emperor of Japan ventured forth from his beautiful island realm to travel abroad. On that occasion, his visit to a number of European countries resulted in an immediate strengthening of the bonds linking Japan and Europe. Thus, we may anticipate a similar beneficial effect upon the already close relations of Japan and the United States.

It is with feelings of great honor and warm respect that the Japan Society welcomes the Emperor and Empress to the United States. We have long awaited their visit, and we are confident that the gracious dignity and personal warmth that their presence lends to this auspicious event will inaugurate a new era of friendship and harmony between our two great nations.

In preparing this small booklet about the present Imperial family and the history of the Imperial dynasty, we are deeply indebted to Professor Edwin O. Reischauer, former United States Ambassador to Japan, for preparing the text, and to the Embassy of Japan for providing illustrative material.

The Japan Society New York, 1975



Swans float on the calm surface of the Imperial Palace moat. In the background is the Nijubashi (Double Bridge) which leads to the main entrance to the Palace grounds.

## THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN

by Edwin O. Reischauer

In this age of easy travel by jet, heads of state seem to whiz all over the globe. American presidents make repeated visits abroad, and a veritable stream of foreign rulers and presidents flows through Washington. But the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Japan stands out as a significant first — the first official visit to the United States of any Japanese Emperor in the long line of 124 rulers that goes all the way back to shadowy prehistory. It parallels the visit last November of President Ford to Japan, making with it a pair of significant firsts in the relations between the United States and Japan, two great nations with unusually close and intimate contacts.

In a way it is surprising that this memorable first should be coming at this late date. Visits have repeatedly been exchanged with virtually all of the other close allies of the United States, with many countries of much smaller concern to the United States than Japan, and even with nations that have been more frequently regarded as rivals or enemies than friends. It is odd that Japan should have been missing from this list until now. The United States and Japan are close allies; they are two of the three largest economic units in the world, with the world's greatest trans-oceanic trade between them; and they face the problems of the world together from the shared basis of a common devotion to an open, free society and democratic institutions of government.

No foreign country is more important to Japan than is the United States. Japan does around a quarter of its foreign trade with us, shares a common defense through the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, and has far more cultural and intellectual contacts with America than with any other country. Conversely, Japan may well prove to be the most important country in the world for the United States. It is our second largest trading partner, following only Canada; in population, it is the largest of our close allies; and in economic terms, it is our largest intimate associate in facing the increasingly complex economic problems of the world. And yet, at the same time, Japan stands in a special position as our



The present Emperor is the first member of the Imperial line to travel abroad. In 1921, while still Crown Prince, he paid an official visit to the heads of state of many European countries. Here he is shown with King George V of Great Britain.

only close partner with a totally different cultural background from our own — a point that may be of growing significance in a world in which inter-racial and inter-cultural relations become ever more important.

In a way, the lateness of these two visits is a sign, not of disinterest or distance between Japan and the United States, but rather of the closeness as well as the delicacy of the relationship. The American military occupation of Japan following World War II ended only in 1952, less than a quarter-century ago. It left America looming very large in Japanese eyes and Japanese-American relations enmeshed in domestic Japanese political dispute. When in 1960 President Eisenhower planned a trip to Japan, the proposed visit became entangled in political controversy there and had to be cancelled. The tragic assassination of President Kennedy intervened before he could make the visit to Japan which he had firmly in mind. As the years went on with presidential visits to countries all over the world but not to Japan, some people came to the conclusion that the Japanese suffered a permanent "presidential allergy." But last November President Ford finally did go to Japan for what was to prove a gloriously successful visit. The weather was superb, the Japanese people as well as the government welcomed him wholeheartedly, and his straightforward candor and obvious good will made a most favorable impression on them. This happy occasion together with the present visit of the Emperor and Empress show that Japanese-American relations, which have all along been extensive and vitally important to both sides, have now become relaxed as well, in a way that they were not in the earlier postwar period. Thus, these two visits symbolize a new and happier stage in Japanese-American relations.

The Emperor is the first member of the Japanese Imperial line ever to have gone abroad. As a young man in 1921, he spent seven months of travel in Europe. He and the Empress also visited six European countries in the autumn of 1971 and touched down briefly on the way there at Anchorage, Alaska, where they were greeted by President and Mrs. Nixon.



The present Emperor at the age of five. His dynasty is the oldest reigning family in the world, and his reign of more than fifty years is the longest in recorded Japanese history.

Another unique fact about the Emperor is that this is the fiftieth year he has been on the throne — the longest reign in Japanese history, unless one goes back to the semi-mythological rulers of the third century and earlier times. The Emperor was born in 1901, and in 1921, after his return from Europe, he became Prince Regent, or acting monarch, for his ailing father, Emperor Taisho. In late December 1926 he succeeded his father on the throne, and the remaining week of that year became the first year of his reign, known as the first year of the Showa year period. The year 1975 is the 50th year of Showa, a name meaning "Enlightened Peace."

The Emperor's name is Hirohito, which is what he signs on official documents, as he also did on a photographic portrait of him which I treasure in my home. But no one in Japan refers to the Emperor as Hirohito. Instead people use such terms as "His Majesty" or "the Present Emperor." Curiously, the Imperial family is the only family in all Japan which lacks a family name. Probably it was already so well established as the ruling family at the time that the Japanese first began to take family names, roughly a millennium and a half ago, that no family name seemed necessary.

Mythology places the beginning of the Imperial line in 660 B.C., when a descendant of the supreme Sun Goddess is said to have become the first Japanese Emperor. More sober history traces the line clearly back to the early sixth century A.D. and perhaps somewhat earlier. Even this reduced heritage makes it incomparably the oldest reigning family in the world, and the genealogy is precise, detailed, and indisputable the whole way back.

The early Japanese Emperors were semi-religious figures, being in a sense the high priests of the cults of the Shinto religion. The symbols of their authority were the Three Imperial Regalia—a bronze mirror representing the Imperial ancestress, the Sun Goddess; a sword; and a curved, comma-shaped jewel of uncertain significance. The shrine to the Sun Goddess at Ise has always been a particularly holy place in Japan. The feminine character of the mythological



Official portrait of the Emperor in his coronation robes in 1928. He became Prince Regent in 1921, and succeeded his father, Emperor Taisho, to the throne in 1926.

progenitress of the Imperial line as well as the existence of several ruling Empresses in early years suggest an original matriarchal social organization in Japan.

In the course of the seventh and eighth centuries, the Japanese reorganized their governmental institutions on the model of the contemporary Chinese empire, where the Emperor was an all-powerful secular monarch ruling through an elaborate bureaucracy. Ever since, the Japanese Emperors have had a sort of dual character as both secular rulers of the Chinese type, at least in theory, and also semi-religious cult leaders derived from Japan's own early history. Even today, the Emperor performs a number of annual ceremonies, such as the symbolic first planting of the rice each spring, which faithfully reflect ancient rituals, though they are no longer considered to have religious significance.

Even in early times the authority of the Japanese Emperor was perhaps more symbolic than actual. Throughout Japanese history the Imperial line has always been recognized as the undisputed source of all legitimate authority, but individual Emperors have usually reigned rather than ruled, somewhat in the manner of the modern crowned heads of northern Europe. Already in the sixth century, when Japan first emerged into the light of history, Emperors, rather than dominating their courts, were more commonly manipulated by the great families that surrounded them. By the early eighth century, it had become almost the rule for Emperors to abdicate as soon as they had an heir old enough to perform the onerous ceremonial duties of the position. Occasional strong men on the throne did exercise some power, and for a while in the eleventh and twelfth centuries retired Emperors were the chief political force at the capital, but otherwise leadership at the Imperial court was in the hands of the Fujiwara family and its various offshoots from the ninth century until the nineteenth.

The spread of feudalism over Japan from the twelfth century onward pushed the Imperial family even further away from actual political power. It remained



Official portrait of Empress Nagako at her coronation. She is two years younger than the Emperor and is a descendant of a collateral branch of the Imperial family.

as the theoretical source of all authority but was increasingly removed from the levers of power, which fell into the hands of military men in the provinces. The last Japanese Emperor who actually attempted to rule was Go-Daigo (or Daigo II) in the fourteenth century, and his efforts resulted in a dangerous split of the Imperial line into the Northern and Southern Courts between the years 1336 and 1392.

The tradition that the Japanese Emperors did not rule but reigned as the symbol of national unity and the theoretical source of legitimate authority is probably the chief reason why the Japanese Imperial line has survived through all history and still performs its symbolic role today as it did in antiquity. Actual power might change hands, as it did a number of times in Japanese history, but the symbolic source of legitimacy continued unaffected.

One such change of power occurred in the middle of the nineteenth century. Japan had managed to isolate itself from the rest of the world for two centuries, but finally in 1854 an American naval expedition under Commodore Matthew C. Perry forced it to open its doors. Japan's pre-industrial economy and its feudal structure of government, under the Tokugawa shoguns, or military dictators, and some 265 semi-autonomous feudal lords, clearly could not meet the challenge of the industrial production and the more modernized military power of the countries of the West. Japan needed a more centralized as well as modernized form of government.

A group of revolutionaries managed to seize power in 1868, justifying their overthrow of the Tokugawa feudal system as a return to direct Imperial rule, based in part on the memories of a more central Imperial role in ancient times but also on the model of nineteenth century European monarchies, such as Germany, Austria, and Britain. Because the concept of direct Imperial rule was both an inspiration and rationale for the whole great change that swept Japan after 1868, this change has usually been called the Meiji Restoration. The name Meiji



The Emperor Meiji, grandfather of the present Emperor, pictured shortly after his coronation in 1868. Coming to the throne when the Restoration overthrew the Tokugawa feudal system and returned direct rule to the Imperial family, Meiji's long reign fostered the modernization of Japanese society and government.

was that of the year period, given in 1868 to the reign of the new boy Emperor, who, 45 years later after his death in 1912, came to be known as Emperor Meiji.

The Meiji Restoration seemed to bring the Emperor back as the actual ruler of Japan, but this was more theory than actual practice. Everything was done in his name, and the Japanese leaders, even when they differed with one another, all claimed to be carrying out the "Imperial will." The Constitution adopted in 1889 as the final embodiment of the new system declared the Emperor to be "sacred and inviolable," assigned to him the "rights of sovereignty," and at least on the surface seemed to give him all powers of government, including "the supreme command of the Army and Navy." But a closer reading of the document shows that the Emperor was expected to take no action except on the advice of his ministers and on the basis of the acts of the Japanese parliament, called the Diet. And this is the way the system actually operated. Emperor Meiji may have exercised some influence on government decisions, but his son, Emperor Taisho, obviously did not, and by the time the present Emperor came to the throne he was clearly expected to validate the decisions of his government but not actually to participate in making them.

Since the present Emperor has always been a conscientious Constitutional monarch, it really is not proper to inquire what his own particular views may have been, even under the old system. But the few hints one can get about his attitudes at the time suggest a consistent opposition to the trends that were leading Japan into war abroad and toward military supremacy at home. The only political decision the Emperor is known to have made was at the time of the surrender at the end of World War II. The high command for the first time in history presented him with an evenly split vote on surrender and asked him to decide. This he did at once in favor of surrender, and he obtained the acquiescence of the Japanese people for this course by the unprecedented gesture of himself broadcasting the announcement of surrender to the whole Japanese nation.



The Shishinden or Ceremonial Hall of the Old Imperial Palace in Kyoto. For nearly eleven centuries prior to the Meiji Restoration in 1868, Kyoto served as the seat of the Imperial Court and also as the cultural and intellectual capital of Japan.

Following the war, Japan adopted a new Constitution in 1947, and in this document theory and practice were perfectly unified for the first time. This document clearly states that "the Emperor shall be the symbol of the state and of the unity of the people, deriving his position from the will of the people with whom resides sovereign power." The Emperor's duties are then described to be simply symbolic in character. Since the mythology regarding the divinity of the Imperial line had been used in pre-war days to build up the mystique of the "Imperial will," the Emperor also issued on January 1, 1946, a statement denying his own supposed divinity. Again it is not really appropriate to speculate on the Emperor's own personal views regarding these postwar changes, because he is specifically denied a right to have or at least to express political opinions, but everything about his demeanor since the war gives the impression that he is thoroughly and happily in accord with the newly defined functions of the throne.

While the Emperor's duties are purely symbolic, they are nonetheless arduous, and he performs them with great conscientiousness and with noteworthy good will. He promulgates laws, convokes the Diet, proclaims general elections, attests the appointment or dismissal of officials, awards honors, receives foreign ambassadors, and performs a number of other formal duties, all with the advice and approval of the Cabinet. In addition, he and the members of his family are tireless in their attendance at events of national significance—reading greetings at opening sessions of great conferences, attending dedication ceremonies and sports festivals, and inspecting exhibits.

In the years immediately after the end of World War II, the Emperor was particularly energetic in seeking to change the popular concept of the throne and the people's relationship to it. Before the war the militarized leadership had had him appear in public in military uniform astride a white charger—a remote, forbidding, and "sacred and inviolable" figure. The common people were not even supposed to look at him directly. Now in mufti and a fedora hat he met his fellow Japanese face to face in the streets, in factories, and in coal mines.



The Emperor is a quiet, scholarly person who leads a very private life when he is not performing his formal duties.



Traditionally, the Emperor of Japan, as guardian of the nation's well-being, encourages agriculture. Each spring, in a special ritual held on the Palace grounds, he plants rice seedlings. In autumn, the rice is harvested by the Emperor himself.



Among the Emperor's formal duties, one of the most important is his annual address to the opening session of the national Diet or parliament.

Not a facile conversationalist because in his austere upbringing he had never had the chance for verbal give and take, he usually fell back on "Ah! Is that so," in rejoinder to the replies to his inquiries. It was a limited sort of conversation, but for the first time it gave a sense of common human feeling between the Japanese people and their Emperor.

The Emperor has a private life aside from his public one. He and the Empress reside in the spacious Imperial Palace grounds in the heart of Tokyo. These grounds were the central core of what was once the great fortress headquarters of the Tokugawa shoguns, originally built by Dokan Ota in 1457 and restored by the Tokugawa shoguns after they moved there in 1590 and during the early years of their rule, which started officially in 1603. The broad moats and high embankments and walls of that early period are still impressive and beautiful sights, in no way dwarfed by the modern city.

The main buildings of the prewar palace were destroyed by wartime bombing, but a small and very private new residence for the Imperial couple was completed in 1961 and an impressive new Palace for public occasions in 1969. The latter was under construction for five years, an indication both of the care with which it was built and the modesty of the funds the Japanese government now assigns to the support of the Imperial family. The upkeep of the extensive Imperial Palace grounds is maintained largely by volunteer work by groups from all over Japan—a sign of the popular respect and affection in which the Imperial couple are held.

The Emperor's private life is a very private one indeed. There is none of the informal social mixing with others, practiced by some of the royal families of Europe. Traditional Japanese feelings about the uniqueness of the Imperial family preclude such easy sociability. The Emperor and Empress are surrounded by chamberlains and ladies-in-waiting, with whom their contacts remain rather formal by American standards. Beyond these court circles, their contacts are



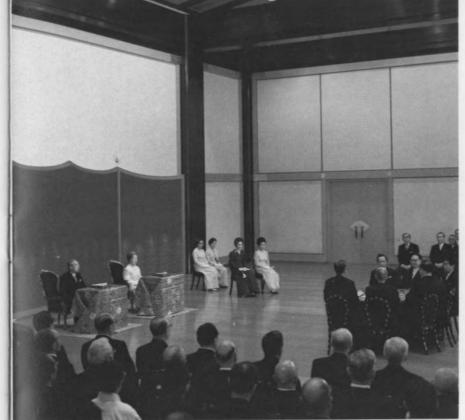
The new buildings of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo were completed in 1969. Here the South Garden is viewed from the Chidori-no-ma (Hall of Birds). The buildings and gardens of the Palace grounds are maintained largely by volunteer groups from all over Japan.



The Empress almost always accompanies the Emperor on official functions as well as private occasions. The Imperial couple made a state visit to the capitals of Europe in 1971 and are pictured here with the "Little Mermaid" in Copenhagen.



Visiting London in October 1971, the Emperor and Empress were guests of honor at a state banquet at Buckingham Palace. They are being greeted here by His Royal Highness, the Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh, and Their Majesties Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Queen Elizabeth II.



In a traditional Palace event, dating back more than one thousand years, the Emperor and Empress preside each January over the New Year Poetry Party, held in the Matsu-no-ma (Hall of Pines) of the Seiden (State Hall).



The Emperor and Empress receive their guests at the annual Imperial Garden Party.



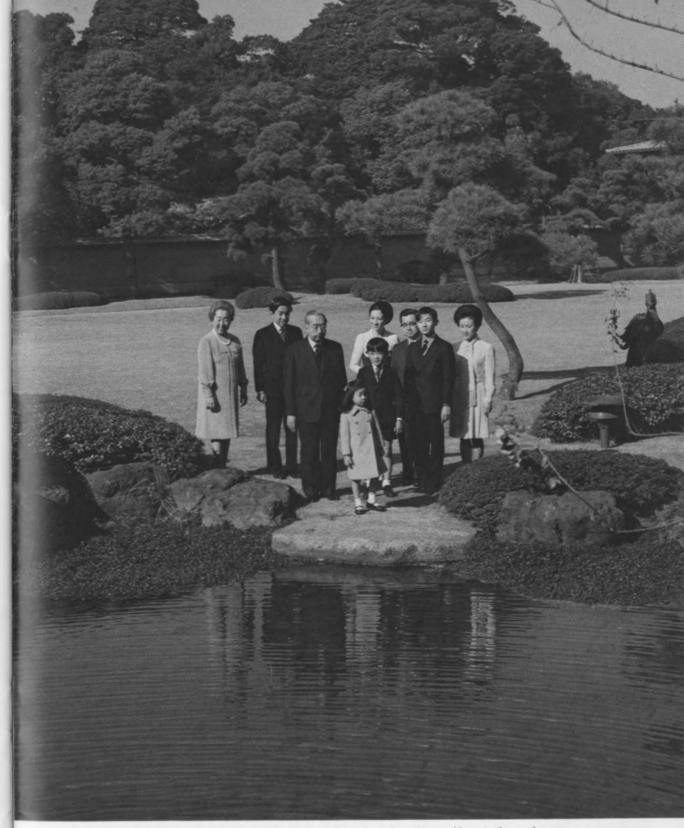
The Empress particularly enjoys painting in traditional Japanese style, and a number of her works have been collected and published in two volumes under her art name Toen.



The Emperor and Empress, pictured here in front of one of the new buildings of the Imperial Palace.



The Imperial couple frequently enjoys the companionship of their children on informal visits to their mountain villa at Nasu, north of Tokyo. Here they are joined by Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko.



The entire Imperial family often gathers informally at the Palace. Pictured here in the garden are the Empress, Crown Prince Akihito, the Emperor, Princess Nori, Prince Aya, Crown Princess Michiko, Prince Hitachi, Prince Hiro, and Princess Hitachi.



The Emperor received his early education at the Gakushuin (Peers' School). Here, he and the Empress enjoy an informal moment at a meeting of Gakushuin alumni.

in the Emperor and Empress the epitome of personal friendliness, family virtues, cultural interests, and scientific devotion. Beyond these personal aspects of the visit, however, the presence in the United States of the Emperor and Empress affords the American people and government an opportunity to reciprocate to the Japanese people the warmth of their welcome to our President in the autumn of 1974 and to show them the strength and sincerity of our wishes to continue the friendly and mutually beneficial relations between our two countries, which lie at the root of our mutual hopes for world peace.



### EDWIN O. REISCHAUER

The long career of Edwin O. Reischauer has embraced nearly all areas of Japanese-American relations. His personal involvement with Japan is perhaps deeper and more intimate than that of any other American, and professionally he has distinguished himself as a

scholar, teacher, writer, and diplomat.

Born in Japan in 1910, he received his education at the American School in Japan, Oberlin College, and Harvard University. As a historian, Professor Reischauer pursued his study of Japan at the Harvard-Yenching Institute and the Universities of Paris, Tokyo, and Kyoto. After wartime service in the War Department and the State Department, he returned to Japan in 1948-49 as a member of the Cultural and Social Science Mission of the Department of the Army. Since 1946, he has been on the faculty of Harvard University, teaching Japanese language, history, and government. In 1966, he was appointed a University Professor at Harvard and in 1973 was named Chairman of the Committee for the Japan Institute.

Professor Reischauer's academic activities were interrupted from 1961 to 1966, when he served the administrations of President Kennedy and President Johnson as United States Ambassador to

lapan.

Among his numerous publications in the field of Asian history and foreign policy, perhaps the best known are Japan, Past and Present, The United States and Japan, and the great two-volume text-book, East Asia: The Great Tradition and East Asia: The Modern Transformation.

Professor Reischauer is an honorary director of the Japan Society and president of the board of trustees of the Harvard-Yenching Institute.

### JAPAN SOCIETY

The Japan Society, founded in 1907, is an association of individuals and corporations actively engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and the United States closer together in understanding, appreciation and cooperation. It is a private, nonprofit, nonpolitical organization, devoted to cultural, educational and public affairs, and to discussions, exchanges and studies in areas of vital interest to both peoples. Its aim is to provide a medium through which each nation may learn from the experiences and accomplishments of the other

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EMBASSY OF JAPAN WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 23, 1975

Dear Mrs. Ford:

Mrs. Yasukawa and I are happy to send you three copies of "Art Treasures from the Imperial Collections", a catalog of the exhibit mounted in the Great Hall of the Smithsonian Institution.

We are hopeful that you and the President will find it convenient to visit the exhibition at the time of Their Majesties' Banquet on October 3 at the Institution.

With my warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Takeshi Yasukawa Ambassador of Japan

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500





Susan,

Dave Brown, Japan Desk at State called to say that at the Reciprocal Dinner on the 3rd of October, the Emperor and Empress of Japan will escort the President and Mrs. Ford to view the show!

Sally



GEORGE E. KIND, PRESIDENT HIGH SCHOOL ART INSTRUCTOR MARION, HIGH SCHOOL MARION, INDIANA MELVIN D. GRAY, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT 515 NORTH HARRISON STREET RUSHVILLE, INDIANA MISS MARY DIERSTEIN, SECOND VICE-PRES. 5031 IONE DRIVE FORT WAYNE, INDIANA Mrs. Gerald R. Ford

The White House

Washington, D. C. 20500



EMBASSY OF JAPAN WASHINGTON, D. C.





ART TREASURES FROM
THE IMPERIAL COLLECTIONS

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In Commemoration of the Visit of This Majerties the Emperor and Empress of Japan to the On ted States

16 September - 5 October, 1975 Great Hall, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

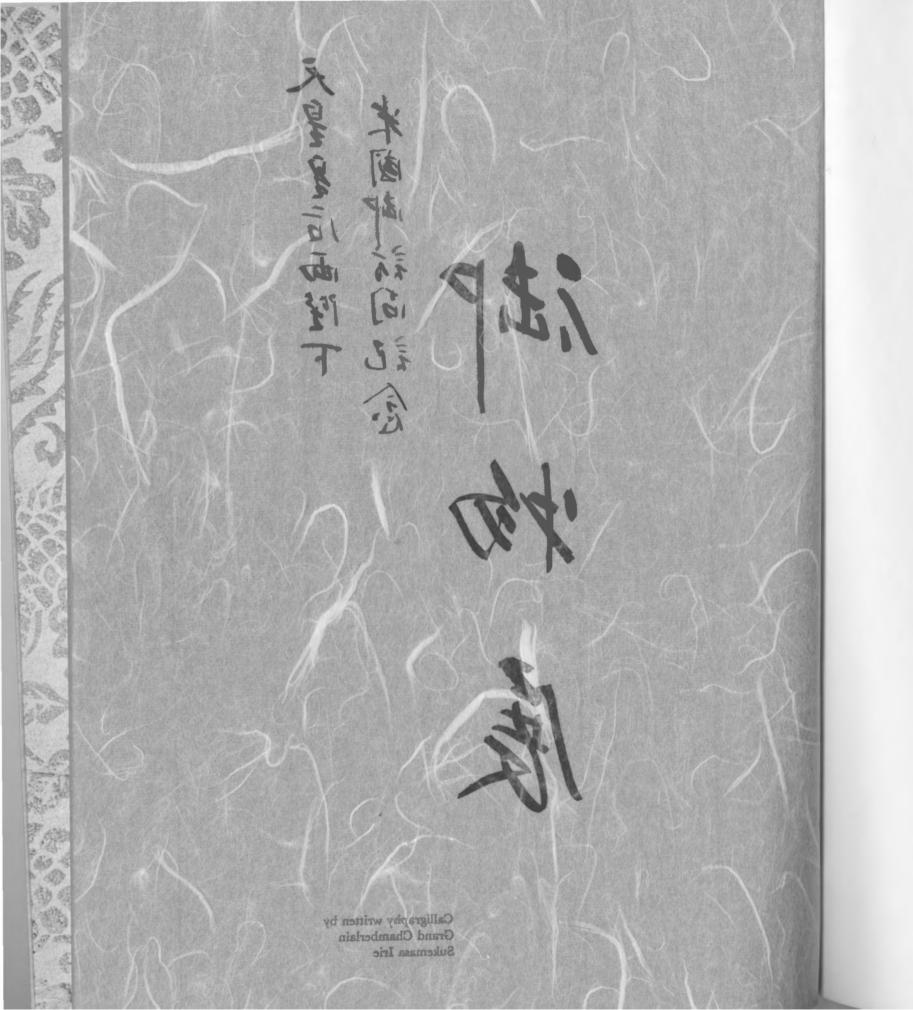
12 October 29 October, 1975 Japan House Gallery, Japan Society, Inc., New York, N.Y.

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Organized by Imperial Household Agency Ministry of Foreign Affairs Agency for Cultural Affairs The Japan Foundation



Calligraphy written by Grand Chamberlain Sukemasa Irie



# ART TREASURES FROM THE IMPERIAL COLLECTIONS

In Commemoration of the Visit of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan to the United States

18 September - 5 October, 1975 Great Hall, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

12 October - 29 October, 1975 Japan House Gallery, Japan Society, Inc., New York, N.Y.

Organized by
Imperial Household Agency
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Agency for Cultural Affairs
The Japan Foundation

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These art treasures from the Imperial Collection, together with a selection from the National Museum, are being exhibited in Washington, D.C. and New York, to commemorate the first visit of a reigning monarch of Japan to the United States, which is an event of great significance in the history of friendly relations between the two countries.

Japanese culture was influenced by Chinese culture for many centuries and by the West in modern times. In the meantime, Japan has not only absorbed those external cultures, but developed a unique culture of her own in distinct contrast to them.

The Imperial Household has concerned itself throughout the ages with such enrichment of Japan's culture and has played an important role in the preservation of her traditions and the promotion of cultural achievements of her people. Objects in the custody of the Imperial Household include many precious works of art, reflecting its unceasing patronage of art and culture.

The selection for this exhibition has been made especially with the Bicentennial of the United States in mind. It therefore contains the representative works of artists who were active 200 years ago, such as Itō Jakuchū and Sakai Hōitsu, and other works accepted as masterpieces of modern Japanese art, ranging from that time down to the early 1930s. In addition, there are five paintings by Her Majesty the Empress, specially loaned for this exhibition.

This exhibition is an expression of the feeling of respect and friendship of the Japanese people toward the United States and her people. I earnestly hope that it will prove interesting to the American people and deepen their appreciation of Japanese culture and will contribute to the increase of cultural exchange and mutual understanding between our two countries.

Tokyo, September, 1975

Keel hysjawa Kiichi MIYAZAWA

Minister for Foreign Affairs

