

Susumu Kinoshita

- 1947 : Born in Toyama city, Toyama Prefecture, Japan
- 1961: Had the opportunity to make his first sculpture during the summer vacation, and his talents were noticed by his art teacher who introduced him to Naohira Otaki, a sculptor at the University of Toyama . Attended a course for the general public taught by Otaki. Meet Yoshi Kinouchi, a sculptor living in Tokyo, through Otaki.
- 1964: Met Saburo Aso, a Western-style painter, through Yoshi Kinouchi.
His crayon drawing 'Tatsu (Standing)' was selected for an exhibition by the Jiyu Bijutsu Association at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum.
- 1965: Left school in the second year of enrolment at the Department of Food and Chemical Industry, Toyama Prefectural Women's and Agriculture High School (Present: Toyama Nishi High School) to work at a place that makes signboards
He was again selected for the Jizan Artists Association Exhibition at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art with his oil painting "Playing Carta".
Around this time, he had the opportunity to meet the painter, Masao Tsuruoka, a member of the Jiyu Bijutsu Association.
- 1970 His wife's family opposed his marriage, and he ran away from Toyama to Niigata.
- 1973: Visited Europe It was a pilgrimage where he received enormous influence from the works of Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Da Vinci, etc.
- 1977 Moved to Kawaguchi City, Saitama Prefecture
- 1981 : First visit to the U.S. where he attempt to present his works, but failed
Met Arakawa Shusaku at a party held at Kawashima Takeshi's atelier in Soho, New York
After returning to Japan, he was invited by Sunouchi Toru, an art critic, to Ishimizu-tei in Sasakami Village, Niigata Prefecture. He missed the bus that will take his back to Tokyo, and happened to hear the singing of Kobayashi Haru, a female blind singer, which impacted him significantly.
This encounter with Koabayashi Haru, at a point where he was feeling despondent about his unsuccessful attempts in the U.S. and in the process of exploring pencil drawings to establish his originality, resulted in him seriously considering reorientating himself as a pencil artist.
Completed a pencil drawing "Wandering" modeled on her mother
- 1983 Completed his first picture modeled on Kobayashi Haru

- 1989 Completed a ceiling painting at Churen-ji Temple
- 1999 Appointed as a lecturer in the Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, The University of Tokyo (~2008)
- 2001 Appointed as a lecturer in oil painting at the Faculty of Art and Design, Musashino Art University (~2008)
- 2003 Appointed as a lecturer at Niigata Pharmaceutical University (~2008)
- 2009 Appointed as a full-time professor at the Kanazawa College of Art Graduate School (~2014)
- 2013 Received the Blue Ribbon Medal
Appointed as a Visiting Professor at Musashino Art University
- 2014 Appointed as a Visiting Professor at Kanazawa College of Art
- 2019 In spring, he relocated from Machida, Tokyo, to Sagamihara, Kanagawa Prefecture

Main exhibitions

- 1966 Participated in the 2nd Central Exhibition of Regional Artists at the Toyama Prefectural Museum of Art, and met Honma Masayoshi
- 1979 Participated in the Japanese Masters and Geniuses of Western Painting Exhibition
- 1983 His work was exhibited at the 'Contemporary Realism Exhibition' held at the Museum of Modern Art, Urawa City, Saitama Prefecture, which was his first internationally invited exhibition.
- 1984 His works were showcased at the Hiroshima Peace Art Exhibition. Registered in the G & G Association
- 1986 Exhibited at the Sea of Japan Art Exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, Toyama
- 1989 Participated in Niigata City Art Museum's 'Niigata 100-Year Exhibition'
Participated in the "Sunouchi Collection Exhibition" held at The Miyagi Museum of Art and the Yorozutetsugoro Memorial Museum in Iwate Prefecture
- 1990 Organized the 'Sunouchi and Ibe Collection Exhibition' at the Kuma Museum of Art, Kumakogen, Ehime Prefecture
Participated in the 'Art of Fuji' exhibition held at the Museum of Modern Art, Toyama
- 1992 His works were showcased in the 'Chitose Collection Exhibition' at the Matsugaoka Memorial Museum in Tsuruoka City, Yamagata Prefecture
- 1995 Participated in the exhibition 'Trails of Post-War Culture, 1945-1955' held at Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art and Fukuoka Prefectural Museum of Art

- 1997 Participated in the exhibition 'Museum of Whimsical Art – Sunouchi Toru and Exhibition of Japanese Contemporary Art' held at Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Takahashi City Nariwa Museum and Ehime Museum of Art
Invited to showcase his works at the 'Japanese Modern Artists' Exhibition' at the Shanghai Museum of Art
- 2001 Organized the 'Kinoshita Susumu and Reinhardt Sobyte' exhibition held at Gallery Shimada, Kobe
Participated in the 'Standard Exhibition' at the Naoshima Contemporary Art Museum in Kagawa Prefecture
- 2003 Organized the 'Kinoshita Susumu and Takeuchi Mitsuhiro Exhibition' at Takeuchi Mitsuhiro Atelier in Kochi Prefecture
- 2004 Participated in the 'Roppongi Crossing Exhibition: New Aspirations for Japanese Art 2004' at Mori Art Museum, Tokyo. Met Kusama Yayoi.
- 2006 His works were displayed at the Ishikawa Prefectural Museum of Art's 'Black Labyrinth: Gazes' exhibition
- 2007 His works were displayed at the Meguro Museum of Art's 'Labyrinth of Lines II – The Melody of Pencil and Graphite' exhibition.
Participated in the 'ATTITUDE 2007 Human House: Things that Truly Deserve Joy' exhibition at Kumamoto Contemporary Art Museum
- 2008 His works were showcased at the 'Portraits of Asia and Europe' exhibition at the National Museum of Art, Osaka
- 2010 Took part in the 'Setouchi International Art Festival 2010: 100-Day Adventures with Art and the Sea' at Kagawa and other prefectures
- 2014 His works were displayed at the 'Revolutionary Perspectives' exhibition at the Ishikawa Prefectural Museum of Art
Organized the exhibition 'Power of the Pencil: Kinoshita Susumu and Yoshimura Yoshio' held at Kumamoto Museum of Contemporary Art
- 2016 Participated in the exhibition 'Ecce homo – A look at modern images of humans' at the National Museum of Art, Osaka
- 2017 A three-artist exhibition with Kusama Yayoi and Shimokawa Masaru entitled 'Overlap your hearts gradually' at Gallery Heki, Ashikaga City, Tochigi Prefecture
Works were displayed at the Hiratsuka Museum of Art's "The Future of Real" exhibition (later toured Ashikaga, Hekinan, and Himeji)
Works were displayed at the exhibition 'The Magic Power of Japan's Realism' at Hokkaido's

Hakodate Museum of Art (subsequently exhibited at Toyohashi and Nara)

Works were displayed at the 'Light and Shadow in Post-War Japan's Cultural Development' exhibition at the Rias Ark Museum, Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture

Participated in the Yokohama Triennale 2017 "Islands, Constellations, and Galapagos"

Participated in the 'Collections 2: Artist's Final Moments' at Kuma Museum of Art, Kumakogen, Ehime Prefecture.

2018 His works were exhibited as part of the collection of the National Museum of Art, Nakanoshima, Osaka

Solo Exhibitions

1969 First solo exhibition in Ginza, Tokyo (Muramatsu Gallery) Met the poet and art critic, Takiguchi Shuzo Became acquainted with the artist Oyamada Jiro

1972 Second solo exhibition held at Kunugi Gallery in Ginza Meet the art critic and owner of Modern Gallery, Sunouchi Toru Sunouchi, through the artist Aso Saburo

1975 'Kinoshita Susumu's Oil Painting Exhibition' was held as the first exhibition project of Modern Gallery in Ginza, Tokyo; thereafter, this exhibition was held six times in 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983 and 1985.

1987 Solo exhibition at Stripe House Museum of Art, Roppongi, Tokyo

1988 Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition (Ceiling Painting of Churen-ji Temple in Mount Yudono 'Door to Heaven') at the Honma Museum of Art, Sakata City, Yamagata Prefecture

1990 Solo exhibition at Stripe House Museum of Art, Roppongi, Tokyo

1991 Solo exhibition at Poin JAL Gallery in Paris

In late autumn, a solo exhibition was held at the Kaibundo Gallery in Motomachi, Kobe, and he met Nakayama Masako Nakayama (the wife of Nakayama Iwata), who passed away in January of the following year .

1992 Solo exhibition at JAL Gallery in New York

1993 Solo exhibition at Stripe House Museum of Art, Roppongi, Tokyo

1994 Solo exhibition at Gallery NOW in Toyama City – 'Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition: The World of Pencil Art'

Solo exhibition at KEEN Gallery in New York

1995 Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition at Chido Museum, Tsuruoka City, Yamagata Prefecture

1997 Solo exhibition 'Kinoshita Susumu: World of the Pencil 1981 – 1997' at Ikeda 20th

Century Museum of Art, Ito City, Shizuoka Prefecture

- 1998 Organized the exhibition 'Kinoshita Susumu: Music of Prayer' at Kuma Museum of Art, Kumakogen, Ehime Prefecture
- 1999 Solo exhibition at Kanda Nissho Memorial Museum in Shikaoi Town, Hokkaido
- 2002 Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition commemorating the publication of a painting collection From the Raw Abyss in Gallery Shimada, Kobe City.
- 2003 Solo exhibition at Sakima Museum of Art, Okinawa
- 2004 solo exhibition at Komagane Kogen Museum of Art, Komagane City, Nagano Prefecture
- 2005 Organized the exhibition "Kinoshita Susumu: Darkness Stripped Away" held at Asahi Museum of Art, Asahi Village, Nagano Prefecture
- 2006 Organized the exhibition 'Kinoshita Susumu's Picture Books Original Drawings: Hands of Granny Haru' at Sakyukan, Niigata and 'Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition' at Niigata Eya 'Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition: Emerging Inner World" held at Sakima Museum of Art, Okinawa
- 2009 'Trails of the whole Kinoshita Susumu' held at the Art Gallery of Kanazawa College of Art
- 2010 Solo exhibition of Kinoshita Susumu at Fukuoka Art Museum
'Another Kinoshita Shin: Hieroglyph Diary' exhibition held at Kanazawa College of Art
'Kobayashi Haru as drawn by Kinoshita Shin' exhibition held at Sanjo City's Sanjo-higashi Community Center
- 2012 'Kinoshita Susumu: Heart of Prayer' exhibition (The Hiratsuka Museum of Art, Tonami Art Museum)
- 2013 'Kinoshita Susumu – Prayers' exhibition held at Nagai Gallery in Ginza, Tokyo
'Kinoshita Susumu: Journey of Life' exhibition (Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels, Higashimatsuyama City, Saitama Prefecture; Okinawa Prefectural Museum)
- 2014 Kinoshita Susumu's exhibition 'Journey of Life' at the Okinawa Prefectural Museum of Art
'Kinoshita Susumu's Graphic Book Original Paintings' exhibition held at the Tanaka Isson Memorial Museum, Amami Oshima
- 2016 Kinoshita Susumu's Graphic Book Original Paintings Exhibition 'Stories of the Panda' and The First Trip' held at Sakyukan, Niigata.
- 2017 'Kinoshita Susumu: Possibilities of Expression' exhibition held at Gallery Echo-Ann, Ginza, Tokyo
- 2018 Solo exhibition at Nagoya Gallery

‘Kinoshita Susumu: Focusing on Original Paintings from the Graphic Book “Forest Panda”’ at Gallery The Earth in Kamakura City

2019 ‘Kinoshita Susumu: Drawings of Life’ at Gallery Echo-Ann, Ginza, Tokyo

Reunited with Nejime Shoichi after about 40 years, had a conversation at Gallery Echo-Ann

Publications

- 2000 Kinoshita Susumu’s Exhibition: World of Pencils Commemorative Collection of Interviews, published by the Executive Committee of the Exhibition Project
- 2002 Pencil Work : From the Raw Abyss, Ribun Shuppan Co., Ltd.
- 2005 Picture book Hands of Granny Haru, published by Fukuinkan Shoten Publishing
- 2012 Collection of Drawings and Writings of Kinoshita Susumu – Heart of Prayer, Kyuryudo Art-Publishing
- 2013 Picture book The First Trip, Fukuinkan Shoten Publishing
- 2014 Publication of ‘Story of the Panda’ announced at Beijing book fair
- 2015 Publication of Story of the Panda, a graphic book containing pictures of wild pandas by China’s 21st Century Publishing Group
- 2017 Picture Book Pandas in the Forest, Kodansha Publishing

Media

- 1996 Paul Zelanski “Design Principles and Problems”. His profile and photographs of his works were included in this textbook used by universities throughout the United States.
- 2003 ‘Happiness, Life’ broadcast by KNB (Kita Nihon Broadcasting) in Toyama.
- 2005 A segment of him drawing Kawabata Kin (model on which Granny Haru is based on) was broadcast on NHK’s Educational TV network
- 2006 A weekly column, ‘Times of the Heart’ in the newspaper Hokuriku Chunichi Shimbun (52 times in total)
- 2008 NHK Late Night Radio ‘Talking about Mothers – Artist Kinoshita Susumu’
Bijutsu Techo, Art History by Artists (Vol.68), Kinoshita Susumu
- 2012 “What March 11 Left Behind” published in Issue 49 of Kan (Fujiwara Shoten)
‘Loneliness... Darkness... and then Light: Pencil Artist Kinoshita Susumu’ in NHK

program “Sunday’s Art Museum”

- 2013 Dialogue with Nakamura Keiko at Nagai Gallery, ‘Life and Humans’, (later published in Issue 54 of Kan)
- 2014 ‘Are Pandas Cute?: Visiting Pandas Living in Mountainous Areas of Sichuan Province, China” published in Issue 56 of Kan
- 2015 Article ‘Doing what nobody else in the world is doing – Beautiful Pencil Graduation’ published in Star-Watching
- Photographs of his artwork and the creation process were included in the textbook Art, High School Third Year (published by Nihon Bunkyo Shuppan and Mitsumura Toshio Publishing)
- 2017 Appeared on NHK’s “Sunday’s Art Museum: Special Episode - The Future of Realism” ‘Special Lecture: Producing Artworks’ published in the Journal of Artistic Anatomy
- 2018 His artwork was used in a moral education textbook for junior high school, Living Tomorrow (Nihon Bunkyo Shuppan)
- 2019 NHK Educational TV Special Feature: “Days of Our Lives – Pencil Artist Kinoshita Susumu draws his wife” (scheduled)

Other Activities

- 2013 Dialogue with Mizusawa Tsutomu at the Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels, Higashi-Matsuyama City, Saitama Prefecture
- 2014 Dialogue with Aoki Shinmon at the Okinawa Prefectural Museum of Art
- 2015 Dialogue with Yamada Taichi ‘Looking at the Old’ at Hosen-ji Temple in Kumamoto City
- 2016 Creation of ceiling painting “Nothingness” at Sotozen Sect Shokyuji Temple in Kamakura City
- Lecture at Gallery Hillgate, Kyoto, entitled “Michelangelo the Great Fraudster”
- 2018 Dialogue with Miyazaki Toshihide, Director of Kobayashi Kokei Memorial Museum of Art
- 2019 ‘Kinoshita Susumu Exhibition: Directions of Gaze’ at GALLERIA in Hakusan City, Ishikawa Prefecture. Dialogue with Shima Atsuhiko on the opening day of the exhibition

Collections

The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo

The National Museum of Art, Osaka