



### Landscape in the Rain



Artist: Kano Kyuzan Korenobu

Date: 1655-1724 (artist)

Size: Scroll: 47 1/2" x 23 1/4"; image: 15 1/2" x 21 3/4"

Nationality: Japanese

Donor: Penelope Mason

Accession number: 96.3.4

Other works by this artist? Yes  No

### The Kano School:

This scroll was created during the Edo period (1615-1868) under the Tokugawa Shogunate and came from the Kano School of Japanese art. The school was established in Kyoto by Kano Masanobu (1434-1530 CE). The style was heavily influenced by Chinese painting and adhered to common Chinese painting subjects such as landscapes and Zen patriarchs. The Kano School valued training and repetition over natural talent as they believed that natural talent could not be passed down the family line the same way that training could. Masters of this school taught their students by having them make copies of earlier works. In 1600, the school moved from Kyoto to Tokugawa to follow their clientele where the style continued to develop and grow throughout the Edo period. During this period the style dominated Japanese art and became the favored style for nobility, shoguns, emperors, Buddhist clergy, and merchants.

### The Kano Legacy:

"The Kano school was the longest lived and most influential school of painting in Japanese history; its more than 300-year prominence is unique in world art history. Working from the fifteenth century into modern times, this hereditary assemblage of professional, secular painters succeeded in attracting numerous patrons..."

-Department of Asian Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art

### Contextual Information:

*Landscape in the Rain* is a Japanese hanging scroll also known as a kakemono. This scroll style was largely influenced by Chinese hanging scrolls and was displayed during Japanese tea ceremonies. These scrolls were constructed with fabric and flexible backing to make them easier to roll and store. Prior to a formal ceremony, the host would diligently pick out the scroll and the flower arrangement to display for the guests. *Landscape in the Rain* is a "tatejiku," meaning that its width is shorter than its height. This style of scroll has four distinct sections. The top section called the "ten" means heaven and the bottom section called the "chi" means earth. The other two sections, known as "hashira" pillars are found on either side of the image. These pillars support the ties between heaven and earth. When guests viewed the scroll, they were generally in a kneeling or "seiza" position. Thus, the ten is longer than the chi to give perspective to the "honshi," or main work.

### Media Description:

The scroll is made of silk fabric with a flexible paper backing that allowed it to be rolled and stored.

### Terminology:

Kakemono: a Japanese hanging scroll

Honshi: mainland; the main image or work on a hanging scroll

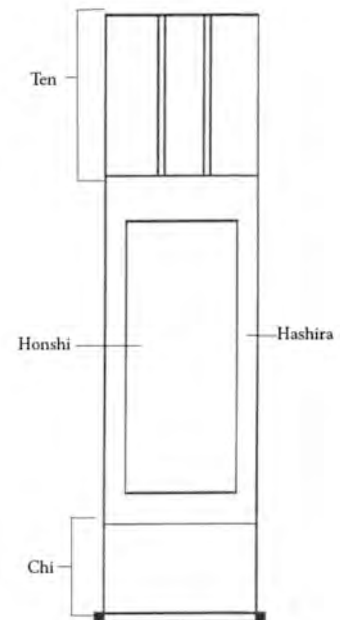
Ten: heaven; the top section of a hanging scroll

Chi: earth; the bottom section of a hanging scroll

### References:

"History of Japanese Art" by Penelope Mason;  
<http://japanese-tea-ceremony.net/scroll.html>;  
[https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd\\_kano.htm](https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd_kano.htm)  
<http://education.asianart.org/explore-resources/background-information/japanese-painting-kano-school>

Fall 2017, Morgan Zoldak



### Stamp a Scroll: Training and Techniques in the Kano School (K-5)

**Session Activity:** Students will be introduced to the history of the Kano School and its significance. Students will make their own scroll images using stamps, based on the work *Landscape in the Rain* by Kano Kyuzan Korenobu. Students will be introduced to the way these artists gained their skills by creating works based on previous images, through training and repetition.

**Objectives:**

Students will be introduced to the history of the Kano School and its significance. The importance of training and repetition to the production of Kano School scroll paintings will be explained. Students will understand the importance of previous works to the artists of the Kano School.

**Materials:** stamp pads, multiple colors; stamps, fitting with the theme of nature; paper

**Activity Procedure:**

1. A brief history of the Kano School and its influence on Japanese art will be explained.
2. Students will be shown *Landscape in the Rain* and will be instructed on the way it was made.
3. Students will receive a piece of paper; groups will be given stamp pads and stamps.
4. Students will be asked to use the stamps to create works inspired by *Landscape in the Rain*.
5. Students will be asked to explain the way their works were inspired by *Landscape in the Rain*.

**Helpful Websites:** [https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd\\_kano.htm](https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd_kano.htm), [https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/edop/hd\\_edop.htm](https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/edop/hd_edop.htm).

#### **Next Generation Sunshine State Standard (K-5)**

**Big Idea:** Skills, Techniques, and Processes

**Enduring Understanding:** VA.3.S.3 – Through purposeful practice, artists learn to manage, master, and refine simple, then complex, skills and techniques.

**Benchmark:** VA.3.S.3.1 – Use materials, tools and processes to achieve an intended result in two- and/or three-dimensional artworks.

#### **Next Generation Sunshine State Standard (9-12)**

**Big Idea:** Skills, Techniques, and Processes

**Enduring Understanding:** VA.912.S.3 – Through purposeful practice, artists learn to manage, master, and refine simple, then complex, skills and techniques.

**Benchmark:** VA.912.S.3.1 – Manipulate materials, techniques, and processes through practice and perseverance to create a desired result in two- and/or three-dimensional artworks.



*Misty Landscape*, Kano School, early 19th century

### What Makes a Japanese Scroll? (6-12)

**Session Activity:** Students will understand the history and impact of the Kano School. Students will work in groups to research Japanese scrolls and then produce their own based on *Landscape in the Rain* by Kano Kyuzan Korenobu. Research topics and their connections to created scrolls will be presented to the class by the appropriate groups.

**Objectives:**

Students will be given a brief history of the Kano School and the Edo Period. Students will analyze the history, techniques, and inspiration that led to the creation of Japanese scrolls. Students will create scrolls based on works of the Kano School. Public speaking, research, and teamwork skills will be gained through presentations.

**Materials:** watercolor paper, cardstock paper, butcher paper, watercolor paint, brushes, fabric, PVC pipe or wood dowels, glue, string, scissors, access to Internet or library for research.

**Activity Procedure:**

1. Students will be given a brief synopsis of the history of the Edo Period and the Kano School.
2. *Landscape in the Rain* will be shown to students and to explain the assignment.
3. Students will be put into groups of 3-5.
4. Students in groups will be asked to choose to present on one of the following topics or create an approved topic: history of the Kano School; techniques in the Kano school; creation of scrolls; use of scrolls in Japan; influence of Chinese painting; nature motifs in the Edo Period; the Kano style among Japanese elites; legacy of the Kano School.
5. Students will be given class sessions to research, create paintings and assemble scrolls, and plan presentations.
6. Each student will make a scroll. Each will: paint an image on watercolor paper; mount the image on cardstock; choose fabric to create the scroll; back the frame with butcher paper; attach image to scroll; glue scroll onto dowels at both ends; attach a string for hanging. Refer to the opposite side of the page for a diagram of Japanese scrolls.
7. Students will present their scrolls and research in 10-15-minute group presentations.

**Helpful Websites:** [https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd\\_kano.htm](https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kano/hd_kano.htm), [https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/edop/hd\\_edop.htm](https://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/edop/hd_edop.htm), [http://www.susannebarrymorescrolls.com/category/About the Artist and Making of Oriental Scrolls/c38](http://www.susannebarrymorescrolls.com/category/About%20the%20Artist%20and%20Making%20of%20Oriental%20Scrolls/c38).