

**Keio Plaza Hotel Press Release**

**Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Hosts Mt. Fuji Exhibition,  
Featuring Itchiku Kubota's Mt. Fuji Kimono Masterpieces**

TOKYO - [Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo](#), one of Japan's most prestigious international hotels located in Shinjuku, Tokyo, will host its annual spring art exhibition based upon the theme of "Mt. Fuji," which was registered as a World Heritage Site in 2013. This year, various kimono artwork of renowned artist [Itchiku Kubota](#), who revived the Tsujigahana tie-dyeing technique of the Muromachi period (1338-1573), will be exhibited. In addition, items from his collection of Tombodama ancient glass bead art collection will be displayed. This exhibition will be held from March 28 to April 30, 2017 in the third floor Art Lobby and other locations in our hotel, and will be free of charge to all visitors. Also, special meals with unique menu items commemorating this exhibition will be served at our French and Italian, and Japanese restaurants in April.

This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the renowned kimono artist Itchiku Kubota (deceased in 2003 at the age of 85), who is well known for his artworks both in Japan and overseas. After returning from imprisonment in Siberia after the end of World War II at the age of 31, Itchiku discovered the Tsujigahana traditional technique of dyeing, which disappeared 400 years ago, used for Japanese kimonos and thereafter devoted his career to reviving this extinct dyeing technique. After 20 years of diligently fine tuning his skills in Tsujigahana dyeing, he announced the official start of his own style of Tsujigahana dyeing called "Itchiku Tsujigahana". At the age of 77, he constructed an art museum known as the [Itchiku Kubota Art Museum](#) in Kawaguchiko with spectacular views of Mt. Fuji as a place to display his beautiful art items, and passed away in 2003. For our spring art exhibition, we have chosen to display six Itchiku Tsujigahana art items that depict Mt. Fuji, which was one of Itchiku's most favorite themes in his artwork, and two other items in the "Yuzen" dyeing style art items which Itchiku pursued early in his career. The exhibition will also display 14 Tombodama glass bead art items that are said to be one of the most ancient art forms and were collected by Itchiku on his travels along the Silk Road. In addition, calligraphy art brushes and ink stones used by Itchiku will also be displayed.

The Keio Plaza Hotel hosts [a wide variety of cultural events](#) on a seasonal basis as part of a wide range of hospitality services provided to our hotel guests, 75% of whom are overseas visitors from over 100 different countries. Shinjuku, where our hotel is located, is the starting point of journeys from Tokyo to Mt. Fuji, and our annual events celebrating the magnificence of this beautiful and symbolic mountain held every year since 2013 have become extremely popular amongst all hotel guests and visitors. This year, we are proud to host an exhibition of "Itchiku Tsujigahana" artwork as representations of the profound influence that Mt. Fuji has had on Japanese art and culture. Itchiku Kubota has become widely recognized both in Japan and overseas for his beautiful artwork representing Japan's traditional art techniques and the seasonal beauty of its nature.



穩 (おん) "On": Mt. Fuji and its Forest Cloaked in Fog (Created in 1989)

The first work in a series depicting Mt. Fuji and its forest as seen from a hotel in Fujiyoshida City, this work is the most like an actual photograph of all Itchiku's art works.



薬 (おん) "On": Green Tress of the Mt. Fuji Forest in Spring (Created 1995)

Colorful forest and flowers in full bloom during spring, representative of the bountiful dreams that inspired Itchiku's art work.



"Tombodama" Ancient Glass Bead Art

## Special Exhibition of Itchiku Kubota's Mt. Fuji Kimono

### ■ Special Exhibition

Date: March 28 (Tuesday) to April 30 (Sunday), 2017

Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Art Lobby, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Restaurant Floors

\*admission free

Held in Cooperation with the [Itchiku Kubota Art Museum](#)

#### “Captivating Art Work of Itchiku Depicting Mt. Fuji”

Six art items from “Itchiku Tujigahana” style of dyeing that depict Mt. Fuji and represent the lifelong work of Itchiku Kubota will be displayed. In addition, two art items from his original artwork in the style of Yuzen dyeing artwork, along with calligraphy paint brushes, ink stones, and other various art utensils used by Itchiku will also be displayed.

#### “Itchiku Kubota Art Museum “Tombodama” Ancient Glass Bead Gallery”

Itchiku Kubota was also a well-known collector of “Tombodama Ancient Glass Bead” art and 14 items from his collection, which were made in Europe over 2,000 years ago and are said to be amongst the oldest art craft made, will be displayed. Itchiku has been fascinated with “Taomodama Ancient Glass Bead” art from a young age, and the items on display will give visitors to the exhibitions insight to how he developed his aesthetic eye for art.

\*Tombodama glass bead art accessories will be sold in the Lobby Gallery on April 21 -29

Held in Cooperation with the [Kawaguchiko Museum of Art](#)

#### “Mt. Fuji and Flower Photographic Exhibition”

Approximately 20 photographs depicting the theme of Mt. Fuji and flowers selected from the winners of the “Mt. Fuji Photograph Contest” held by the Kawaguchiko Museum of Art will also be displayed.

### ■ Restaurant Fair

Special meals with unique menu items commemorating this exhibition will be served at our 3 restaurants.

Date: April 1 (Saturday) to 30 (Sunday)

Restaurants:

[“Duo Fourchettes”](#) French and Italian Cuisine Restaurant

[“Kagari”](#) Japanese Cuisine Restaurant

[“Soujuan”](#) Kaiseki Cuisine Restaurant

### About the Keio Plaza Hotel

[Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo \(KPH\)](#), located in Shinjuku at the very heart of the nation's capital Tokyo, is one of Japan's leading international hotels. Our hotel boasts of over 20 restaurants and bars, and we host a wide range of local and international guests who visit us for our welcoming facilities, warm hospitality and unique services that allow them to experience Japanese culture, including our [Hello Kitty themed rooms](#), [wedding kimono fitting experience](#), [tea ceremony](#) and [many others](#). For more information about our facilities and services, please visit our [website](#), [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

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