

September 7, 2019

30th Anniversary of the Yokohama Museum of Art /
 160th Anniversary of the Opening of Yokohama Port
Following the Path of Commodore Perry's Arrival through Images
September 21 - November 10, 2019

Commodore Perry Coming Ashore at Yokohama is a painting of the arrival of the American squadron to a small village of Yokohama on March 8th 1854. The painting has often been exhibited in our collection. The image captures the historical moment of the arrival of Commodore Perry that eventually led to the opening of Yokohama Port. This painting will be the centerpiece of the exhibition that will illustrate the story of the commencement of how Yokohama became an international city.

This painting, depicting the event of March 8th 1854, is attributed to Peter Bernhard Wilhelm HEINE, who accompanied Commodore Perry on his expedition to Japan, during which time he sketched and painted numerous images. Together with photographer

Eliphalet Brown Jr., Heine was the main illustrator of the expedition's official narrative : *Narrative of the expedition of an American squadron to the China Seas and Japan : performed in the years 1852, 1853, and 1854, under the command of Commodore M.C. Perry, United States Navy, by order of the Government of the United States*. It seems that photograph of the time, daguerreotype, required too long an exposure time that it made it impossible to capture the crucial moment.

At the time of Perry's arrival, painting was the main recording medium and lithograph was just about to develop as a new method for reproduction relating to publication. This exhibition will show how visual medium such as painting, photograph, and prints interact each other to narrate and represent Perry's expedition to Japan.

On the other hand, how did the people on the shore observe the incident of March 8th 1854? We will examine it through images illustrating Commodore Perry and his crew and the East India Squadron painted by various Japanese people. They convey the inquisitiveness and vivid curiosity of the Japanese people of the time. We will be providing various educational programs as well as talk sessions performed by our museum voluntary members in hope to enhance the rendering of Yokohama as it was 160 years ago. We hope you will enjoy them as well.



Attributed to Peter Bernhard Wilhelm HEINE
Commodore Perry Coming Ashore at Yokohama
 after 1854
 53.3×80.5cm oil on canvas
 Yokohama Museum of Art
 (donated by Mr. HARA Noriyuki and Mrs. Hara Etsuko)



Eliphalet Brown Jr.
Endo Matazaemon and His Retainers
 1854
 Daguerreotype (the replica is on exhibited)
 11.4×8.2cm
 Yokohama Museum of Art
 *Important Cultural Properties

Sections

I. March 8th, 1854 / Kaei 7 February 10th : Images of Perry's Landing at Yokohama

This section is all about the day of Perry's arrival. With the painting in our collection *Commodore Perry Coming Ashore at Yokohama* as the centerpiece, other artworks of the view of Yokohama captured by Perry's delegation will be exhibited along with those of ships and people portrayed by Japanese people.



Small Boat Approaching the Main Ship
n.d.

color on paper 27.2×38.7cm
Yokohama City Central Library

II. Recording Works in watercolors, oil paintings and lithographs on The Perry Squadron in Ryukyu, Hatayamazaki, Kurihama and Shimoda.

Besides *Commodore Perry Coming Ashore at Yokohama*, there are other images created in water colors, oil paintings and lithographs of the locations in Japan where the Perry's squadron navigated namely, Ryukyu, Hatayamazaki, Kurihama and Shimoda. We will show the similarities and differences of these artworks and will verify how the incident was recorded and propagated through images and other medium.



Sketches of the Perry's "Black Ships" Squadron
late 19th century

color on paper, scroll 26.3×695.3cm
Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Cultural History
*this scene is exhibited: Oct 18 - Nov.10, 2019

Outline

Following the Path of Commodore Perry's Arrival through Images

Venue	Art Gallery 1, Yokohama Museum of Art [3-4-1, Minatomirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama, 220-0012] https://yokohama.art.museum/eng/
Dates	September 21 (Sat.)- November 10 (Sun.), 2019
Open hours	10:00-18:00 *10:00-20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays *10:00-21:00 on Sep.27, 28.
Closed	Thursdays
Admission	Free
Organized by	Yokohama Museum of Art [Yokohama Arts Foundation]



Peter Bernhard Wilhelm HEINE
Landing of Commodore Perry, officers & men of the Squadron, to meet the Imperial Commissioners at Shimoda, Japan, June 8th, 1854. (detail)
1855

lithograph 64.4×89.3cm
Printing Museum, Tokyo

Contact

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