



# Japanese Beauties



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## Japanese Beauties

Sotheran's are very pleased to have had the opportunity to put together this exhibition of Japanese Beauties prints. These are often referred to as Bijin-ga or "beautiful person pictures."

This is the first time we have done an exhibition solely dedicated to this genre.

The artist most associated with this area of Japanese printmaking is Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806). There is a large collection of prints by Utamaro in the exhibition (items 34-65). There are both modern 20th Century versions as well as lifetime impressions available.

These include a Museum quality piece (item 36) depicting the famous Courtesan Hanaogi.

We are fortunate to have one print by Hasui Kawase (1883-1957) in the show (item 33). Kawase is among the most significant artists of the shin-hanga or "new prints" movement.

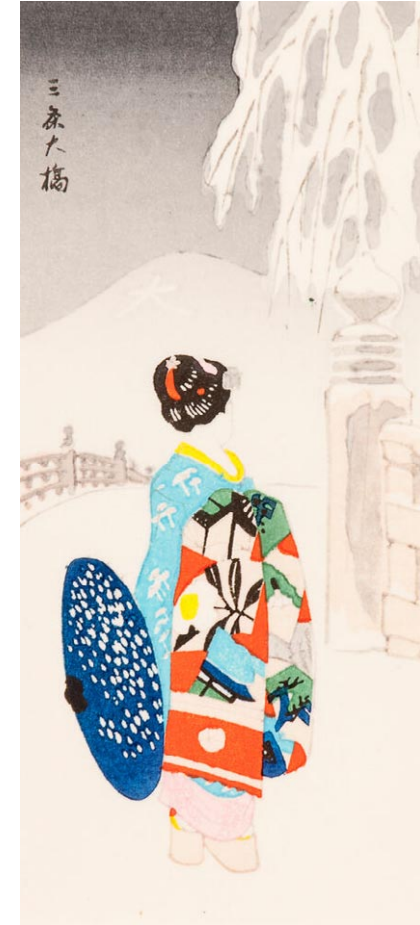
There are some enchanting prints by Narita Morikane (items 77-79). Very little is known about this artist except that he produced prints for a series titled "Twenty Four Figures of Charming Women."

We do hope you will be able to attend the exhibition which will take place in the Print department from Thursday 2nd May – Thursday 23rd May 2019.

Note: All sizes given include acid free mounts unless otherwise stated. The one's which are unmounted have paper size shown and can be mounted by request at no extra cost.



**1. ANON.** Maiko and the Yasaka Pagoda. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century. 295 × 210 mm. **£70**



**2. ANON.** Miako walking by the Sanjo-ohashi Bridge. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century. 295 × 210 mm. **£70**





3. **CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Courtiers. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, 1878. 590 × 1000 mm. **£240**



5. **CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Having Sake for New Year's Day. Original woodblock triptych, from the series "Noble Beauties at Chiyoda Palace," printed in Japan, 1895. 590 × 1000 mm. **£440**



4. **CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Beauty Decorating her Hair. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, 1895. 590 × 1000 mm. **£500**



6. **CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Washing Fruit. Original woodblock triptych, from the series "Noble Beauties at Chiyoda Palace," printed in Japan, 1895. 590 × 1000 mm. **£380**



**7. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Pole Sword Practice. Original woodblock triptych, from the series “Noble Beauties at the Chiyoda Palace,” printed in Japan, 1896. 535 × 1000 mm. **£540**



**8. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Wedding. Original woodblock triptych, from the series “Noble Beauties at the Chiyoda Palace,” printed in Japan, 1896. 590 × 1000 mm. **£540**



**9. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Beauties watching the play. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, c.1890. 590 × 1000 mm. **£540**





**10. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Katsuragi, Fuwa Banza, Nagoya, Sanza -Flowers at Yoshiwara. Original woodblock, from the series "Snow, Moon and Flowers," printed in Japan, 1884. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£200**



**11. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Mikawa, Moon over Okazaki, Ushiwakamaru and princess Joruri. Original woodblock, from the series "Snow, Moon and Flowers," printed in Japan, 1885. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£180**



**12. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Returning Ships at Ryogoku Bridge. Original woodblock, from the series "Eight Modern Views of Tokyo Today," published by Hasegawa Sonokichi, printed in Japan, 1888. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£190**



**13. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Beauty Kanei Era. Original woodblock, from the series "Mirror of Ages," printed in Japan, 1895. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£200**



**14. CHIKANOBU, Hashimoto (1838-1912).** Beauty at Park in Kanazawa. Original diptych woodblock, from the series "Beauties and Famous Places," printed in Japan, 1901. 380 × 500 mm. **£400**

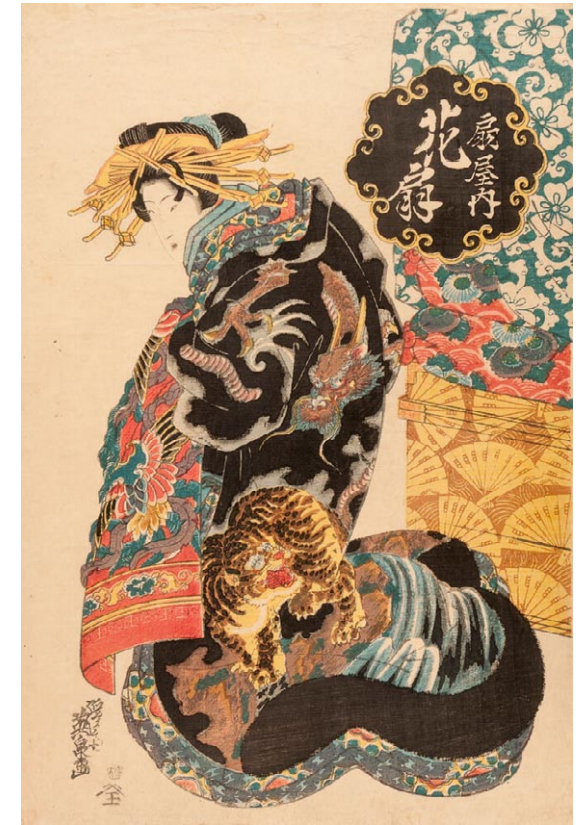




**15. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** A Courtesan with Blossoms in Shin-yoshiwara. Original woodblock, from the series "100 Flowery Places of Edo," published by Maruya Seijiro, printed in Japan, 1810. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,350**



**16. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Beauty at the Veranda. Original woodblock, published by Otaya Sakichi, printed in Japan, c.1810. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,800**



**17. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Courtesan dressed in Kimono of Dragon and Tiger. Original woodblock, published by Nagakura, printed in Japan, c.1820. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,650**



**18. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Kakegawa: Fumiyama of the Kurataya. Original woodblock, from the series "A Tokaido Board Game of Courtesans: Fifty-three Pairings in the Yoshiwara (Keisei dôchû sugoroku)," published by Tsutaya Kichizo, printed in Japan, c.1823. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,600**

"This print represents a courtesan elegantly seated playing a koto. The koto import from China in the 18th Century has long been a favourite instrument in Japanese music and is a symbol of refinement. Mainly played by court ladies and celebrated in classical literature, during the Edo period (1600-1868) it started spreading to the merchant classes. Maintaining nevertheless an aura of sophistication and charm the koto came to be played by a wider range of individuals. The courtesan Fumiyama is playing the koto and maybe thinking about Kakegawa area. Kakegawa city is only one station away from Hamamatsu by Shinkansen (bullet train) and you can see the great castle close from the station like Hamamatsu city. Kakegawa Castle was called one of the best castles in Tokai region and the castle town around that has many historical buildings left from the old days. You can feel the good old days of Japan when you take an unhurried walk around the quiet castle town away from the bustle."



**19. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Courtesan Yosooi of Matsubaya Pleasure House. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, c.1825. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£2,150**

Courtesan Yosooi of Matsubaya pleasure house beneath cherry blossoms in the evening. The beauty is depicted wearing an elaborate kimono with an extravagant design of a phoenix on the back, from which only the upper half of her face is seen from behind the high collar. Two large lanterns are shown behind her to the right and left. The various cartouch in purple and pink on the cherry blossoms have the inscriptions of the courtesan's name 'Yosooi', the name of the Pleasure house she belongs to 'Matsubaya-nai' etc. It is done as though the cartouche are wishing tags - those traditionally used during the tanabata season where people write poetry and their wishes, and tie them to branches during this period. Top left blue cartouche shows the series title. Artist signature, censor seal and publisher seal on the bottom left of the image.







**20. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** No. 38, Fujiwara in Aichi Prefecture. Original woodblock, published by Tsutaya Kichizo, printed in Japan, c.1830. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,450**



**21. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Courtesan. Original woodblock, from the series "Pictures of Modern Figures," published by Kawaguchiya Chozo, printed in Japan, c.1846. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,650**



**22. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Mishima Station. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, c.1846. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,550**





**23. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Courtesan Momokawa. Original woodblock, from the series "Pictures of Modern Figures," published by Kawaguchiya Chozo, printed in Japan, c.1840. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,750**

"The Print is a depiction of a high-ranking courtesan wearing a beautiful kimono decorated with a tiger and bamboo pattern. The print is executed almost exclusively with gradation of blue, only few details are filled in red. Known as aizuri-e, these type of pictures were in vogue for a few decades after Japan started to import Western blue printable ink known as Prussian Blue in the 1820's. Before that blue ink was obtained with natural dyes that produced a fainter colour that had the tendency to fade. The intensity and brilliance of the new pigments greatly inspired ukiyo-e artist and captured their public. Capitalizing on this enthusiasm and sense of novelty aizuri-e with different subject matter were produced. This print is a fabulous example of aizuri-e applied to the bijin (beauty) subject matter with the red details highlighting some of the most sensuous details like the nape of the neck, lips, hair and undergarments."



**24. EISEN, Keisai (1790-1848).** Flowers of Mount Asuka. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Famous Places of Flowers in East," printed in Japan, c.1812. 590 x 420 mm. **£460**





25. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867). Beauty with Tobacco Pipe. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 1812. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£2,100**



26. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867). Portrait of Courtesan with Desing of Dragon on her Obi Belt. Original woodblock, from the series "Twelve Hours of the Pleasure Houses," published by Ezakiya Kichibei, printed in Japan, c.1810. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£2,250**



27. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867). Beauty under Cherry Blossoms. Original woodblock, published by Omiya Heihachi, printed in Japan, c.1820. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£2,150**





**28. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867).** Edo Beauty Tasting Sake. Original woodblock, from the series "Comparison of Modern Beauty," printed in Japan, c.1830. 590 × 420 mm. **£1,560**



**29. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867).** Beauties having dinner. Original woodblock, from the series "Fashionable Beauties in Famous Eight Views in Eastern," printed in Japan, c.1830. 590 × 420 mm. **£1,900**



**30. EIZAN, Kikugawa (1787-1867).** Beauty under the snow. Original woodblock, after Eizan, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£240**





**31. GINKO, Adachi (active 1870-1890).** Flower arrangement and tea ceremony. Original woodblock triptych, from the series "Manners and Customs," printed in Japan, 1869. 590 × 1000 mm.  
**£540**



**32. IPPITSUSAI, Bincho (fl.1755-1790).** Beauty and the plum blossom tree in snow. Original woodblock, after Ippitsusai, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm.  
**£120**



**33. KAWASE, Hasui (1883-1957).** Evening of Soemon-cho, Osaka. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Scenic Views of Japan, Kansai Edition," printed in Japan, 1933. 590 x 420 mm. **£900**



**34. KIKUMARO, Utagawa (active 1800-1830).** Portrait of a Couple. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, c.1802. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£2,900**



**35. KITAGAWA, Shikimaro (active 1790-1813).** Nishikio of the Chojiya, kamuro Hanano and Tokiwa. Original woodblock, from the series "Female Poetic Immortals in the Modern Style, a Set of Thirty-Six," published by Nishimura Yohachi, printed in Japan, 1830. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,050**



**36. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Courtesan Hanaogi Holding a Tanzaku and a Writing Brush. Original woodblock, published by Tsutaya Juzaburo, printed in Japan, c.1794. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£17,500**

Hanaogi, one of the most famous and adored courtesans of the time from the Ogi-ya house of the Yoshiwara district, is depicted half-length with tanzaku, a vertical poem card, and a writing brush in her hands. She is wearing a kimono in pink and white-pink with a rich obi decorated in bird pattern. Her name Hanaogi and the names of her shinzo: Yoshino and Tatsuta in the square cartouche, and a waka poem in the rectangular cartouche in the upper right corner.

The poem reads:

'When autumn entered my heart  
then I wandered into obscure paths;  
And look! As the night engulfed me  
Hana-Ogi came into flower!'

Publisher seal and artist signature in the bottom right of the image.





**37. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Hour of the Monkey (4pm). Original woodblock, from the series "The Twelve Hours in the Yoshiwara," published by Tsutaya Juzaburo, printed in Japan, c.1794. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£5,750**



**38. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Courtesan Having her Hair Adjusted by her Attendant. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, c.1800. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£5,500**

Courtesan Hitomoto of the Daimonji pleasure house seated holding a pipe wearing a rich kimono decorated in pink and white waves with auspicious image of the koi carp depicted in black across her elaborate kimono. Her attendant is kneeling behind her fixing her hair. The attendant, wearing a long-sleeved kimono with a gentle floral decoration, is masterfully placed with simplicity to contrast against the elaborate status of the high class courtesan. Image is from the series Kayou Kuruwa Sakari Hakkei, 'Eight Views of the Flourishing Pleasure Quarters', with the inset of a sunset scene in the rectangular cartouche in the top left corner depicting a view of the pleasure districts of Yoshiwara. Title of the series with the furigana reading on the right to the cartouche, courtesan name, name of her house and her servant with the publisher seal under the cartouche on the left side of the image and the artist signature and the date in the bottom left corner of the image.





**39. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Two Woman Watching a Revolving Lantern. Original woodblock, from the series "Beauties' Pastimes of Five Seasons," printed in Japan, c.1801. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted).  
**£5,950**



**40. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Young Lovers under an Umbrella. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, c.1804. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted).  
**£4,700**



**41. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Sojo Henjo. Original woodblock, from the series "Modern Children as the Six Immortal Poets," printed in Japan, c.1804. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted).  
**£5,500**



**42. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Kisen Hoshi. Original woodblock, from the series "Modern Children as the Six Immortal Poets," published by Izumiya Ichibei, printed in Japan, c.1804. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£4,700**

"The Print depicts two beauties playing with a child dressed in the guise of the classical poet Kisen Hoshi. Deemed one of the six Immortal poets, Kisen Hoshi was a Buddhist monk that excelled in the writing of waka poetry. The print is part of a series in which the author Utamaro has substituted the six immortal poets of the past with modern children, for the amusement of the viewer. In the print the priestly status of the poet is referenced in the child's shaved head and dark rope (both attributes of Buddhist clergy). Despite recalling the attire of the monk poet the child lacks any adult formality. On the other hand he is playfully engaged with the two beauties lovingly pampering him."

**43. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Ariwara no Narihira. Original woodblock, from the series "Modern Children as the Six Immortal Poets," published by Izumiya Ichibei, printed in Japan, c.1805. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£4,750**

"The print shows a young boy wearing the attire of the famous poets Ariwara no Narihira. A beauty accompanies the boy and seems amused and intrigued by his formal poise. Solemn in archer garments, the boy gazes beyond the margins of the prints with a distant composure. The Heian period poet Ariwara Narihira is one of the most notorious figures of Japanese classical literature. In Kokin Wakashu, a literary anthology written in 905, celebrated him as one of the six immortal poets of Japanese poetry. Narihira was also famous for his romantic affairs. For this reason he has been drawn as the main character of the Tale of Ise, a classical poetry collection that deals with the life and romantic involvements of a Heian nobleman. The series shows all of the Six Immortal Poets as children being doted upon by adoring adults - almost as though they knew what the future would hold for these toddlers."







**44. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Courtesan Karagoto of the Chojiya House Leaning on an Instrument Case. Original woodblock, from the series "Courtesans Representing the Seven Aspects of the Life of the Poetess Ono no Komachi," printed in Japan, c.1805. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£3,150**



**45. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty with a mirror. Original woodblock, after Kitagawa, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£90**



**46. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Portrait of Naniwaya Okita. Original woodblock, from the series "Renowned Beauties Likened to the Six Immortal Poets," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£140**



**47. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty holding a male robe. Original woodblock, from the series "Twelve hours of the green houses," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£140**



**48. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty writing a letter. Original woodblock, from the series "Twelve hours of the green houses," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£100**



**49. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Two beauties with a child. Original woodblock, from the series "Contemporary Nursery Scenes," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£80**





**50. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Tomimoto Toyohina. Original woodblock, from the series "Renowned Beauties Likened to the Six Immortal Poets," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£140**



**51. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Three beauties with an instrument. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£130**



**52. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty dreaming. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£100**



**53. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Portrait of a Beauty. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£140**



**54. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty with a toothpick - Kashi. Original woodblock, from the series "Five Shades of Ink in the Northern Quarter," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£80**



**55. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty reading - the clever type. Original woodblock, from the series "A parent's moralising spectacles," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£140**





**56. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty setting her hair. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£130**



**57. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Two beauties with a koto instrument. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£130**



**58. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty reading. Original woodblock, from the series "The elegant seven komachi," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£120**



**59. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty in warmth. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£120**



**60. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Preparing peaches. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£80**



**61. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty drinking. Original woodblock, from the series "A parent's moralising spectacles," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£120**





**62. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** The Wife (Kakaa). Original woodblock, from the series "Variations of Blooms According to their Speech," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£100**



**63. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty holding mirrors. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£120**



**64. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** Beauty with a fan - the fancy-free type. Original woodblock, from the series "A parent's moralising spectacles," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 x 420 mm. **£100**



**65. KITAGAWA, Utamaro (1753-1806).** The Beauty Okita looking into a mirror. Original woodblock, from the series "Eight Views of Famous Teahouse Beauties," printed in Japan, 20th Century modern edition. 590 × 420 mm. **£140**



**66. KUNIAKI (c.1840-1860).** The Imperial family celebrating the birth of their child. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, 1878. 590 × 1000 mm. **£300**





**67. KUNICHIKA, Toyohara (1835-1900).** Lady Anou Fighting for Her Husband. Original woodblock, from the series "Thirty Six Good and Evil Beauties," printed in Japan, 1876. 590 x 420 mm.  
**£540**



**68. KUNICHIKA, Toyohara (1835-1900).** Beauty staring at Her Reflection in the Water. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Views of Musashi," printed in Japan, 1883. 590 x 420 mm.  
**£720**



**69. KUNICHIKA, Toyohara (1835-1900).** Beauty at New Year. Original woodblock, from the series "Beauties of Musashi Province," printed in Japan, 1883. 590 x 420 mm.  
**£360**





**70. KUNISADA I (1786-1865).** Beauty Entering a Room. Original woodblock, published by Iseya Rihei, printed in Japan, c.1820. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,900**



**71. KUNISADA I (1786-1865).** Beauty Going to Sleep. Original woodblock, published by Iseya Rihei, printed in Japan, c.1828. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£800**



**72. KUNISADA I (1786-1865).** Front cover of the heroic tales of jiraiya, vol. 39. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Famous Warriors," printed in Japan, c.1855. 295 × 210 mm. **£120**





**73. KUNISADA I (1786-1865).** Courtesan in Floral Kimono. Original woodblock, from the series "Red Light District Dialogue," printed in Japan, 1825. 590 × 420 mm. **£540**



**74. KUNISADA II (1823-1880).** Three Beauties at Tsukiji Hotel. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, 1868. 590 × 1000 mm. **£1,225**



**75. KUNIYASU, Utagawa (1794-1832).** A Courtesan at Owari. Original woodblock, from the series "Three Beauties," published by Tsutaya Juzaburo, printed in Japan, early 19th Century. 380 x 250 mm (unmounted). **£720**



**76. KUNIYOSHI, Utagawa (1797-1861).** Kogo no Tsubone. Original woodblock, from the series "Eight Views of Virtuous Women," published by Ibay Senzaburo, printed in Japan, c.1842. 590 x 210 mm. **£540**



**77. MORIKANE (c.1930).** Beauty with Lamp. Original woodblock, from the series "Twenty-four Examples of Charming Figures," printed in Japan, c.1930. 590 x 420 mm. **£1,750**





**78. MORIKANE (c.1930).** Beauty Reading a Book. Original woodblock, from the series "Twenty-four Figures of Charming Women," printed in Japan, c.1930. 590 x 420 mm. **£1,900**



**79. MORIKANE, Narita (1932-).** Beauty in a Kimono decorated with a design of sparrows. Original woodblock, from the series "Twenty Four Glamorous Figures," printed in Japan, c.1950. 590 x 420 mm. **£1,750**



**80. SHINSUI, Ito (1898-1972).** Fireworks. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 1932. 590 x 420 mm. **£1,620**





**81. SUZUKI, Harunobu (1724-1770).** Beauty playing a koto. Original woodblock, after Suzuki, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£90**



**82. SUZUKI, Harunobu (1724-1770).** Beauties on a boat. Original woodblock, after Suzuki, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£100**



**83. SUZUKI, Harunobu (1724-1770).** Beauties playing board games. Original woodblock, after Suzuki, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£90**





**84. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty writing a letter. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£60**



**85. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty with a lantern. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£70**



**86. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty in a kimono. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£60**



**87. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty playing an instrument. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£70**



**88. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty going to sleep. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£60**



**89. SUZUKI, Harunobu (c.1725-1770).** Beauty with flower kimono design. Original woodblock, after Suzuki from the series "A collection of beauties of the green houses (Ehon Seiro Bijin Awase)," printed in Japan, 1917. 420 × 295 mm. **£60**





**90. TORII, Kiyochiro (d.c.1776).** Beauty with fireflies in the summer evening. Original woodblock, after Torii, printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£100**



**91. TORII, Kiyonaga (1752-1815).** Kamioki. Original woodblock, after Torii, from the series "A Brocade of Eastern Manners," printed in Japan, early 20th Century modern edition. 420 × 295 mm. **£90**



**92. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Daughter of Faithful Samurai Horibe Yabei. Original woodblock, from the series "Thirty Six Good and Evil Beauties," published by Morimoto Junzaburo, printed in Japan, 1876. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£380**





93. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Ohide, the Fleeting Woman. Original woodblock, from the series "Thirty Six Good and Evil Beauties," printed in Japan, 1876. 590 × 420 mm. £260



94. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Beauty in Dark Blue Kimono Playing a Flute. Original woodblock, from the series "Musical Women," printed in Japan, 1878. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). £300



95. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Beauty Holding a Fan. Original woodblock, from the series "Mirror of Flowering of Manners and Customs," published by Tetsujiro Kobayashi, printed in Japan, 1878. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). £300





96. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Beauty in Light Green Kimono Playing a Flute. Original woodblock, from the series "Musical Women," published by Tetsujiro Kobayashi, printed in Japan, 1878. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£360**



97. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Beauty in Pink Kimono Playing a Gong. Original woodblock, from the series "Musical Women," printed in Japan, 1878. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£340**



98. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900). Singing Beauty. Original woodblock, from the series "Musical Women," printed in Japan, 1878. 590 × 420 mm. **£360**





**99. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Beauty Playing a Gong. Original woodblock, from the series "Musical Women," printed in Japan, 1878. 590 × 420 mm. **£440**



**100. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** The Wife of Shogun Tokugawa Iyetsugu. Original woodblock, from the series "Hollyhock Pine Garden," printed in Japan, 1879. 590 × 420 mm. **£400**



**101. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** The Wife of Shogun Yoshinobu. Original woodblock, from the series "The Back Garden of Pine Trees and Hollyhocks," published by Takekawa Seikichi, printed in Japan, 1879. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£150**

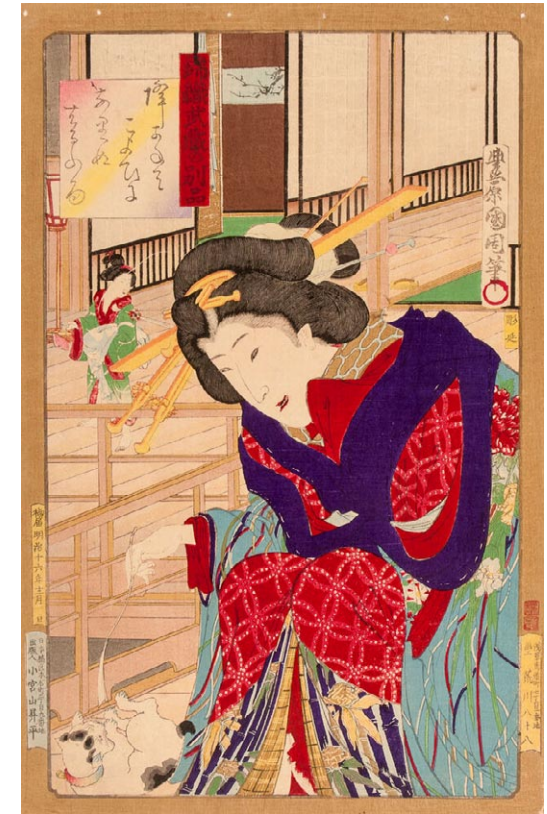




**102. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** The Wife of Shogun Tokugawa Ietsuna. Original woodblock, from the series "Hollyhock Pine Gardens," published by Takekawa Seikichi, printed in Japan, 1879. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£340**



**103. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Lawful Wife of Shogun Ieshige. Original woodblock, from the series "Aoi gusa matsu no urazono n.9," printed in Japan, 1879. 590 × 420 mm. **£260**



**104. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Courtesan with a cat. Original woodblock, from the series "Newly Woven Brocades," printed in Japan, 1883. 590 × 420 mm. **£300**





**105. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Beauty with an Umbrella at 3 p.m. Original woodblock, from the series "Scenes of the Twenty-four Hours," published by Fukuda Kumajiro, printed in Japan, 1890. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£300**



**106. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Fun of Yokobue, Japanese Flute. Original woodblock, from the series "From Sixteen Musical Instruments," published by Wakasaya Jingoro, printed in Japan, 1890. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£300**



**107. TOYOHARA, Kunichika (1835-1900).** Applying Make-up at 7 a.m. Original woodblock, from the series "Scenes of the Twenty-four Hours," printed in Japan, 1890. 590 × 420 mm. **£320**





**108. TOYOKUNI II, Utagawa (1777-1835).** Courtesan Hanadori and kamuro Nioi and Tomeki from the Owari house, view of Tsukuda. Original woodblock, from the series "Mirroring of Beauties," printed in Japan, 1830. 590 × 420 mm. **£1,450**



**109. TOYOKUNI II, Utagawa (1777-1835).** Courtesan Shirakawa of the Tamaya Tea House. Original woodblock, from the series "Eight Views of Yoshiwara," published by Kawaguchi-ya Uhei, printed in Japan, c.1830. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted).

**£1,450**

The pleasure quarters of Edo were situated in the Yoshiwara district which was frequented by an emerging merchant class. This flamboyant courtesan known as Shirakawa, is ornately dressed in magnificent robes with a bouquet of pins in her hair, demonstrating her established reputation. Her robes are decorated with bamboos, a symbol of strength and perseverance, dragons, symbolizing strength and courage and bats representing contentment. These iconographical symbolisms on her robes permits an understanding of her character beyond her visual appearance. She has two timid looking Kamuros (small girls who attend to great courtesans), Nagisa and Yumeno, in similar robes behind her. A window in the upper right-hand corner opens the image onto a scene of returning sails at Sanyabori.



**110. TOYOKUNI III.** Beauty Reading a Book. Original woodblock, printed in Japan, 1853. 590 × 420 mm. **£340**





111. YOSHITORA, Utagawa (fl.c.1836-1880). Portrait of a beauty Kesa Gozen from a novel the Tale of Heike. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Famous Warriors," printed in Japan, 1859. 295 × 210 mm. £80



112. YOSHITORA, Utagawa (fl.c.1836-1880). Tea and the courtesan in Kyoto reading a poem. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Famous Warriors," printed in Japan, 1859. 295 × 210 mm. £70



113. YOSHITORA, Utagawa (fl.c.1836-1880). Portrait of Wakaba no Nasishi, the wife of Warrior Taira no Koremorio. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Famous Warriors," printed in Japan, 1859. 295 × 210 mm. £70



114. YOSHITORA, Utagawa (fl.c.1836-1880). Portrait of Yasha Gozen, the daughter of Minamoto no Yoshitomo. Original woodblock, from the series "Collection of Famous Warriors," printed in Japan, 1859. 295 × 210 mm. £70





**115. YOSHITORA, Utawa (active c.1830-c.1880).** Famous Geishas in Shin-Yoshiwara Pleasure Quarter. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, 1870. 590 × 1000 mm. **£400**



**116. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Chang'e Flees to the Moon. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Aspects of The Moon," published by Akiyama Buemon, printed in Japan, 1885. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£1,050**





**117. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Cooling off at Shijo. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Aspects of The Moon," published by Akiyama Buemon, printed in Japan, 1885. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£500**



**118. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Itsukushima Moon: A Muro Courtesan. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Aspects of The Moon," published by Akiyama Buemon, printed in Japan, 1886. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£700**



**119. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Looking Suitable: the appearance of a brothel geisha of the Koka era. Original woodblock, from the series "32 Aspects of Customs and Manners of Woman," printed in Japan, 1888. 590 × 420 mm. **£480**





**120. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Looking Relaxed: the appearance of a Kyoto geisha of the Kansei era. Original woodblock, from the series "32 Aspects of Customs and Manners of Woman," printed in Japan, 1888. 590 × 420 mm. **£540**



**121. YOSHITOSHI, Tsukioka (1839-1892).** Famous Courtesan Takao. Original woodblock, from the series "One Hundred Aspects of The Moon," published by Akiyama Buemon, printed in Japan, 1889. 380 × 250 mm (unmounted). **£300**



**122. YOSHIYUKI (1835-1879).** Comparison of Courtesans from East and West. Original woodblock triptych, printed in Japan, late 19th Century.  
590 × 1000 mm. **£540**