



2015年

徳川家康公

顕彰 四百年

記念事業



Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Tokugawa Ieyasu & Japan400 Anniversary Event

Four Centuries Later, a Return Visit by Emissaries from Sumpu-Shizuoka

2015 marks 400 years since the passing of shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu, and Shizuoka City will commemorate four centuries of British-Japanese relations in conjunction with the Japan400 celebration in London this year.

Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Tokugawa Ieyasu & Japan400 Collaboration

The Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Tokugawa Ieyasu events held by the City of Shizuoka and the Japan400 program in London, are linked by the man himself, Tokugawa Ieyasu, who lived and died four centuries ago.

In 2013, exactly four hundred years after English emissaries came to Japan to meet with Ieyasu, we will send emissaries of our own from Shizuoka (formerly known as Sumpu, the final home of Ieyasu) to Britain.

This return visit is in honour of those British representatives, from long ago, and is also an opportunity for citizens of both Britain and Japan to look back at the accomplishments of those people from the early 17th century.

Representatives from Japan will journey to England to tie together the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Tokugawa Ieyasu events and the Japan400 Anniversary event, and to hold a commemoration in London.



Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Tokugawa Ieyasu & Japan400 Anniversary Event An Answering Visit of Emissaries from Sumpu-Shizuoka, Four Centuries Later

Date: Saturday, December 7th, 2013

Venue: SOAS (University of London)

Event Information

Part I: Japan400 Ceremony and Presentations

Ceremony

■ Venue: University of London, Khalili Lecture Theatre

■ Time: 1:00 pm – 1:15 pm

■ Remarks by Mr. GOTO Yasuo, Chairman of the Shizuoka Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Dr. Timon Screech

■ Presentation of Gifts

■ Presentation of Red Seal Document (invitation to visit Shizuoka City in 2015)

■ Presentation by the Mayor of Shizuoka City

Lecture

■ Venue: Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS (University of London)

■ Time: 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

■ Lecture Title: Tokugawa Ieyasu Memorial Events and Japan400 (working title)

■ Speaker: Mr. TOKUGAWA Tsunenari and Dr. Timon Screech

Part II: Suruga Traditional Craftwork Demonstration & Workshop

■ Venue: Brunei Gallery Suite, SOAS (University of London)

■ Time: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

■ Workshop: Under the guidance of one of Shizuoka's traditional craft masters, participants will make Suruga-style bamboo baskets.

Participants: Maximum 30 people (Reservations accepted from the application form on the website)

<http://www.icn-global.com/workshop/>

■ Demonstration: Explanation and demonstrations of Shizuoka's traditional crafts: Suruga bamboo ware, Suruga lacquered geta sandals, and lacquer ware

■ Instructors: Proud Artisans of Shizuoka

Suruga Sensuji Bamboo Ware – Mr. SUGIYAMA Shigeyasu

Suruga Lacquered Geta – Ms. SATO Hitomi

Suruga Lacquer Ware – Mr. TOBA Toshiyuku

■ Hand-pressed Green Tea Demonstration and Tea Tasting:

A demonstration of hand-pressed tea making, followed by cups of green tea for all attendees made from tea leaves from Shizuoka, the largest tea-producing region in Japan.

Participants will receive a traditional Japanese craft item as a souvenir.



Speaker Profiles



TOKUGAWA Tsunenari

President of the Tokugawa Memorial Foundation, Chairman of WWF Japan, 18th head of the Tokugawa House

- 1940 Born in Tokyo
 - 1964 Graduates from Gakushuin University, Faculty of Politics and Economics, Department of Political Studies
 - 1964 Employed at Nippon Yusen (NYK Line)
 - 1994 Promoted to the Board of Directors of Nippon Yusen
 - 1998 Promoted to CEO and Chairman of NYK Line (America)
 - 2000 Promoted to Vice-president of NYK Line
 - 2002 Promoted to Advisor of NYK Line
 - 2003 Establishes and becomes President of the Tokugawa Memorial Foundation
- Author of The Edo Inheritance (English version published by the International House of Japan)



Timon Screech

Professor at the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Specialist in the art and culture of early modern Japan

- 1985 Graduates from the University of Oxford in Oriental Studies
 - 1991 Completes PhD in art history at Harvard University
- Present is a visiting professor at the University of Chicago, a guest researcher at Waseda University, and a visiting permanent professor at Tama University of the Arts



Suruga Sensuji Bamboo Ware

A single craftsman takes thin bamboo strips called sensuji and weaves them together into a smooth, flexible form, creating household items and accessories that project a peaceful, calming aura that is suitable for both Japanese and Western interior design choices.

Origins

The distinctive bamboo craft of Shizuoka had for many long years been known fondly as “Suruga Bamboo Ware.” However, it is said a new style of elaborate bamboo work was discovered in the year 1840 when a samurai from Okazaki named Suganuma Ichiga passing through Shizuoka was taught by the son of the master of the inn at which he stayed.

The innkeeper’s son, Shimizu Ihei, crafted and sold bamboo-made items such as candy dishes and insect cages, and taught many students, leading knowledge of his skills to spread rapidly. In the 6th year of the Meiji Era, the elegant products of the sensuji craft were on display at the Vienna Exposition of 1873. The elaborate detail of the bamboo and the soothing form of the distinctively Oriental objects charmed European audiences, resulting in a sudden demand for such products from Japan.

After the Second World War, the sensuji bamboo craft began to shift to meet the needs of a new generation, and after its official designation by the Minister of International Trade and Industry as a Traditional Craft in 1976, the technique has been further refined and has come to be used with more modern products, such as light fixtures and electric lamps, bringing a traditional aesthetic to modern lifestyle goods.

Unique Characteristics

Every region of Japan has its own bamboo craft styles, but Shizuoka’s sensuji craft has several special features that make it stand out.

- (1) Rather than commonly used flat bamboo strips, those used in Shizuoka are round
- (2) Instead of standard weaving, craftsmen places each strip individually
- (3) It uses a special technique for bending the bamboo strips into circles
- (4) A technique call tsugite (jointing) is employed to attach circle-shaped pieces
- (5) One single craftsman does the entire piece himself

This is a very labour-intensive industry, requiring a great deal of effort to make a single piece. Furthermore, the fact that five to ten years are required to attain sufficient skill means training young people to carry on this tradition is a pressing issue.





Suruga Lacquered Geta Sandals

Suruga geta wooden sandals lacquered in the traditional style with gold and silver leaf are a wonder to behold, their dazzling colours and unique design a feast for the aesthetic senses. These are than footwear; they eminently suitable as decorative items.

Origins

The origins of this Shizuoka-style of traditional footwear are deeply connected to lacquer craft, which gained great popularity throughout the land when applied to painted geta. This new concept can be traced back to the early years of the Meiji Era, the geta craftsman Homma Kyujiro began using local lacquer techniques on the wooden sandals he made for the general public, which were met with rousing success. Supported by great acclaim in Tokyo, the Suruga geta spread to other regions of Japan and were so well received and sparked so much demand that they became synonymous with Shizuoka.

From the mid-19th to the early 20th century, Shizuoka-brand lacquered goods enjoyed a great deal of commercial success abroad, but trade stagnated during the First World War. This became an opportunity, however, for woodcarvers, lacquer painters and gold-and-silver lacquer artists to adapt their skills toward a more manufacturing-based production style, like that of lacquered geta sandals, and from there, to compete in improving their techniques and creating their own new products.

Unique Characteristics

The distinctiveness of Suruga lacquered geta lies in the application of lacquer in ways that emphasize the grain of the wood, and the addition of gold and silver lacquer.

After the Second World War, Japanese lifestyles became more westernized, with even the materials for clothing changing from natural to synthetic at eye-popping speed, and demand for geta themselves dropping precipitously.

However, artisans in Shizuoka preserved and improved the high quality of the techniques needed for its lacquered sandals, and even now hold twice-annual trade shows and exhibitions for their latest works, and collaborate with cotton kimono makers to create new products with their traditional skills.





Suruga Lacquer Ware

The art of lacquer work has a long history in Shizuoka, and from the 17th century, “Suruga lacquer ware” was well known throughout Japan. However, rather than resting on the laurels of tradition, local craft masters continue to develop lacquering materials and techniques to create items that match modern lifestyles

Origins

Lacquer work in Shizuoka truly took root during the construction of Sengen Shrine four centuries ago. Craftsmen were summoned from every part of Japan for the tasks of crafting the gold and silver inlay and lacquering the shrine buildings themselves. During the building of the shrine, these artisans found in Shizuoka not only an ideal physical climate for lacquer work, but an excellent place to live, and many stayed in the city after Sengen Shrine was complete, honing their skills and passing on their knowledge to the people of their adopted home.

Some of their earliest works were lacquered bamboo baskets and other simple items for daily use, but as their techniques advanced, they created a wide variety of beautiful, highly sought after objects, which fared very well commercially and captured the attention and approval of the government in Edo (modern day Tokyo) and powerful feudal lords passing through Shizuoka.

Eventually these lacquered goods spread beyond Japan’s shores, appearing at the Paris Exposition of 1867, sparking interest and earning great acclaim abroad. Shizuoka lacquer ware experienced a golden age in 1913-1917, when exports were at their highest.

Unique Characteristics

Suruga lacquer craft is an art form with a 450-year history, made unique by its method of emphasizing the grain of the wood and its multiple layers of gold leaf. One exceptional example is a revolutionary technique perfected by Toba Seichi in 1924 in which raw lacquer and river sand are alternately applied directly to the surface of the object.





The Elegant Tea of Shizuoka

Shizuoka is the pre-eminent source of tea in Japan, and among its vaunted varieties of sencha (unground, simmered tea), the Honyama-cha brand stands above the rest. Its deep aroma, mellow flavour, and clear, golden colour are all the result of high-quality tea fields nestled in the river valleys of Shizuoka and the loving hands and spirit of the tea farmers. This tea will bring pleasure to the senses and soothe the soul.

The Mountain Tea of Old

Honyama-cha Tea boasts the longest history of all the teas in Shizuoka Prefecture, found in the ideal growing environment in central Shizuoka. It is grown on mountain slopes fed by mist from some of the purest river waters in Japan. Its brilliant green leaves are softer than those grown on flat lands, with an elegant, elongated shape. This tea possesses a gentle flavour and a clear, fresh aroma.

Aoi Tea, the Greatest Sen-cha

This brand of tea uses only green tea leaves from the Honyama area of Shizuoka, which for eight hundred years has produced tea worthy of being presented to the Imperial House. Master tea farmer Moriuchi Yoshio continues this tradition, carefully selecting only the highest quality leaves. These tea fields are watered by mountain mist and the Abe River, which springs from the Southern Alps mountain range, giving it its refreshing aroma and gentle taste.

It is also famous for being beloved of the first of the Edo shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu.

Moriuchi Yoshio' s Award-winning Tea

- 2010 Gold Prize, 4th World Green Tea Contest
- 2008 Gold Prize, 2nd World Green Tea Contest
- 2007 Silver Prize, 1st World Green Tea Contest
- 2006 Silver Prize, 6th O-CHA Frontier Contest
- 2005 Gold Prize, 5th International Tea Award
(The International Institute of Tea Science and Culture), New York
- 2004 Silver Prize, 4th O-CHA Frontier Contest
- 2003 Silver Prize, 3rd O-CHA Frontier Contest
- 2002 Silver Prize, 2nd O-CHA Frontier Contest
Official Designation of Tea Field as Suitable for the Imperial Family
- 2001 Silver Prize, 1st O-CHA Frontier Contest

