

# "Japan. Land of enchantment"

Florence, Palazzo Pitti

2012, 3rd April to 1st July

Florence celebrates Japanese art and culture in Palazzo Pitti, the Florentine palace that hosted the first Japanese ambassadors that came to Italy as early as 1585.



The luxurious halls and the most prestigious settings of the Palazzo, today divided into three museums, will all be involved in this grand event dedicated to the antique art of Japan, from mid- XVI century to XIX century, with paintings, calligraphy, sculpture, ceramics, metals and fabrics in a wide range of colors.

A presentation of more than 500 works of art on an exhibiting surface area of some 1200 sqm. The old summer quarters of the Grand Dukes on the ground floor of Palazzo Pitti, which is today's Museo degli Argenti, will host the show entitled, ***About Line and Colour. Japan, her arts and her encounter with the West.*** The show dedicated to Japanese art from the XIV to the XIX centuries will unfold with an exceptional number of masterpieces and works of extraordinary quality from important museum institutions from all over the world, and will enable visitors to relive the atmospheres of a very refined culture.



The Sala Bianca in the Galleria Palatina, on the first floor of the palace, hosts ***The Elegance of Memory. Decorative Arts in Modern Japan***, which will exhibit works by the most famous Japanese artists of the XX century, especially from the second half of the century.

**The decorative art in modern Japan**, supervised with the cooperation of National Museum of Modern Art of Tokyo, showing the most valuable pieces of art among the artists of the Japan decorative art from XIX century until nowadays.

The modern art Gallery, in the Fiorino Chamber, hosts the section of the exhibition dedicated to the Japonisme called **Japonisme, Eastern suggestions between the Macchiaioli painters and Thirties.**

The core of pieces of art completed between 1870 and 1940 from important Italian artists, such as Giovanni Fattori, Telemaco Signorini, Giuseppe de Nittis and Mariano Fortuny shows clearly the influence of Japan art.

The influence of Japan fashion and its culture spread in Italy as in Europe, collection of Japan art bloomed, and promoted studies on that culture and, besides, numerous Italians went there and make fortune in that country.

Even the artists were under the influence of Japan art, completely unknown until that moment.

They admired the calligraphic use of the lines, the combination of bright colors, the dynamic cut of the scenes, the innovation of the themes, mostly that of inspiration by the world of nature.

Thanks to that, their works lighten up, permeated with a new light and the color combination widen, while real object of Japan art were part of the compositions, giving them a touch of exoticism.

