Exhibition: Photography by Brett Boardman at the Japan Foundation Gallery 26 February—11 April 2015

The Japan Foundation, Sydney is back to doing what it does best-bringing Japan to you.

The first exhibition to be held at their new premises in Central at Central Park is *Mono no Aware: The Poignancy of Things,* an exhibition of photography by Brett Boardman.

Taken in Kyoto in 2011, the images juxtapose Katsura Rikyu, a 17thcentury imperial villa that has long captivated architects across the world, with the makeshift shelter of a homeless person under a bridge nearby. Boardman's intimate shots transcend the stark social and temporal disparity of these structures, illuminating the ways that





they echo each other in response to the human desire for tranquillity, order and dignity.

An artist talk will be held on 5 March and a talk by landscape architecture and design researcher Dr Heike Rahmann will be held on 14 March. Both are free, but bookings are essential. See www.jpf.org.au or call 8239 0055.



The Japan Foundation Gallery —free admission— Level 4, Central at the Park 28 Broadway, Chippendale 2008

Mon-Thu: 10am-8pm | Fri: 10am-6pm | Sat: 10am-3pm [except 7 March & 4 April]

Images © Brett Boardman

Japanese art at the Art Gallery of New South Wales

Have you been to the Gallery recently? **Don't make the mistake of thinking 'been there, done that'** when it comes to Japanese art at the AGNSW. There are more than 1,400 items in the Gallery's permanent collection of Japanese art and only a fraction are on display at any one time.

A recent re-hang of the Asian galleries means visitors are invited to see Japanese art in a wider context. There is still a large area of the Asian galleries devoted to Japanese art as you turn right when you enter the galleries on the lower level, but then keep your eyes peeled and enjoy spotting Japanese works among those from other Asian countries.

Another excellent reason to reacquaint yourself with the Gallery is the wonderful display of Japanese samurai swords and related items currently on loan from Victorian collector Colin McDonald. Don't miss them!

Gallery collections don't remain static. New acquisitions enter collections, and there are some really interesting works by Yamaguchi Akira purchased in 2014 by the Gallery's Yasuko Myer Bequest Fund. The works—Department store: New Nihonbashi Mitsukoshi (2005), Department store: Nihonbashi Mitsukoshi (2011), Tokei (Tokyo): Hiroo and Roppongi (2005), and Tokei (Tokyo): Roppongi Hills (2005) —are inkjet prints of original paintings in pen, ink and watercolour.

Yamaguchi uses traditional Japanese painting (*yamato-e*) techniques which allow multiple perspectives and scale, and even time. Clouds break up the images and enable a fascinating mix of time and dimension. Walls and roofs are removed, revealing people going about their business. Past, present and future appear side by side. A quick glance will not do these works any justice, so take your time to look. An interesting comparison can be made with the painted folding screens depicting Kyoto from circa 1660.

Entry is free. The Art Gallery of New South Wales is open every day apart from Christmas Day and Good Friday 10am-5pm and opens late on Wednesdays until 10pm.