

ENGLISH

久保田

美術館

富士五湖

河口湖北岸

ITCHIKU  
KUBOTA  
ART  
MUSEUM

[www.itchiku-museum.com](http://www.itchiku-museum.com)



# Itchiku Kubota Art Museum

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Elegant simplicity provides visitors  
with richness and serenity.

In 1994, a dyeing artist, Itchiku Kubota (1917-2003), built the museum in its perfect location with a majestic view of Mt. Fuji and the serene Lake Kawaguchi. The museum permanently exhibits Itchiku Tsujigahana works with the two main themes of “trinity of humans, nature, and art” and “the center of new culture and art.” The whole museum, including the garden, buildings, and furnishings, represents “the world of Itchiku.”

## Main Building

Established Oct 1994.

The main building is a pyramid-shaped structure supported by 16 wooden beams more than 1,000 years old, using a combination of traditional Japanese and Western techniques. “Symphony of Light”, the lifework of Itchiku, a series about Mt. Fuji and other works are exhibited. At the tearoom “Itchiku-an,” in the back of the exhibition room, green tea and sweets are served for visitors while they enjoy the beautiful view.



## New Wing

Established Jul 1997.

The New Wing is a unique architectural structure which reminds us of Gaudi's architecture, and all the walls are made of Ryukyu limestone (coral reef fossils). There are a shop, where rare items such as original goods and glass bead accessories are available, and an open-style café.

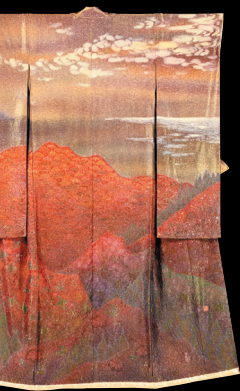
## Garden

Utilizing the natural environment, Itchiku designed the garden. Ryukyu limestone, lava of Mt. Fuji, various kinds of trees and spring water produce a unique atmosphere. Visitors can enjoy the seasons: cherry blossoms, azaleas, green trees and alpine plants in spring and summer, colored leaves in fall, and the sublime Mt. Fuji in winter. How about strolling along the path on the north side of the Main Building?

## Symphony of Light

The "Symphony of Light" is the lifework of Itchiku and our final goal is to integrate 80 works representing nature's "four seasons" and his own "universe". Currently 46 works, including fall, winter, and several works of the universe, have been completed.





©Itchiku Tsujigahana



©Itchiku Tsujigahana

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## Itchiku Kubota and Tsujigahana



©Itchiku Tsujigahana

Itchiku was enchanted by the beauty of "Tsujigahana Dyed" patterned cloth accessories from the Muromachi era since he first encountered them at the age of 20, and he devoted himself to researching Tsujigahana as a method of dyeing that could come alive in contemporary times. After experiencing defeat in the War and detention in Siberia, he started to research Tsujigahana in earnest from the age of 40. But it was another twenty difficult years until he completed a work that he could be satisfied with, and he presented it as his unique dyeing technique, "Itchiku

Tsujigahana". Following his first solo exhibition in 1977, he held numerous solo exhibitions around the world. His achievements have been highly acclaimed both domestically and overseas, and he received the French "Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters" in 1990 and the "Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Award" award in 1993. He died on April 26th, 2003 at the age of 85.

## Tsujigahana-Dyeing

It is a technique of pattern dyeing that uses painting on a tie-dyed base, which was widely used for the common people's "kosode" kimono from the Muromachi era. It reached its zenith in the Azuchi Momoyama era, when Tsujigahana silk kimono and haori adorned many warlords and samurai, but it disappeared in the early days of the Edo era. The most likely reason is that it was surpassed by the Yuzen dyeing technique, which can be used to create more finely detailed images. Because it disappeared in such a sudden manner, tsujigahana is referred to as "phantom dyed clothing" or the "phantom flower".

## Glass Beads

"Tonbodama" (glass beads) is the general term for glass craftworks adorned with colorful patterns. As a child, Itchiku was captivated by these beads, and his collection had a significant influence on the creation of "Itchiku Tsujigahana." This collection is permanently exhibited.



## OPEN

April - November 10:00 - 17:00 ( Last entry at 16:30 )

December - March 10:00 - 16:30 ( Last entry at 16:00 )



## CLOSE

Please refer to the official website.

[www.itchiku-museum.com](http://www.itchiku-museum.com)



## ADMISSION FEE

Adults:¥1,500 (¥1,300) College and High School Students:¥900 (¥700)

Junior High and Elementary School Students: ¥400 (¥200)

(groups of more than 15 people) \*Free for preschoolers.



## ACCESS

By Car:

From Chuo Expressway

Exit at Kawaguchiko I.C. ... R139/R137 ... Museum (15 minutes from the I.C.)

From Higashi-Fujigoko-Road

Exit at Fujiyoshida I.C. ... R139/R137 ... Museum (15 minutes from the I.C.)

By Train:

Otsuki Station (JR Chuo Line) ... Kawaguchiko Station (Fujikyuko Line)

10 minutes by taxi or 25 minutes by "Kawaguchiko Sightseeing Bus"

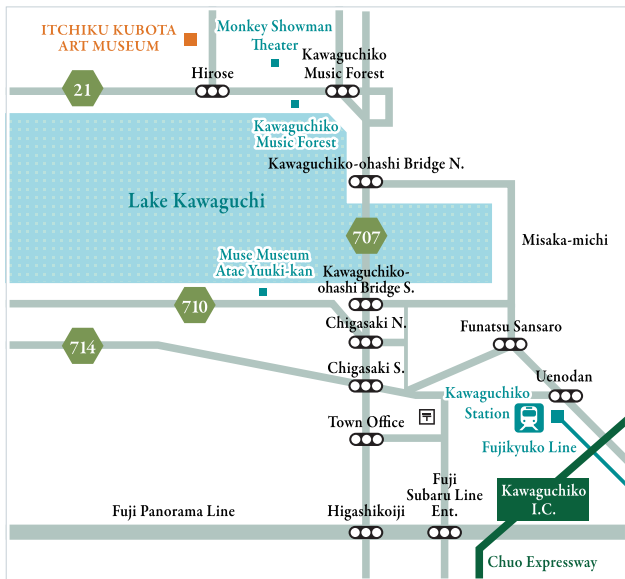
from Kawaguchiko Station

By Express Bus (Reservation: 03-5376-2222) :

Shinjuku Station (South Exit) ... Kawaguchiko Station (100 minutes)

10 minutes by taxi or 25 minutes by "Kawaguchiko Sightseeing Bus"

from Kawaguchiko Station



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Please do not take pictures or videos in the exhibition rooms and galleries.