Visiting places associated with Mitsubishi

SEIKADO

SEIKADO Bunko and SEIKADO Bunko Art Museum stand on a hill in a quiet residential area in Setagaya-ku, Tokyo. SEIKADO holds approximately 200,000 historical books and 6,500 Oriental antiques, including 7 national treasures and 84 important cultural properties, all of which were collected over two generations of the Iwasakis: Yanosuke Iwasaki, the second president of Mitsubishi, and Koyata Iwasaki, the fourth president of Mitsubishi.



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National Treasure Tawaraya Sotatsu ("Scenes from Sekiya and Miotsukushi Chapters of the Tale of Genji")

Edo Period 17th Century

These large screen paintings of the "Tale of Genji" are the works of Edo-period artist Tawaraya Sotatsu, who is known as the father of the Rinpa school of painting. This particular masterpiece highlights Sotatsu's delightful use of color and imagery. Following three years of restoration, the screens were again unveiled to the public at the Seikado's re-opening exhibition.



National Treasure Tea bowl, Yohen Tenmoku

Southern Sung Dynasty 12th to 13th Century This vividly colored tea bowl was made in China during the Southern Sung Dynasty.

There are only three such bowls remaining in the world today, and this one is widely considered to be the most beautiful.

Important Cultural Property Ogata Korin ("Writing box with design from the poem, 'Suminoe no' in maki-e")

Edo Period 18th Century This writing box was made by Ogata Korin, a painter of the Rinpa school. Ogata's bold, grandiose style influenced many artists. It is considered to be one of the finest examples of Korin's unique lacquer work.



Treasures



12 Heavenly Generals (Hare general one of 7 preserved at the Seikado)

Kamakura Period 13th Century These statues are characteristic of those carved during Japan's Kamakura Period. They are presumed to be the work of Unkei, a sculptor of Buddhist statues from Nara, Five of the 12 are preserved at the Tokyo National Museum, and the other seven are part of the Seikado's collection. The fact that all 12 of the original statues have been preserved enhances their value and significance.