



# Kunisada symposium

Friday, 3 March 2017, Leiden

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*Organized by the Heinz Kaempfer Fund on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society for Japanese Arts.*

The Heinz Kaempfer Fund cordially invites you to partake in a symposium in connection with the exhibition '*Kunisada, imaging drama and beauty*', now on view at the Japanmuseum SieboldHuis in Leiden. The symposium will be concluded with a festive reception, hosted by the Society for Japanese Arts, to celebrate its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

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### Programme (Language: English)

- 12:15-13:00** Registration at the desk of the Museum Volkenkunde, Leiden, with coffee or tea
- 13:00-13:05** Welcome by Jan Dees, chairman Heinz Kaempfer Fund
- 13:05-13:20** Chris Uhlenbeck (chairman of the day): *Setting the stage*
- 13:20-14:05** Andreas Marks: *Edo's publishing world at the time of Kunisada*
- 14:05-14:40** Robert Schaap: *The 'copy & paste' tradition and Kunisada*
- 14:40-15:10** Coffee/tea break
- 15:10-15:55** Paul Griffith: *The world of Kabuki at the time of Kunisada*
- 15:55-16:30** Henk Herwig: *Mitate-e, Kunisada's surprise prints*
- 16:30-17:00** Panel discussion
- 17:00-19:00** Festive reception with a word of welcome by Henk Hoogsteden, chairman of the Society for Japanese Arts

**Venue:** Grand auditorium on the first floor of the Museum Volkenkunde, Steenstraat 1, Leiden, Tel. 088 0042803

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## Registration

You can register for the symposium and reception by transferring € 35 to the bank account of the Heinz Kaempfer Fund. At the same time you are kindly requested to send an email to the treasurer Mr. Berbee: [keesberbee@hetnet.nl](mailto:keesberbee@hetnet.nl) so that he can confirm your registration by email within two weeks. Your email address will also be used to inform you about the latest details of the symposium. Students pay only € 10.

The symposium and the reception is limited to 100 participants. Admission will be on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. After January 10, 2017, registration will be open to non-members of the Society as well.

### Registration Dutch members:

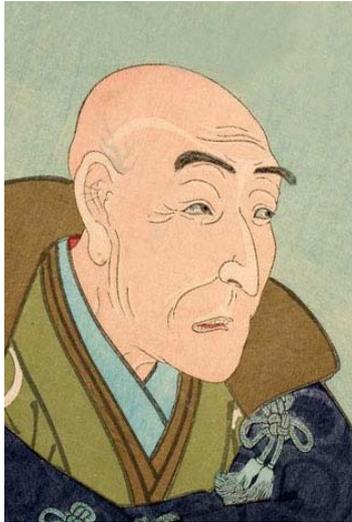
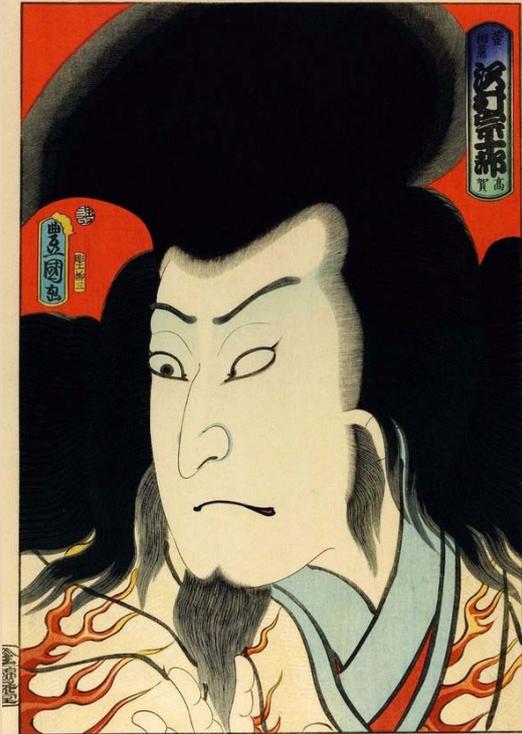
Heinz Kaempfer Fund  
IBAN: NL56 INGB 0007 3863 38  
Specification: Kunisada symposium

### Registration European members:

Heinz Kaempfer Fund  
IBAN: NL56 INGB 0007 3863 38  
BIC/Swift code: INGBNL2A  
Bank name: ING  
Specification: Kunisada symposium

### Registration non-European members:

Only non-European members can register by sending an email to [keesberbee@hetnet.nl](mailto:keesberbee@hetnet.nl)  
You will be requested to pay in cash (in Euro) upon arrival.



## Utagawa Kunisada

Kunisada (1786-1865) was a talented and highly successful print designer, heading a large studio that dominated the print market in the first half of the nineteenth century. During his lifetime, he designed about 25,000 single sheet prints, many issued as diptychs and triptychs, or as series. He also made over 60 paintings and illustrated about 600 books. Kunisada is particularly praised for his *bijin-ga* (prints of beautiful women) and *kabuki yakusha-e* (kabuki actor prints), but he also designed interesting landscapes, legendary heroes, sumo wrestlers, and erotic prints.

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## Exhibition

For the present exhibition at the Japanmuseum SieboldHuis - unique for Europe - a selection of 130 masterpieces has been brought together that will be shown in two rotations.

Part I: 9 December – 22 January 2017, Masterpieces from 1805-1828

Part II: 24 January – 5 March 2017, Masterpieces from 1829-1865

Open daily from 10:00 -17:00 hrs (except Monday)

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## Speakers



**Chris Uhlenbeck** is a Leiden-based Japanese print dealer since 1982, who has curated several museum exhibitions on Ukiyo-e, Shin-hanga and Japanese photography over the last 20 years. As co-curator of the present Kunisada exhibition he will chair the symposium and briefly set the stage.

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**Andreas Marks** is curator of Japanese and Korean Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and author of a compendium on publishers of Japanese woodblock prints (2011). He also authored other publications, e.g. one on Genji prints (2012) and one on Kunisada's Tôkaidô series (2013). Andreas will elucidate Edo's publishing world at the time of Kunisada.

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**Robert Schaap** is a life-long collector of Japanese prints and paintings. As a curator and author he has been involved in several major exhibitions on Japanese print artists such as: 'Yoshitoshi, Beauty & Violence' (1992), 'Kuniyoshi, Heroes & Ghosts' (1998), 'Kôgyo, The Beauty of Silence' (2010), and the present 'Kunisada, Imaging Drama and Beauty' (2016). He will discuss 'The 'copy & paste' tradition and Utagawa Kunisada'.

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**Paul Griffith** is a scholar on Kabuki. He contributed to the series 'Kabuki Plays on Stage' (2002-3) and is co-author of 'A Guide to the Japanese Stage'(2005). Since 1985 he has been a translator and narrator of the English-language 'Earphone Guide' commentaries for Kabuki and Bunraku at Tokyo's Kabuki-za and National Theatre. Paul will illustrate with DVD excerpts the inter-relationship between text and imagery on stage, and on how this may have affected Kabuki fans of Kunisada's time when they purchased actor prints.

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**Henk Herwig** is a collector of Japanese prints with a special interest in Kabuki actor prints. With his wife Arendie he has written 'Heroes of the Kabuki Stage'(2004) and with Joshua Mostow 'The Hundred Poets Compared' (2007). His talk will be about Kunisada's *mitate* prints, in which Kabuki actors are paired with e.g. stations of the Tōkaidō Highway, the Eight Views of Ōmi, or poems, teasing the viewer to find the connections.

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**Symposium Committee:**

Jan Dees, chairman

Henk Herwig

Kees Berbee