

Traveling HIKARI no KIRIE

Organized by: Traveling Hikari no Kirie Exhibition Ehime Executive Committee (Ehime Prefecture, The Ehime Shimbun, Ehime Broadcasting)

Sponsored by: The Iyo Bank, Daio Paper

Cooperation: Towel Museum

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Planned and produced by: Shin Nihonkai Shimbun, Handspro

Date : November 1 sat.-December 21 sun.

Venue : The Museum of Art, Ehime

※The artist is Hikari no Kirie sakka, Sakai Atsumi.

※All items without a specified owner are in the artist's possession.

Greetings

Welcome to the world of "Hikari no Kirie (Paper cutting with light)." Once you step inside, you will enter a fantastical, warm, and magical world.

Hikari no Kirie artist Sakai Atsumi has created a new form of expression by combining "light" and "paper cutting." When light shines on washi paper, which has a warm texture and flexible strength, it emerges beautifully and strikingly from the surrounding darkness. Sakai then depicts universal stories that we all experience, discovered in everyday life. These worlds, which combine a variety of colors, shapes, and light, have brought warm feelings to the hearts of many people across generations.

This exhibition, which has been touring the country since 2023, will feature a variety of techniques, including "Ichiganikyo(One painting, two surprises)," which expresses a painting that changes dramatically depending on whether it is in front or backlight, along with the element of time flowing between the two paintings; "Earth Sketches," a large, immersive work featuring variously changing scenes of vibrant nature and cityscapes; and "Moving Picture Book," a video work that adds a story and music to cute, moving paper cutouts.

Among these, "Earth Sketches" will be showcasing new works at each venue. Sakai, who aspired to make a living from painting, first visited Ehime over 20 years ago, while sketching the Shimanami Kaido. Ehime is a memorable place where she took a major step as an artist. Since then, she has continued to travel, sketching many places around the world, to this day. This time, she has completed a new work unique to Ehime, based on sketches she has accumulated over multiple visits over the years. In addition, the musical unit Kokototo (Hasegawa Kumiko/Okabayashi Waka) will perform original music incorporating sounds they encountered on their travels in Ehime, further enhancing the artwork.

So everyone, take a deep breath, let your eyes gradually adjust to the darkness, and enjoy this world of "Hikari no Kirie" to your heart's content.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Sakai Atsumi, who provided full cooperation in organizing this exhibition, and to all those involved who worked so hard to make it happen.

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Sakai Atsumi

She continued to paint on her own, and her foundation lay in paper cutting using overhead projectors for stage art.

She continues to create and exhibit her original style of painting, which she calls "Hikari no Kirie" in which "paper cutting" is made to look transparent with "light."

This time's <Traveling Hikari no Kirie Exhibition> features works on display in five spaces: " *Ichiga nikyo* (One painting, two surprises)," in which a single paper cutout transforms into two different expressions; " *Chikyu sukecchi* (Earth sketches)," in which landscapes are drawn with music and objects; "Moving Picture Book Theater," which gently speaks to the heart; " *Otoiro manglekyo* (Kaleidoscope of sound and color)," a space filled with sound and light; and "Photo Spot," where photos can be taken amidst the beauty of light.

Please enjoy this moving "experiential art" to your heart's content.

no.	Title	Date	Material, techtique	Place	Collection
1	<i>Ichiga nikyo, sakura namiki</i> (One painting, two surprises: a row of cherry trees)		Original work: Hikari no kirie		
2	<i>Chikyu sukecchi in ehime -yasashii koto tsuyoi koto</i> (Earth Sketchs in Ehime -Kindness and Strength-) Original work		Water-based ink on washi		
3	<i>Tabi no shiori</i> (Travel itinerary) slides (6min.)	2025	Original work: Hikari no kirie		
【 <i>Ichiga nikyo</i> (One painting, two surprises)】					
This piece changes its appearance depending on how the light hits it. The light changes every 20 seconds, allowing you to enjoy the changes in the picture.					
4	<i>E tono tabi</i> (A journey with paintings)	2013	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
The paintings you paint passionately and the time you spend living passionately will lead you to encounter treasures.					
5	<i>Maho no kureyon</i> (Magic crayon)	2011	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
Drawing and imagination are magic that allow you to experience any world.					
6	<i>Kawaranai mono</i> (Things that never change)	2012	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
It depicts the passage of time between my mother and grandmother. Watching my mother care for my grandmother, I felt the unchanging love between mother and daughter, even though the supporting hands have changed.					
7	<i>Jibun no tobira</i> (My door)	2006	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
This is an early work from the "Ichiga nikyo (One painting, two surprises)" series, painted with the sole desire to break free from the shackles I had created for myself.					
8	<i>Kizuita koto</i> (What I noticed)	2019	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
There was a beauty that one realized when he or she fell.					
9	<i>Namida no tane</i> (Seeds of tears)	2011	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
From the tears shed, buds will surely sprout.					
10	<i>Subete wa tsunagatte</i> (Everything is connected)	2017	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
An encounter brought about by petals blown away by a storm. The storm leads to a light someday.					
11	<i>Haru no hane</i> (Spring feather)	2016	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
This piece is an attempt to use black washi paper, which is less transparent. The back view of a black-haired girl depicts her positive energy as her expression changes to a dignified one with the coming of spring.					
12	<i>Honto no kimochi wa</i> (My true feelings)	2023	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
When the words we've been given become tangled and we can't see the thread, sometimes if we look deep into them, love will emerge.					
13	<i>Motto motto</i> (More and more)	2024	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
What feels like more and more is piling up, but it's a mirage. I want to live life day by day, step by step.					

14	<i>Kusou-kusou</i> (Sky window-imagination)	2015	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
I want to say "Thank you" to the important people watching over me from the moon.					
15	<i>Sorezore no kisetsu</i> (Each seasons)	2024	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
The mother tree lost its leaves as autumn came and winter arrived, but now it is living on with all its might, showing off its beautiful, outstretched branches.					
16	<i>Nakanaori</i> (Reconciliation)	2025	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
The past me that I didn't like, and the present me. I draw on myself and try to remove the filter that has been painted over me by other people's words.					
17	<i>Kusou no mahou</i> (Fantasy magic)	2025	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
The magic of fantasy that we all possess makes our everyday lives exciting and bright.					
18	<i>Michi shirube wa</i> (The guideposts are)	2024	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
When we listen to the voices around us, we lose sight of our hearts. We want to move forward with the voice of our hearts as our guide.					
19	<i>Chosho tansho wa ittari kitari</i> (Strengths and weaknesses go back and forth.)	2024	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
I don't separate my strengths and weaknesses, both are part of who I am.					
20	<i>Geiko</i> (Welcoming light)	2008	Hikari no kirie / Water-based ink on washi		
The Setouchi Inland Sea in Shikoku, which I encountered while my father was battling illness. I painted this piece because I wanted to show my father the light shining through the dark clouds. The title " <i>Geiko</i> (Welcome light)" was given to me by my father.					
【 <i>Otoiro mangekyo</i> (Kaleidoscope of sound and color)】					
21	<i>Otoiro mangekyo</i> (Kaleidoscope of sound and color) (8min.)	2022	Original work: Hikari no kirie		
【Earth Sketches】					
Being kind, being strong					
The artist featured in this exhibition, Sakai Atsumi, traveled through Ehime Prefecture over 20 years ago, creating numerous sketches and discovering her path in life through art. She crossed the Shimanami Kaido bridge, painted the scenery from Mount Kiro-san, felt the vibrant life thriving amidst the strong currents of the Seto Inland Sea, was captivated by the beautiful landscapes of Ehime, and met and connected with the people of Ehime. Ehime Prefecture, which kindly accepted artist Sakai Atsumi as an "<i>ekaki</i> (painter)," is the setting for the "Earth Sketches." The theme this time is "Being kind, being strong". The fabric onto which the images are projected has Imabari towel fabric sewn onto it. In this piece, Sakai Atsumi depicts the gentle yet strong spirit of Ehime, which she once again experienced firsthand during her recent trip to the prefecture, in her "Earth Sketches" style. The music unit Kokototo (Hasegawa Kumiko and Okabayashi Waka) recorded local sounds and incorporated them into the music for this work, breathing life into the Hikari no Kirie. Please feel the kindness and strength of Ehime through this "Earth Sketches".					
22	<i>Chikyu sukecchi in ehime -yasashii koto tsuyoi koto</i> (Earth Sketches in Ehime -Kindness and Strength-) (20min.)	2025	Reflection, Music, Imabari towel, tulle, tarpee, Original work: Hikari no kirie		
【Picture Book Theater】					
23	<i>Kokoro no katachi</i> (Shape of the heart) (12min.)	2019	Reflection, Music, Original work: Hikari no kirie		
【Photo Spot】					
24	<i>Itsumo arigato</i> (Thank you as always)	2023	Original work: Hikari no kirie		
25	<i>Ima o ikiyo!</i> (Live in the moment!)	2023	Original work: Hikari no kirie		
26	Ehime-only work	2025	Original work: Hikari no kirie		
【Sketch】					
27	<i>Omoi afureru tairu komitchi</i> (A tiled path overflowing with emotions)	2001	Watercolor on paper	Onomichi City, Hiroshima Prefecture	Private
28	<i>Sora, shima, umi...no hoshi</i> (The stars of the sky, islands, and sea...)		Watercolor on paper	Mount Kiro-san, Oshima, Imabari City, Ehime Prefecture	Private
29	<i>Nora</i> (Stray cat)		Watercolor on paper	Imabari City, Ehime Prefecture (Former Namikata Town, Ochi District)	Private
30	<i>Yoru no tobari</i> (Night curtain)	May 2007	Watercolor on paper	Imabari City, Ehime Prefecture (Former Namikata Town, Ochi District)	Private
31	<i>Isaniwa jinja e</i> (To Isaniwa Shrine)		Watercolor on paper	Dogo, Matsuyama City, Ehime Prefecture	Private
32	<i>Natsuyasumi</i> (Summer vacation)	2007	Watercolor on paper	Ozu City, Ehime Prefecture	Private
33	<i>Umi no mieru eki</i> (Station with a view of the sea)	September 2003	Watercolor on paper	Iyo City, Ehime Prefecture (Former Futami Town, Iyo District) Shimonada Station	Private
34	<i>Yuki yadori</i> (Sheltering from the snow)		Watercolor on paper	Uchiko Town, Ehime Prefecture	Private
35	<i>Aki no tanada</i> (Autumn rice terraces)	September 13, 2003	Watercolor on paper	Uchiko Town, Ehime Prefecture, Cobblestones	Private
36	<i>Umi to ikiru</i> (Living with the sea)		Watercolor on paper	Ikata Town, Ehime Prefecture (Former Misaki Town)	Private