



KAJI ASO BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Kaji Aso is a well established and respected artist in Japan and the United States. His work is in the permanent collection of the Prime Minister of Japan's official residence, the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo, the Modern Museum of Art (New York), the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), Padua Museum of Art (Italy), the State Pushkin Art Museum (Moscow) and others. In Japan thirteen of his works are registered as National Property, the highest honor an artist can receive. When the National Living Treasures Tour came to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Mr. Aso performed the final calligraphy and sumi painting demonstration.

For the past thirty-four years, Mr. Kaji Aso has dedicated himself to raising the quality of life by strengthening the connection between artists and the society they live in. His many awards and honors include Distinguished Bostonian (1980); Honorary Citizen of New Orleans (1983); Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Menino of Boston (1995, 1998); Medal of Honor from Mayor of Padua, Italy (1995), Medal of Honor from the Mayor of Lisbon, Portugal (1997). In 1996 Kaji Aso was named one of the most important international calligraphers of the world by the Beijing Art Academy. The June 2002 issue of *Boston Magazine* named Mr. Aso one of "40 Bostonians We Love".

Kaji Aso recently received two important awards. Mr. Aso is recognized as one of the 2000 Outstanding People of the 20th Century by the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England. He is also commended as one of 500 Leaders of Influence by the American Biographical Institute. This award is entered on permanent record at the U.S. Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Kaji Aso has been a Professor of Art at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and in 1998 received a certificate of appreciation for over thirty years of service from Mr. Malcolm Rogers, Director of the Museum of Fine Arts. A gifted teacher, Mr. Aso has inspired hundreds of students. He consistently gives lectures and demonstrations at various seminars, colleges, universities and art centers. Mr. Aso is Artistic Director of Kaji Aso Studio, Institute for the Arts (founded 1973). Kaji Aso Studio offers an interdisciplinary approach to art and its gallery holds exhibitions, poetry readings and concerts.

Besides being a painter, operatic tenor and poet, Mr. Aso is an adventurer. Through the years he has led artists on expeditions to famous rivers of the world. Artists bring back and share their experiences with other people through multi-media exhibitions

Please see full resume on following pages

Resume of Kaji Aso

28 Westland Ave. #15, Boston, MA 02115 Tel.: Home (617) 262-5589, Studio (617) 247-1719

Birth Place: Tokyo, Japan

EMPLOYMENT

- 1967-2000 School of the Museum of Fine Arts, The Fenway, Boston, MA
Senior Faculty Member, Watercolor and Oil Painting and Japanese Brushstroke
- 1988-98 Summer School in Japan, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston,
MA
- 1969-present Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Cambridge, MA
Instructor of Painting
- 1961-1965 Jioshibi University
Printmaking, Special Lecture Professor

Education

- BFA Painting Tokyo University of Art, Tokyo, Japan
MFA Printmaking Tokyo University of Art, Tokyo, Japan

PROFESSIONAL AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

FOUNDER:

- 1972-present Kaji Aso Studio, Inc. and Gallery Nature & Temptation
40 St. Stephen St., Boston, MA
Institute for the Arts, Co-operative Gallery

Distinguished Awards:

- 1998 One of "500 Leaders of Influence", American Biographical Institute, USA
Listed on permanent record at the U.S. Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.
- 1998 One of "2000 Outstanding People of the 20th Century", International Biographical
Centre, Cambridge, England
- 1997 Medal of Honor from Mayor of Lisbon, Portugal in honor of successfully leading
expedition of artists down Tagus River
- 1996 Certificate of Recognition as one of most important international calligraphers of the
world, Beijing Art Academy, China
- 1995 Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Menino, City of Boston
- 1993 Proclamation of Recognition from Mayor Menino, City of Boston
- 1989 Mayor Raymond Flynn presents Kaji Aso with an inscribed Paul Revere bowl in
honor of his rich cultural contributions to the City of Boston
- 1986 Receives plaque from the Internal Revenue Service for his cultural contributions to
society
- 1983 Honorary Citizen, Key to the City of New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 1980 Proclaimed by the City of Boston, Distinguished Bostonian in honor of Boston's
350th Jubilee Birthday.

RESUME OF KAJI ASO (cont)

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Lectures (selected list):

- 2000 "Zen and Art", Plymouth Public Library presented by Sister-City Japan Program
- 1998-99 Workshops of Calligraphy and sumi painting, Worcester Art Museum
- 1997 Lecture/Demonstration Calligraphy and Sumi Painting for Faculty of Colleges from Massachusetts, Lowell, MA
- 1996 Arthur D. Little, Inc, "Best of the Best" Seminar for senior executives from around the world; calligraphy and sumi painting demonstration and lecture
- 1995 Lorenzo De Medici, Art Institute of Florence. Watercolor lecture and demonstration. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston, MA. Gallery talk.
- 1993 Lotus Development Corporation. History of Japanese Art and Culture.
- 1993 Harvard University. History of Japanese Art and Culture.
- 1993-present MIT Japan Program, Cambridge, MA. Japanese Calligraphy and Tea Ceremony
- 1985-present Tufts University, Medford, MA. History of Japanese Art and Culture.
- 1985 Lecture and slide presentation on Kyoto, Nara, Japan.
- 1984 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA. Demonstration and lecture on Eastern Tradition of Watercolor.
- 1983 FROM ART TO TAO, Boston, MA
- 1981 ZEN AND DESCARTES, Tufts University, Medford, MA
- 1979 Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. Seminar for High School and College Instructors, sponsored by Japanese Embassy. Lecture and demonstration on Eastern Art.
- 1978 SPIRIT OF EASTERN ART, Harvard University, Gutman Library.

Publications:

- "The Story of Paris", Publications, illustrations
- Delta Sky Magazine, cover illustration
- "The Spring of My Life", Shambhala Publications, illustrations for haiku
- "The Sound of Water", Shambhala Publications, illustrations for haiku
- Proteus, volume of original poetry
- Substance and Phenomenon, an original philosophical treatise.
- Thoughts Passing By, tradition of Kenko, (Philosophical essay A.D. 13 Japanese)

Articles:

- Shogakukan, 1998-99, "Night Conversations" series of articles
- Aica Eyes, Summer 1997, "Spring in Boston"
- Shambhala Sun, July 1997, "About Hai-ga"
- Shambhala Sun, January 1995, "Calligraphy and My Life"
- Marie Claire, Japanese/French magazine. "Volga River Trip" 1989

Boston University Journal of Education, 1984,
Vol. 166 No.4 "What is The Source Of Art"
East/West Journal-"Living Treasure", 1983
Artsmedia, 2000
Who's Who in American Art, 1993
Mado, Japanese Art Magazine 1992
Sansai, Japanese Art Magazine 1987, 88, 89, 92, 93
Meetings with Remarkable Men and Women
Book Published by East/West Journal. Interview with Kaji Aso. 1989
Asahi, Japanese National Magazine 1989
Yomiuri, Japanese National Magazine 1989
Fuji, Japanese National Television 1988

Documentaries: "Kaji Aso" CityLine, Channel 5
"Kaji Aso" New England Cable News, Channel 38 in Boston and
throughout New England, 1995
"Kaji Aso Studio on the Nile River" Shown at Boston Public Library, 1994 and
Gallery Nature and Temptation, Boston 1993
"Kaji Aso Studio on the Volga"
Shown at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 1990

Expeditions:

1997 Led group of artists down Tagus River on the Iberia Peninsula (Spain/Portugal) by
kayak

1993 Hanamaki Art Colony, Hanamaki, Japan
Cultural Exchange directed and co-organized by Kaji Aso in association with the
School of the Museum of Fine Arts.

1993 Led group of artists down Nile River by kayak from Khartoum,Sudan to Cairo,
Egypt.

1989 Led artists on the first American-Soviet-Japanese kayaking expedition down the
full length of the Volga River in the then USSR.

1987 Led artists down the full length of Seine River, France by canoe.
NHK, Japanese National Television documents the trip.

1983 Led artists down the full length of the Mississippi River by canoe, raft.
Boston Globe Newspaper documents the trip.

1985 Planner, organizer of group of artists to travel the Shinano
River in Japan in conjunction with RUNNERS magazine.

1985 Kaji Aso Studio Tour of Kyoto, Nara, Japan.

Travel: Extensive solo travel throughout Southeast Asia and the
Orient, Europe, Egypt and Greece.

KAJI ASO-ARTS RESUME

(all shows one person exhibitions unless stated otherwise)

- 2003 Pola Art Museum Annex, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 Digitas Corporation, Prudential Center, Boston, MA
South Shore Art Center, Cohasset, MA
- 2000 Saishunkan LTD Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, book illustration exhibition
- 1999 Saishunkan LTD Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, exhibition honoring “2000 Outstanding People of the 20th Century” award
- 1998 Gallery Piazza, Sausalito, California, painting exhibition
- 1997 Bunkamura Museum, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
Lasell College, Newton, MA, watercolor and sumi painting exhibition
- 1995 Gallery Reishin, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
Galleria Civica, Padua, Italy, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
Istituto Zambler, Venice, Italy, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
- 1994 Takashimaya Department Store, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
Mitsukoshi Department Store, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
- 1993 Thomas P. O’Neil Jr. Federal Building, Boston, MA, calligraphy and sumi painting
Park Lane Gallery, Tokyo ,two-person exhibition with Jeanne Gugino,
painting and sculpture
- 1992 Fuller Museum of Art, Brockton, MA, calligraphy and sumi painting exhibition
Tokogaya Department Store, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
Atagoyama Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, watercolor exhibition
Hanamaki City Hall, Hanamaki, Japan, painting exhibition
- 1991 South Station, Boston, MA, Volga River multi-media exhibition
Atagoyama Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
- 1990 Orilla Verde Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, sumi painting exhibition
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Kaji Aso Studio Exhibition
- 1989 Atagoyama Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, etching exhibition
- 1988 Atagoyama Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, sumi painting exhibition and demonstration
- 1987 Gallery Nature and Temptation, Boston, MA Impressions from France, group exhibition

- 1985 Atagoyama Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, calligraphy and sumi painting
Gallery Nature and Temptation, Boston, M, calligraphy and sumi painting
- 1984 Federal Reserve Bank, Boston, MA, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
- 1983 Boston City Hall, Main Hall, Boston, MA The Mississippi, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
- 1982 Boston City Hall, Main Gallery, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
- 1981 Mudo Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan, painting exhibition
Mall Galleries, London, England, Kaji Aso Studio exhibition
- 1980 Jaymark Gallery, San Francisco, CA, painting exhibition
- 1978 Harvard University, Gutman Library, Cambridge, MA, calligraphy and sumi painting
exhibition with lecture
- 1976-1979 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Tokyo Nihonbashi, painting exhibition
- 1973-1975 Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA, selected American artists extended
exhibit
- 1971 Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA, selected American artists show
- 1969 Alumni Gallery, School of the MFA, Boston, Nature and Temptation.. Exhibition
producer.
- 1967-1968 Siedenberg Gallery, New York City, NY
Ward-Nase Gallery, New York City, NY
Nielson, Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1964 International Invitational Show at Wagner Festival,
Bayreuth, W.Germany (one of 6 Japanese delegates).
- 1963 Tokyo Modern Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan, International Invitational Show

PARTIAL LISTING OF COLLECTED WORKS:

National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (Works listed as National Property)	
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kane
Museum of Modern Art, NY	Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hobson
National Museum of Czechoslovakia	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Thomson
Chase Manhattan Bank (Rockefeller Collection)	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zevin
Xerox Corporation	Dr. and Mrs. Laurence Sloss
State Pushkin Museum, Moscow	Consul General Nobuyasu Abe
Office of Consulate General of Japan, Boston	Padua Museum of Fine Arts, Italy
Mr. Stuart Yoffe	