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Contents of English Summary

NAKANO, Yoshito	“Bokashi” technique in Ukiyo-e	123
YOSHIMURA, Noriko	‘Wally Closes’ : Tiled Closes of Tenement Houses Decorative Tiles in Glasgow and Surrounding Towns 1890-1910	124
YAMAGATA, Masaaki	On Yasuichiro Ogawa, a Japanese Architect	126

“Bokashi” technique in Ukiyo-e

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Cross hatch, Ungen, Gradation, Landscape, Stereotype.

“Bokashi” in *Ukiyo-e* was one of a few reproduction techniques which were able to reproduce gradation naturally, before the halftone screen became generalized in printing.

The most striking difference between the gradation in Western printing and that in Oriental printing is expression by lines. In Oriental printing, especially in Japanese *Ukiyo-e* using a method of color woodcut printing, the artists reproduce imperceptible gradation by the flat plane colors.

The origin of “Bokashi” comes from dyeing in textile and ink wash paintings. In figure prints by *Kiyonaga* and *Utamaro*, “Bokashi” is taken to express the scene realistically. It suggests space or atmosphere.

Hokusai and *Hiroshige* added abstraction and decoration to reality in landscape prints by using a nicely-gradated harmony of tinting. “Bokashi” effectively symbolizes the visual qualities of objects.

The artists such as *Kunisada* and *Kuniyoshi* who belong to the later period of *Ukiyo-e* started to use “Bokashi” as decoration without reality.

The Japanese artists used “Bokashi” for expressive and decorative effects, and it secures not only the controlled harmonies but also Japanese feeling.

'Wally Closes' : Tiled Closes of Tenement Houses

Decorative Tiles in Glasgow and Surrounding Towns 1890—1910

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Glasgow, Tenements, Decorative Tiles, 1890—1910

Decorative ceramic tiles were one of the most significant art forms in the Victorian period. Although their use can be traced back to the dawn of civilization, the innovative techniques for industrial production were developed only after the 1840s in Britain and enabled tiles to be used for a wider range of purposes. By coincidence the rising popularity of tiles took place during a period of the housing boom. The wealthy middle classes were getting their own houses: separating home from work. The new tiles were adopted as one of ways to make their houses beautiful.

In Glasgow and surrounding towns, a unique adoption of tiles in tenement houses can be seen. The tenement is a form of urban housing. It developed in the background of the housing boom and the growth of the population in the nineteenth century. In the common entrance passage ('close'), the lower part of the walls would have been painted. But in the 1890s, the painted walls of middle class tenements were replaced by tiled dados, creating the so-called 'wally closes'. 'Wally' is a colloquial Scottish word which means 'ceramic' or 'tiled'. Living up a 'wally close' at one time was a symbol of prestige. It can be said 'wally closes' have ma-

for significance not only in the use of tiles but also in connection with the local community.

As a case study of the 'wally closes', the Hyndland area in the 'West End' of Glasgow was surveyed as this area was one of the most important of the tenement schemes (1898—1910) and developed during the peak period of the tile design.

In contrast to the tiles in Hyndland which were manufactured by large scale producers, a small local firm had done significant work in four wally closes along the firth Clyde in Greenock. In the closes the decorated border expresses a scene of the Clyde. The patterns are carefully handcrafted according to the structure of the dado.

These surveys make it clear that the decorative element of the tiles made the tenements more attractive. The various and extensive use of tiles such as wally closes shows the appreciation of tiles in this period, and are an expression of the artistic aspiration for their houses.

On Yasuichiro Ogawa, a Japanese Architect

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OGAWA Yasuichiro, Building Department of Sumitomo, Spanish

A Japanese Architect, Yasuichiro Ogawa (1882 — 1946), who served to the Sumitomo's building department from 1907 to 1931 as an engineer, designed many residential houses on personality request besides his business works at the company. His real originality in designing houses and personality could be fully expressed through those his designing works.

This paper introduces his career, and makes brief sketches on most of his main works, and pointed out the uniqueness of his design as follow.

1. On western architectural design, Mr. Ogawa studied from many foreign books concerned Spanish architecture especially. After that, he became to be recognized as an expert of Spanish design.

2. When he planned a house, he used of mixed style of Japanese and Western to meet the request of the client's daily life style and practical needs.

3. Concretely, his interior design is remarkable for its "a natural taste" especially from wooden and stucco works. And the main room was usually filled with colored craft tiles, metal works, lamps and funitures which are specially designed to match. His work reminds us the style of arts and crafts in the early modern age.



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