

スイスに生きた画家 横井照子

故郷の津島で生誕100年記念展

横井さんは名古屋市中区津島市に生まれ、その後も長く津島市に暮らした。6歳のころから習字の手ほどきを受け、県立津島高等学校(現・県立津島高等学校)を卒業後、上京。1953年に渡米し、62年からスイスの首都ベルンを拠点に画家として活躍した。

日本の四季折々の草花や情景をモチーフに、抽象画を織り交ぜた作品が特徴。栗きんとんで知られる恵那川上屋(岐阜県恵那市)の国産紙やパッケージにも横井さんが描いたものだ。

同社の鎌田真悟社長は、19歳のときに菓子修業で訪れたスイスで横井さんと出会い、親交を結んだ。横井さんの作品を集め、2004年に「横井照子(ひなげし)美術館」(同市)を設立。今回展示される作品の9割は、戦後、船で米国に渡り、スイスで生きた画家・横井照子さん(1924~2020)の展覧会が、故郷の津島市で始まった。生誕100年を記念して、市が企画。担当者は「郷土の芸術家を知ってほしい」と話している。

以上が同館からの出展だ。

ひなげしの花を描いた《幸せ》4連作のほか、俳句が趣味だった作家の父親の影響で、和歌や俳句が登場する作品もある。

展覧会の前期は「軌跡」と題して年代別に作品を振り返り、後期は「世界」と題して横井さんの表現や世界観に焦点を当てる。

美術史家などとしてスイスで活動する里信邦子さんが制作した横井さんのドキュメンタリー映画も上映される。里信さんは横井さんについて「戦後間もなく、新しい画風を求めて米国に渡った。外国人であることや女性であることなど、さまざまな苦難にもめげず画家として一生を生きたという意志を貫いた」と話す。

作品約50分。実際のインタビュー映像や作品、横井さんが暮らしていたこの津島市の写真などを盛り込んだ。同市民から制作費の寄付を受けたという。今回は「恩返しの上映」(里信さん)という。

展覧会「横井照子 その軌跡と世界」は津島市文化会館小ホールで10日まで。前期は4日まで、後期は6~10日。5日は作品入れ替えのため休み。入場無料。映画「Teruko Yokoi-Art in the Making」の上映会は3、4、9、10日のいずれも午後1時30分から。(小泉恵)

ドキュメンタリー映画の上映も



①ひなげしの花などを描いた横井照子さんの《幸せ》4連作＝津島市の市文化会館
②映画「Teruko Yokoi-Art in the Making」から横井照子さん＝里信邦子スプリグさん提供

Asahi Shimbun,
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**Painter Teruko Yokoi, who lived in Switzerland
Exhibition Commemorates 100th Anniversary of Yokoi's Birth in Her Hometown, Tsushima
Documentary films will also be screened**

An exhibition of Teruko Yokoi (1924-2020), a painter who lived in Switzerland after traveling to the United States by ship after the war, has opened in her hometown of Tsushima City, Aichi Prefecture. Tsushima City planned the exhibition to commemorate the 100th anniversary of her birth. The city government officials hope that visitors will get to know the local artist.

Yokoi was born in Nagoya and moved to Tsushima City shortly thereafter. After graduating from Tsushima High School for Girls (now Aichi Prefectural Tsushima High School), she moved to Tokyo. In 1953, she moved to the U.S., and since 1962, she has been based in Bern, the capital of Switzerland, where she has been active as a painter.

Her characteristic works are motifs of flowers, plants, and scenes of the four seasons in Japan, interwoven with abstract paintings. The wrapping paper and packages of Enakawakamiya (Ena City, Gifu Prefecture), known for its Kurikinton, were also painted by Yokoi.

Shingo Kamada, president of Enakawakamiya, met Yokoi when he was 19 years old during his confectionery apprenticeship in Switzerland, and continued his friendship with her. He collected Yokoi's works and established the "Teruko Yokoi Hinageshi Art Museum" (Ena City) in 2004. More than 90% of the works in this exhibition are from this museum.

In addition to 《Happiness》, a series of four paintings depicting Poppy, there are also works in which waka poems and haiku poems appear, influenced by her father, a calligrapher whose hobby was haiku.

The first half of the exhibition, entitled "Trajectory," will look back at Yokoi's works chronologically, while the second half, entitled "World," will focus on her expression and world view.

A documentary film on Yokoi produced by Kuniko Satonobu Spirig, an art historian in Switzerland, will also be screened. Ms. Satonobu said of Yokoi, "Shortly after the war, I went to the United States in search of a new style of painting. She was undeterred by the various hardships she faced, including being a foreigner and a woman, and she maintained her will to live her entire life as a painter". The film runs approximately 50 minutes.

The film is approximately 50 minutes long, and includes actual interview footage, artwork, and photos of Tsushima City when Yokoi lived there. Ms. Satonobu received donations for the film's production from Tsushima citizens and others, and she says that this screening is her way of returning the favor.

The exhibition, "Teruko Yokoi: Her Trajectories and World," will be held at the Tsushima City Cultural Hall until the 10th. The first half of the exhibition will run until the 4th, and the second half from the 6th to the 10th. The exhibition will be closed on the 5th for the replacement of artworks. Admission is free. The screening of the film "Teruko Yokoi-Art in the Making" will be held on the 3rd, 4th, 9th, and 10th, all at 1:30pm.

(Chie Kohara)