



**Ishizumi & Co.**

**A Bespoke Art-fan maker, Kyoto Est. 1881**

**presents**

**Ishizumi Fan Winter 2012 Exhibition**

**‘Traditions Revised’**

**Brunei Gallery**

**SOAS, University of London**



**Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG**

**[www..soas.ac.uk/gallery](http://www.soas.ac.uk/gallery)**

**Facebook:**

**<http://www.facebook.com/Soas.Brunei.Gallery>**

**12<sup>th</sup> January, 2012: 18:00 20:00 (Reception)**

**13<sup>th</sup> January - 24th March, 2012: 10:30 17:00**

**(Exhibition)**

**13<sup>th</sup> January, 2012: 15:00 17:00 (Lectures at Room B111**

**(1st floor of Brunei Gallery))**

**22nd & 23rd February, 2012: 12:30 - 14:30 (Fan**

**Making Workshop)**

**22nd & 23rd February, 2012: 15:00 - 17:30 (Japanese**

**Antique Fan Sales)**

Sunday, Monday & Bank Holidays are closed

## SOAS DESIGN-A-FAN COMPETITION

Deadline for entries: 19 February

Winners will be announced 22 Feb:

at the JRC Annual Tsuda Lecture, 6pm, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Ishizumi & Co.

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THE BRUNEI GALLERY • SOAS  
PRESS RELEASE



## 'TRADITIONS REVISED'

Japanese Fans from the Ishizumi Family Collection

13 January – 24 March 2012



People usually perceive folding fans as simple implements to cool one-self. Collectors of antique folding fans see them as decorative art. This exhibition explores the history of the folding fan, its traditions and the culture of fans in Japan, from everyday items to cool one-self to communication tools, writing instruments, symbols of status, fine art and even weapons. During 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Europe, ladies carried a folding fan in their daily life as a decorative and sometimes practical ornament with a variety of uses and secret meanings. Few art forms combine functional, ceremonial and decorative uses as elegantly as the fan. Fewer still can match such diversity with a history stretching back at least 3,000 years.

'Traditions Revised' includes historical examples which laid the foundations for contemporary fan designs and intends to reintroduce this ancient medium to a new and wider audience and explore and rediscover the fan as a contemporary art form through these traditions.

In order to revive fans as a canvas for artistic expression, Mr. Kanji Ishizumi invited both English artists and Japanese artists living in London with Japanese artists in Kyoto to produce contemporary works on Japanese fans or a fan shaped canvas. Mr Ishizumi believes that a fan shape canvas or fan itself, as an art form is so unique that it can provide artists with a new way of expressing their thoughts.



*"In one sense a fan is a unique shape but in another sense it is completely portable so that an artist can bring it easily to anywhere to show their work."*

Ishizumi & Co. Japan is a Japanese art fan making company established in Kyoto, in 1881 by Kisaburo Ishizumi I, currently managed by Mr. Kanji Ishizumi, a sixth generation Japanese fan maker. In 2001 the Ishizumi family presented The Giant Fan made by the family in 1892 (213cm (radius) x 134cm) to The British Museum. For more details on Ishizumi & Co. please visit [www.ishizumifan.com](http://www.ishizumifan.com)

BRUNEI GALLERY, SOAS  
THORNHAUGH STREET  
RUSSELL SQUARE  
LONDON, WC1H 0XG

OPEN: Tuesday – Saturday 10.30 – 17.00 (Thurs late night opening until 20.00)  
CLOSED: Sunday, Monday, and Bank Holidays  
T. 020 7898 4046 (recorded information)  
E. [galleries@soas.ac.uk](mailto:galleries@soas.ac.uk)

ADMISSION FREE

For more information visit: [www.soas.ac.uk/gallery](http://www.soas.ac.uk/gallery)  
or follow us on Face Book <https://www.facebook.com/Soas.Brunei.Gallery>

Department of the History of Art and  
Archaeology, SOAS

East Asian Art Research Seminar

Special event in conjunction with the opening of

**Traditions Revised**

**Japanese Fans from the Ishizumi Family Collection**

**Brunei Gallery, 13 Jan 24 March**

Speakers:

Kanji Ishizumi, (collector and fan-maker), *The Birth of the Folding Fan as an Informational Device*

Professor Timon Screech, *The Use and Meaning of Fans in the Edo Period*

Charles Summers (artist), *English Fan Design*

**Friday 13 January, B111. 3–5pm**

**ALL WELCOME**