



# Private Connoisseurs, Public Collections: A West Coast Perspective on Collecting Japanese Prints in the United States

**A Talk by Dr. Jeannie Kenmotsu**

**Thursday, February 7, 2019  
4:00PM-5:30PM | MRF 340**



Japanese woodblock prints were met with an enthusiastic audience in the United States in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. However, our current understanding of early print collecting has been filtered largely through the prism of specific private collectors based on the east coast. These donations laid the groundwork for the creation of museum collections in Boston, New York, and Chicago. This lecture by **Dr. Jeannie Kenmotsu**, Assistant Curator at Portland Art Museum, explores the lesser known contours of collecting Japanese art on the west coast. It reframes the story of early print collecting in the United States through an alternative but nonetheless foundational case study: an early donation of nearly 750 Edo-period (1603-1868) woodblock prints to the Portland Art Museum, Oregon.

Sponsored and organized by the **USC East Asian Studies Center** and **Department of Art History**

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