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| Yorozu, Tesugoro (1885-1927) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| Yorozu Tetsugorô was a Yôga (Western-style) painter who was associated with the avant-garde movement of the Taishô years (1912-1926). His foray into art began early when he took it upon himself to study Ôshita Tôjirô’s [大下藤次郎] *A Guide to Watercolours*. Prior to enrolling at the Tokyo School of Fine Arts in Western-style painting, he had already attended meetings and study sessions at the Hakubakai [White Horse Society; 白馬会] (1896-1911). In 1907, he entered the Tokyo School of Fine Arts and graduated in 1912. His graduation work, *A Nude Beauty* (1912), drew much attention and was thought to be a pioneering work of Japanese Fauvism. Today, the work is designated as an ‘Important Cultural Property.’ Yorozu’s works around in this period revealed the influence of both Fauvism and Cubism. His landscapes and portraits were well received at the Nikakai [Second Section Association] (1914-present), which was opened to showcase the work of younger and more avant-garde artists. For health reasons, Yorozu moved away from Tokyo to recuperate, but continued, when possible, to exhibit at the Nikaten [exhibitions of the Nikakai]. Although he was unsuccessful in his attempts to gain entry to the government sponsored Teiten exhibition, Yorozu continued with his explorations in art, specifically in Nanga [literati painting] and Nihonga [Japanese-style painting]. He passed away in 1927 and left behind a legacy as Japan’s pioneer of Cubism and Fauvism. |
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| Further reading:  (Clark)  (Volk, In Pursuit of Universalism: Yorozu Tetsugoro and Japanese Modern Art )  (Volk, The Japanese Expressionist: Yorozu Tetsugorô (1885-1927) and the Language of Modern Art) |