[title]

**Exhibition Photo Gallery & Catalogue**

[File: full gallery entrance]

[subtitle]

**YOKAI: Ghosts & Demons of Japan (December 6, 2019 – January 16, 2022)**

[body]

Yokai is a catchall word for a range of supernatural beings such as ghosts, demons, monsters, shapeshifters, and tricksters. It also refers to mysterious phenomena and peculiar entities or presences; inexplicable occurrences.

The exhibition, *Yokai: Ghosts & Demons of Japan* is on display through January 16, 2022. Special exhibition highlights include: narrative arts such as Edo period scroll paintings and woodblock prints; contemporary folk art that depicts yokai and illustrates their eerie tales; ghost and demon characters from classical noh and kabuki performances; and special festival events. Toys, games, comic books, and anime connect the past to the present, and the classical to the popular in terms of visual arts and culture. In addition to participatory gallery crafts, the exhibition includes an immersive, family-friendly *obake yashiki* (a Japanese “monster house”), a popular form of entertainment in Japanese amusement parks.

Click through the images to view the exhibition gallery

[file: see folder: exhibit photo gallery]

Explore the exhibition art and objects in the museum’s online database

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<http://collection.internationalfolkart.org/collections/24685/yokai-exhibit/objects>

**[subtitle]**

**HYAKUMONOGATARI KAIDAN YASHIKI (The House of One Hundred Ghost Stories)**

*Obake yashiki* (monster houses) are considered a traditional form of Japanese amusement. They are particularly popular in the summertime because, as people often say, spine-chilling experiences cool you down! The late-summer festival, Obon, is a time when people honor their ancestors, perhaps another explanation for the Japanese association between summer and spirits. Obake yashiki may date back to the Edo period (1603-1867), as an amusing way for warriors to prove their bravery during a time of relative peace that saw few battles. Japanese-style haunted houses gained popularity after World War II and draw upon folklore and traditional imagery to create a scary walk-through experience in a maze-like setting. Similar to American haunted house traditions, obake yashiki are often found in amusement parks. Although the point is to frighten people, it is meant to be a fun experience. After all, sometimes it is fun to be scared

A monster house was collaboratively created for the yokai exhibition by the Museum of International Folk Art and yokai scholar and artist Kono Junya, who is also a lecturer at Saga University of the Arts in Kyoto and the founder and director of the yokai artist collective, Hyakuyobako. Learn more about the artist and this collaboration [here] [link to acknowledgements page]

View images of the monsters in the obake yashiki, handmade by Kono Junya.

[file: see folder: monster house]

Buy the exhibition catalogue, *Yokai: Ghosts, Demons, & Monsters of Japan*, featuring contributions by yokai scholars: Komatsu Kazuhiko, Noriko Tsunoda Reider, Satoko Shimazaki, Michael Dylan Foster, Adam Kabat, Kagawa Masanobu, Zack Davisson, Yumoto Koichi, Kono Junya, and Felicia Katz-Harris.

[file: book cover /thumbnail]

[hyperlink to “book catalogue text”]