



Main exhibition visual, *The Ten Kings of Hell (Jigoku Juozu)*, 2022

Ayako Ishiguro Exhibition: *Bakemono Zorozoro; Bakeneko Zorozoro*

Ayako Ishiguro Exhibition : Magical Monsters Parade

Apr. 29 – Sept. 3, 2023

Venue: The Setagaya Literary Museum 2F Exhibition Room

Exhibition Hours: 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. (last admission at 17:30; museum shop closes at 17:30)

Museum Closures: Every Monday (except Jul. 17 when the museum will close on the following Tuesday)

General Fees:

General: ¥1,000; Over 65/College or High School Student: ¥600; Junior High and Elementary School Student: ¥300

Disability certificate holders: ¥500 (Disability certificate holders of college age and below are admitted free of charge)

Discounted Group Fees:

General: ¥800; Over 65/College or High School Student: ¥480; Junior High and Elementary School Student: ¥240

Disability certificate holders: ¥400 (Disability certificate holders of college age and below are admitted free of charge)

* Discounted group fees apply to groups of 20 visitors or more with a Setagaya Arts Card

* Free admission for all visitors on May 10 (Wed.); free admission for visitors age 65 and older on May 12 (Fri.).

Ticket Information

Same-day tickets and online tickets (fixed date & time) will be sold for the Ayako Ishiguro Exhibition.

For details, please see the online ticket site: <https://e-tix.jp/setabun/>

*Reservations are not required for children of preschool age. Reservations cannot be made by phone.

Organized by: The Setagaya Arts Foundation, The Setagaya Literary Museum, The Asahi Shimbun

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Exhibition Outline

Ayako Ishiguro depicts creatures beyond the imagination such as *yokai*, spirits from Japanese folklore, and *bakeneko*, *yokai* taking the form of cats, with elegant brushwork reminiscent of Japanese *nihonga* painting. Ishiguro creates colorful creatures that are beautiful, charming and humorous—sometimes with slightly eerie expressions that instantly invite us into a different world. Over 500 works, including approximately 20 new pieces, are on display in Ishiguro's first large-scale exhibition—with original illustrations of *yokai* from picture books created during her early years as an artist, including *Imoto Kaigi* and *Etoeto Gassen*, as well as the more recent *Nekomata Goyomi*, among others. The works from her new collaboration with stuffed toy maker Masayo Imai and Masataro Toys STORE also deserve special attention. Please enjoy Ishiguro's spirit world with evil spirits of mountains and rivers running rampant.

Artist Profile

Picture book author and illustrator Ayako Ishiguro was born in Chiba Prefecture in 1973.

Ishiguro has held numerous solo exhibitions, primarily featuring *bakeneko* and *yokai*, in Japan and abroad. She published an art book of her paintings, *Heiseiban Mononoke Zuroku* (Magazine House), in 2021. Her picture books include *Bakeneko Zorozoro* (Akane Shobo), *Imoto Kaigi* (Billiken) and *Etoeto Gassen* (Wave), and more. She has also worked as an illustrator and cover art creator for works such as *Tofu-kozo Sugorokudochu Furidashi* by Natsuhiko Kyogoku (Kodansha) and *Gendaiban Ehon Otogizoshi Tsukumogami* by Ko Machida (Kodansha), among others. Ishiguro is also involved in a wide range of activities, including releasing works made in collaboration with corporations, etc. Although known as a cat lover, she's become fascinated with reptiles in recent years.

Related Exhibitions

Season Exhibition: Dossei ! Nekomata Sumo – Summer Tournament (in connection with Ayako Ishiguro Exhibition)

July 22–Aug.31, 2023

During the summer vacation period, media art pieces based on *Dossei! Nekomata Sumo* will be displayed on the 1F of the Setagaya Literary Museum.

Venue: The Setagaya Literary Museum, 1F Literary Salon

Fee: Free admission (No reservations required)



Nekomata Goyomi (Poplar Publishing, 2021)