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Japan Screen Topics

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AUTUMN ART SEASON

91 feet 2 min. 32 sec.

1. (SCULPTURE) Some of the latest, best works in sculpture and other art forms go on display at the Metropolitan Art Museum in Ueno Park in Tokyo. Autumn is traditionally the season for art exhibitions in Japan.
2. (ARTIFACTS) Artifacts from glass, bamboo, wood and various other materials are part of the display.
3. (CALLIGRAPHY) Several rooms are taken up with calligraphy, artistic forms of handwriting with brush and black charcoal ink. Calligraphy of the ancient characters from China, forming today's written Japanese language, has been developed as a much admired art form with a large following.
4. (PLUMBLOSSOM) Plum blossoms on an old tree, done with "same paint," is typical of the works of old-school artists in the Nitten group. There are many other kindred pictures with the same delicate touch.
5. (ROOM WITH OILS) Bolder expressions are to be seen in the large section for oil paintings by artists of both the Nitten and Nika groups. Japanese painters did not take to oil until the 19th Century, when the country reopened its contacts with the west after centuries of seclusion.

6. (SEASCAPE) One of the outstanding works in the film section: Sea in the South by a noted artist Mitsuo Kawai.

EMPEROR HISHIITO HAN: A CENTURY OF JAPAN'S THRONE

11 feet 3 min. 5 sec.

1. (CHUYANTRIFUMU) The annual autumn Imperial Garden Party, hosted by the Emperor and the Empress in Tokyo, this year has special significance. It is held prior to the fiftieth anniversary of His Majesty's accession to the throne on December 25, 1940. His times have spanned, no doubt, the most turbulent and important period in Japan's long history.

2. (HOLYKAN EXTERIOR) The jubilee celebration on November 10 at the big Budokan auditorium --- not far from the Imperial Palace --- is attended by some seven thousand guests from all walks of life in the nation as well as distinguished foreigners residing in Japan.

3. (PLATFORM) with the Emperor and the Empress on the platform are their sons, Crown Prince Akihito and Prince Hitachi with their wives.

4. (PRIME MINISTER) Prime Minister Takeo Miki, speaking for the government and the country, thanks the Emperor for his many years of service towards his people and wishes His Majesty continued good health and a long life.

5. (DIPLOMAT) The ambassador of the Ivory Coast, head of the Ivorian diplomatic corps in Japan, wishes congratulations on behalf of the corps.

6. (EMPEROR SPEAKING) The 75-year-old emperor, in his message to the nation, recalls that both joys and sorrows have marked the period of his half century on the throne. He expresses sadness for some of the scars of war that still remain. He notes with pleasure that Japan, having made great economic progress, now holds an honored place in international society as a peace-loving state.

7. (CHEERS) Cheers of "Long live the Emperor" bring the ceremonies to a close.

8. (VISITORS TO PALACE) On the same day thousands of citizens flock to the Imperial Palace to sign their names in the official register of well wishers.

9. (TEA RECEPTION) In the Palace, to the strains of ancient gagaku Court music, the Emperor plays host to a group of invited guests, including members of the foreign diplomatic corps and distinguished Japanese from many fields of activity.

10. (PARADE) Throughout the day and into the night, in many large cities, the jubilee is celebrated with parades -- some of them featuring contrasts between life in Japan today and half a century ago.