



January 2008

### **Brooklyn Museum Presents Wide Range of Public Programs Inspired by Retrospective of Work by Takashi Murakami**

A wide range of public programs, among them a curator exhibition tour and a scholarly symposium, will be presented by the Brooklyn Museum in conjunction with ©*MURAKAMI*, the most comprehensive retrospective to date of the work of the acclaimed Japanese artist Takashi Murakami. On view April 5 through July 13, 2008, the exhibition includes more than ninety works in various media that span the artist's entire career.

The opening of the exhibition on Saturday April 5 coincides with *Target First Saturday*, the Museum's popular free program of art and entertainment from 5 to 11 p.m. Celebrating Japanese arts and pop culture past and present, the April edition of *Target First Saturday* is inspired by ©*MURAKAMI* and by the exhibition *Utagawa: Masters of the Japanese Print, 1770-1900*, on view through June 15. Among the events that evening will be film, art-making projects, gallery talks, performances, and a dance party.

#### **April 5 *Target First Saturday* Events**

##### **5–7 p.m. Performance:**

Taikoza performs traditional Japanese taiko drumming, fluting, and dancing.

##### **6 p.m. Film:**

The classic *anime* film explores the magical world of a witch-in-training. *Kiki's Delivery Service* (Hayao Miyazaki, 1989, 103 min., G). Free tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 5 p.m.

##### **6 p.m. Spoken Word:**

Poet Kimiko Hahn reads from her new book, *The Narrow Road to the Interior*. Free tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 5:00 p.m.

##### **6:30–8:30 p.m. Hands-On Art:**

Participants will draw a cartoon self-portrait. Free timed tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 5:30 p.m.

##### **7 p.m. Curator Talk:**

Laurie Mueller, curator of *Utagawa: Masters of the Japanese Print* leads a gallery talk in the exhibition. Free tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 6 p.m.

## **Brooklyn Museum**

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**8 p.m. Young Voices Talk:**

Student guides lead an interactive tour connecting the exhibitions *Utagawa: Masters of the Japanese Print, 1770–1900*, and ©MURAKAMI.

**8 p.m. Film:**

*A Geisha Story* (Artemis Willis, 2004, 63 min., NR) chronicles the relationship between Kiharu Nakamura, an eighty-eight-year-old former geisha living in Queens, and a young Brooklyn filmmaker. Q&A follows. Free tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 7 p.m.

**8:30 p.m. Film:**

Travel to the year 2199 when humans are on a quest to save the Earth from the alien race Gamilon, with *Space Battleship Yamato* (Toshio Matsuda, 1977, 130min., NR), an anime film made from the popular original 26-episode TV series that inspired Takashi Murakami. Free tickets are available at the Visitor Center at 7:30 p.m.

**9 p.m. Music:**

Brooklyn's Love Etc. and Sakura Madams sway the house with their pop, rock, and funk music.

**9 p.m. Dance Party:**

A Hip Hop dance party by one of New York's most loved Japanese DJs.

Sponsored by  **TARGET**

*The New York Times* is media sponsor.

Some *Target First Saturday* programs have limited space available and must be ticketed; lines for free tickets often form 30 minutes in advance. Programs subject to change without notice. Museum galleries are open until 11 p.m. Free general admission and \$4 parking (flat rate) 5–11 p.m. Cash bar, food

**Saturday, April 12, 12–5 p.m.**

**Academic Symposium: *Love and Pop: Visual Cultures in Japan and Beyond***

This day-long event offers fresh perspectives on the work of Takashi Murakami through the voices of local graduate and undergraduate students. The symposium features a keynote address by Roland Kelts, author of *Japanamerica*, a lively discussion of contemporary art and pop culture in Japan, the screening of an *anime* sensation, and interactive tours of ©MURAKAMI led by members of the Student Guide program.

**Saturday April 19, 2–4 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion: *Consuming Art in a World of Mass Production***

This is the first in a series of three panel discussions exploring common themes related to Japanese art and artists on both sides of the Pacific presented in conjunction with the exhibitions ©MURAKAMI and *Utagawa: Masters of the Japanese Print, 1770–1900*. Panelists will discuss the challenges and possibilities created by mass-markets, consumerism and the rise of “popular culture” since the 18th century.

**Saturday, April 19, 2–4 p.m.**

**Creative Art Making: *Manga* Pop-Up Cards**

Visitors will explore the work of Takashi Murakami with Brooklyn-based artist Lai-Chung Poon by creating a three dimensional *manga* card. This adult workshop will introduce visitors to *manga* drawing and pop-up bookmaking techniques, while looking at the connections between Takashi Murakami's works of art and Japanimation. Free with Museum admission, but registration is required via e-mail: [creative.art.making@brooklynmuseum.org](mailto:creative.art.making@brooklynmuseum.org).

**Saturday, April 26, 12–5 p.m. and Sunday, May 18, 12–5 p.m.**

**Film: Japanese Classic and *Anime* Film Days**

The Museum presents two afternoons of fantastical cinematic visions of Japan, through films that influenced Takashi Murakami and films that depict popular culture in both traditional and contemporary Japan. Highlights include Hayao Miyazaki's animated feature films and classics by film greats Kenji Mizoguchi and Akira Kurosawa. For schedule and more information, visit [www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org).

**Sunday April 27, 2–4 p.m.**

***Music Off the Walls: "Traversing the Mushroom Kingdom"***

Inspired by the © *MURAKAMI* exhibition, members of the Brooklyn Philharmonic present a multimedia wild ride, with themes from video-game favorites paired with formal examples of chamber music. Music by Randy Woolf and a world premiere by Darcy James Argue are featured. Tickets are \$15; \$10 for Members, students, and seniors. To purchase tickets, visit [www.brooklynphilharmonic.org](http://www.brooklynphilharmonic.org) or call the Brooklyn Philharmonic at (718) 488-5913.

**Saturday, May 17, 2–4 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion: *Japan in the Wider World: Creative Dialogues***

This is the second in a series of three panel discussions exploring common themes informing Japanese art and artists on both sides of the Pacific presented in conjunction with the exhibitions © *MURAKAMI* and *Utagawa: Masters of the Japanese Print, 1770-1900*. Panelists will discuss the intermingling of the Japanese and American art worlds and art markets since the opening of Japan to the West in 1852, and the varied ways in which Japanese artists have created a unique space for their work that is simultaneously Japanese and international.

**Saturday, May 31, 2–4 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion: *Portrayals of Women, Beauty and the Erotic in Japanese Art***

The panel-discussion series concludes with an examination of the varied representations of gender and sexuality as they are manifested in both historical and contemporary Japanese art and popular culture.

All programs are subject to change.

End

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**GENERAL INFORMATION****Admission:**

Contribution \$8; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$4. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

**Directions:**

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B71, B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

**Museum Hours:**

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.