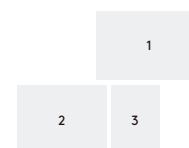
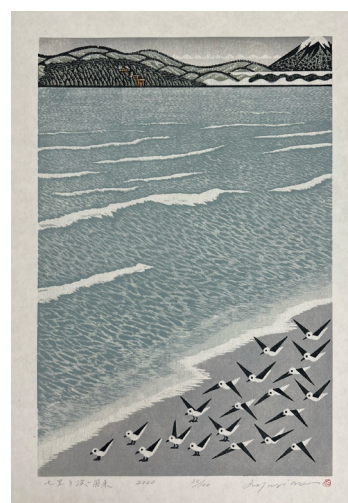


# AMAZING FUJI!

*This year's CWAJ special exhibition brings Japan's iconic mountain to the Frederick Harris Gallery.*

WORDS C BRYAN JONES



1. Hideo Hagiwara, Expo '70, 1969.  
2. Osamu Sugiyama, Soaring, 2025.  
3. Ray Morimura, Shichirigahama—Arrival, 2020.

**"Mount Fuji defies all challenges.** That is why people approach it with cameras and drawing pens. Whether it looks noble or vulgar depends on your mind's eye. Today's appearance is not the same as tomorrow's. Even if you think you have captured its essence, it always escapes from between your fingers."

This is how the late Hideo Hagiwara, whose work will be on display this month in the Frederick Harris Gallery, described Japan's most iconic mountain. Born in Yamanashi Prefecture in 1913, the woodblock printmaker earned international recognition for his innovative techniques, and particularly for his *Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji*, a series in which he applied those techniques as he explored the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site from diverse perspectives.

The exhibition, titled *Amazing Fuji!*, is organized by the College Women's Association of Japan (CWAJ) and is a lead-in to the 68th CWAJ Print Show, which begins October 15 in Daikanyama's Hillside Forum and helps the nonprofit organization fund its long-running scholarship program for women's education.

"As Hideo said, Mount Fuji defies all challenges, therefore we wanted to show a variety of depictions to recognize its many forms," says Mihoshi Smith, one of the Print Show's organizers, of the special exhibition's theme. "Mount Fuji holds special significance, not only in art, but also in the spirituality and daily life of Japanese people."

Of the money raised from the sale of each print, half goes to the artist and half to the many scholarships and projects run by the CWAJ. The group's primary mission is the provision of scholarships for women wanting to further their studies both in Japan and overseas.

"Japan ranks 118th out of 148 countries in the 2025 *Global Gender Gap Report*, so supporting women through education is imperative in closing this gap," explains Suz Wilkinson, the CWAJ's director of scholarships. The young women who have received CWAJ support have gone on to study a variety of subjects, such as art and medicine.

Works depicting Fuji by Hagiwara will be displayed alongside those by four other artists with ties to the CWAJ. Ray Morimura, Osamu Sugiyama, and the late artists Iwao Akiyama and Kan Kawada participated in the CWAJ Print Show a combined 120 times. Hagiwara took part 36 times. Two legacy artists, Toko Shinoda and Iwao Akiyama, will also be featured.

"We are happy to introduce our special part of the CWAJ Print Show to the Club and the international society," says Smith. "We hope a lot of people will enjoy our exhibition and buy prints."

## CWAJ Special Exhibition: *Amazing Fuji!*

- September 24–October 12 • Frederick Harris Gallery
- Artworks available for purchase through Member Services
- Details online