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The Art of Monks: Ink Painting in Medieval Japan

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Key Names and Terms

Sesshū Tōyō (1420-1506) Shōkokuji monastery Josui Sōen Splashed ink technique (C. *pomo*, J. *haboku*) poem-picture scroll (J. *shigajiku*) lamp (flame) history recorded sayings (C. *yulu*, J. *goroku*) Ashikaga collection of Chinese painting modal painting *koan*

Key Works Shown

- *Splashed Ink Landscape*, by Sesshū Tōyō (1420-1506), dated 1495, hanging scroll, ink on paper, Tokyo National Museum.
- *Reading in a Bamboo Studio*, attributed to Shūbun, dated 1440s, hanging scroll, ink on paper, Tokyo National Museum.
- Mountain Market, Clearing Mist, from the series Eight Views of the Xiao and Xiang Rivers, by Yujian, Chinese, dated late 13th or early 14th c, hanging scroll, ink on paper, Tokugawa Art Museum.

The Shrimp Eater, by Kaō, 14th c, hanging scroll, ink on paper, Tokyo National Museum.

- *The Four Sleepers*, by Mokuan Rei'en, 14th c, hanging scroll, ink on paper, Maeda Ikutokukai, Kanazawa.
- *Catching a Catfish with a Gourd*, by Josetsu, early 15th c, hanging scroll, ink and light colors on paper, Taizōin, Kyoto.

Further Reading

- Collcutt, Martin, *Five Mountains: The Rinzai Zen Monastic Institution in Medieval Japan* (Cambridge, MA: The Council on East Asian Studies, Harvard University, 1981)
- Kanazawa, Hiroshi et al, Of Water and Ink: Muromachi-Period Paintings from Japan, 1392-1568 (Detroit Institute of Arts, 1986)
- Levine, Gregory P. and Yukio Lippit, *Awakenings: Zen Figure Painting in Medieval Japan* (New York: Japan Society Gallery, 2007)
- Lippit, Yukio, "Of Modes and Manners in Medieval Japanese Ink Painting: Sesshū's *Splashed Ink Landscape* of 1495," *The Art Bulletin* 94.1 (March 2012): 50-77
- Shimizu, Yoshiaki and Carolyn Wheelwright, *Japanese Ink Paintings from American Collections* (Princeton: Art Museum, Princeton University, 1976)