

*We finally saw the sea,  
the horizonless sea——  
how odd for  
a mountain dweller.*

Gustave Courbet



# Courbet and the Sea

Eyes on Nature in the 19th Century

2021 4.10 sat → 6.13 sun

[Closed] Wednesdays (Except for May 5) [Hours] 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Admittance until 5:30 p.m.)

\*Open until 8 p.m. (admittance until 7:30 p.m.) on May 7 and June 4.

Adults: ¥1000 / Visitors aged 65 or over carrying proof of age: ¥900 / Students (College): ¥700 / Students (High / Middle school): ¥500

Admission is free for children in primary school and younger. \*Admission is free for disability passbook holders and up to one accompanying adult.



[Organizers] Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art, The Yomiuri Shimbun, The Japan Association of Art Museums

[Sponsors] Lion Corporation, Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd., Sompo Japan Insurance Inc.

[Supporters] Embassy of France in Tokyo / Institut français du Japon, Minato City Board of Education

[Cooperation] JAPAN AIRLINES, Uminomanabi Museum Support from the Museum of Maritime Science

above:

Gustave Courbet, *The Wave*, (detail)  
1869, The Museum of Art, Ehime

Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art  
ROUAULT GALLERY



# Courbet and the Sea

Eyes on Nature in the 19th Century

Gustave Courbet (1819-1877) was one of the finest masters of the Realism movement in 19th century France. Courbet rejected the existing political and artistic institutions of his time, instead choosing to paint truthful and unidealized depictions of the world around him. Nevertheless, he drew high praise for the keen attention to detail and exceptional skill apparent in his many portrayals of the wilderness and fauna in his home region of Franche-Comté, as well as the sea of Normandy, on which he first laid eyes at the age of 22.

Courbet's work as a landscape painter takes center stage in this exhibition, with a particular focus on a series of paintings titled *The Wave* that he began in the 1860s. Courbet and the Sea explores the distinctive characteristics of the seascape paintings by Courbet, produced during a time when the sea was becoming ever more accessible. To add context, the exhibition also showcases paintings from before Courbet's time that depict the sea as an object of reverence, as well as paintings of the sea as a leisure destination by Courbet's contemporaries such as Eugène Boudin and Claude Monet.

The approximately 60 pieces in this exhibition include works belonging to collections around Japan, as well as *The Wave* from the collection of the Musée des Beaux-Arts d'Orléans in France. Visitors are invited to enjoy Courbet's depictions of the mighty ocean in a style that was seen as particularly "odd"—to borrow Courbet's first impression of the ocean—when considered among other seascape paintings from the same period.

\*Some pieces will be rotated midway through the exhibition period, with the first rotation running from April 10 to May 11 and the second from May 13 to June 13. Further information will be published on our website.



1. Gustave Courbet, *The Wave*, 1870, oil on canvas, Musée des Beaux-Arts d'Orléans © 2020 Musée des Beaux-Arts, Orléans
2. Gustave Courbet, *The Kill, Deer Hunting in the Grand Jura Forests*, ca. 1856-62, oil on canvas, private collection
3. Gustave Courbet, *Cliff at Étretat, Sunset*, 1869, oil on canvas, The Niigata Prefectural Museum of Modern Art / The Niigata Bandaijima Art Museum
4. Gustave Courbet, *Valley of Franche-Comté, near Ornans*, ca. 1865, oil on canvas, The Museum of Modern Art, Ibaraki
5. Claude Monet, *The Rock Needle and the Porte d'Aval*, 1886, oil on canvas, Shimane Art Museum
6. Eugène Boudin, *Crinolines on the Beach*, 1886, oil on canvas, private collection
7. Gustave Caillebotte, *Cottage in Trouville*, 1882, oil on canvas, Tokyo Fuji Art Museum © 東京富士美術館イメージアーカイブ/DNPartcom

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## Related events

### ① “The People of 19th Century France and the Sea” (Commemorative lecture)

Lecturer : Prof. Kousei Ogura (Keio University) Date and Time: Apr. 24, 2021, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

### ② Online Gallery Talk

Dates and Times: Apr. 27, 2021, from 12:30 p.m. / May 6, 2021, from 7 p.m. / May 9, 2021, from 2 p.m.

\*Please note that all events will be conducted in Japanese. \*Event ① is free of charge, but a ticket for this exhibition and reservation are required. For more information about the events and the reservation, please visit our Japanese website: <https://panasonic.co.jp/lis/museum/>

**[The Illustrated Life of Gustave Courbet]** Mihoko Sugimata's illustrated biography of Courbet will be published on the Museum website on Apr. 1, 2021.

**Admission** | To prevent the spread of COVID-19, we would like to request that you reserve the date and time of your visit in advance. Please visit our website for more details.

### Also on display

Select female nudes by Georges Rouault from the Museum's collection will be displayed in the Rouault Gallery.

**Coming up next:** Eliel Saarinen and his Beautiful Architecture in Finland (Jul. 3 - Sept. 20, 2021)

## Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art

ROUAULT GALLERY

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Official Website: <https://panasonic.co.jp/lis/museum/en/>

\*Please refer to our website for information on the measures we take to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

[ Access ] · 8-minute walk from JR Shimbashi Station  
· 6-minute walk from Shimbashi Station of Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Asakusa Line, and Yurikamome Line  
· 5-minute walk from Oedo Line Shiodome Station

