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**For the Love of Japanese Prints: Frank Lloyd Wright and the Art Institute of Chicago**

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Frank Lloyd Wright's activities as a promoter of Japanese prints had a lasting impact on Chicago, and this is very much in evidence in the Art Institute's collection. Katz will present her research into Wright's role in building the museum's Japanese print collection, the landmark exhibition he designed in 1908, and the drawings done by Wright and his studio held by the museum.

As an architect, art dealer, and designer, Frank Lloyd Wright was greatly inspired and influenced by the art and culture of Japan. His 1893 visits to Japan's national pavilion at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago had a lasting effect on the young architect. He first went to Japan in 1905, and returned from the trip with a large selection of prints, many of which he intended to sell. Later, he resided in Japan while working on Tokyo's Imperial Hotel, giving him the chance to deepen his appreciation of Japanese nature and culture as seen in woodblock prints. He continued to collect and sell prints until his death in 1959.



Over the course of his lifetime, Frank Lloyd Wright consistently lent Japanese prints to the Art Institute, but his most important exhibition was undoubtedly a large show of prints he mounted at the museum in 1908 with an installation of specially designed frames and furniture. For the first time, museum visitors in Chicago were treated to a staggering array of Japanese prints from a variety of artists and time periods. The majority of the works on view were lent by Frank Lloyd Wright himself.

Clarence Buckingham purchased several prints from Frank Lloyd Wright for his personal collection in 1911, which are part of the large Buckingham donation to the Art Institute. The Institute's collection of Japanese woodblock prints is considered one of the finest in the world.

Katz has been with the museum for over 13 years. She received her Ph.D. from Princeton University in 2004. Her research focuses on paintings from the Edo period (1615–1868) and the history of art collecting in Japan. She was the primary author of the catalogue *Japanese Paintings in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford* (2003), and the



organizer of the exhibition *Beyond Golden Clouds: Japanese Screens from the Art Institute of Chicago and the Saint Louis Art Museum* (2009), which traveled to St. Louis and San Francisco. She received the Japan America Society of Chicago 2009 Cultural Achievement Award. Katz's primary academic experience is in the art of the Edo period (1603-1868), which has strong representation at the Institute.