

Hanbi Association is an art organization whose primary activity is holding semiannual art exhibitions at National Art Center, Tokyo in spring, and at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum in fall.

Hanbi Association was founded in 1933 based on the ideas of *The Société des Artistes Indépendants* Exhibitions in France which characterizes by the absence of both awards and a selection jury. All artists present their works to public judgement with complete freedom. And it has been a place where the artists exhibit their creative works and exchange opinions. The art works for both spring and fall exhibitions are chosen by public subscription or recommendations of the Hanbi Association members or staffs. The artists receive the qualifications to display their works without being reviewed. There are no acceptances nor prizes. The artists equally draw lots to decide the display positions before each exhibition. Each artist is allowed to use a large space up to 5 meters width by 5 meters height, to show his/her work. Hanbi Association is the association that runs exhibitions of attractive art works full of variety operated with a unique administrative system.

#### History of Hanbi Association

1934, Held the 1<sup>st</sup> exhibition at Kyobashi Ajinomoto Building Gallery

1935, Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> exhibition at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum. Continued there till 8<sup>th</sup> exhibitions in 1941

1942, Held 9<sup>th</sup> exhibition at Shinjuku Isetan Department Store Gallery

1943, Changed its name from Hanbi Association to Shin Toa Bijutsuten upon the request by the military

1943, Held 10<sup>th</sup> exhibition, 1944 held 11<sup>th</sup> exhibition at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum

1945, No exhibition held. Changed the name back to Hanbi Associations after end of WWII

1946, Held 12<sup>th</sup> exhibition, 1947, Held 13<sup>th</sup> exhibition at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum

1948-1973, Held group shows at galleries instead of the main exhibitions

1974, Held 14<sup>th</sup> exhibition, 1975, Held 15<sup>th</sup> exhibition at Ginza Yamato Gallery

1976, Held 16<sup>th</sup> exhibition at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum in March. Since then till 2007 (47<sup>th</sup> exhibition), held exhibitions every March at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum. Held members exhibitions and fall exhibitions in parallel

2008, Held 48<sup>th</sup> exhibition at National Art Center, Tokyo in spring. Since then till now, keep holding exhibitions at National Art Center, Tokyo in spring, and at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum in fall every year.

Semiannual art exhibitions at National Art Center, Tokyo in spring, and at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum in fall are confirmed to be held until year 2022.