

Adachi Contemporary UKIYOE Award 2025

Category: [Illustration](#)

Deadline: December 25, 2025

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The Adachi Contemporary UKIYOE Award 2025 is designed to promote the evolution of traditional Japanese woodblock printmaking by encouraging contemporary artists to reinterpret and revitalise the ukiyo-e tradition. The award focuses specifically on drawing as the foundation of woodblock printing, inviting artists from around the world to submit original designs that demonstrate creativity, technical skill and an understanding of the rich cultural heritage of Japanese printmaking. By highlighting the enduring relevance of ukiyo-e, the competition aims to bridge historical craftsmanship with modern artistic expression.

The award serves as a rare opportunity for artists to engage directly with the authentic collaborative process that defines ukiyo-e: the combined expertise of the designer, the woodblock carver and the printer. Selected winners will have their drawings transformed into traditional woodblock prints through a partnership with highly skilled contemporary artisans who preserve classical carving and printing techniques. This unique production experience offers participants insight into the craftsmanship, precision and creativity that underpin the centuries-old practice of Japanese woodblock printing.

Through this international competition, the Adachi Foundation seeks to cultivate broader global appreciation for Japanese art, traditional crafts and the ongoing cultural significance of ukiyo-e. By encouraging new interpretations and providing access to master artisans, the award fosters innovation while safeguarding traditional knowledge. It positions the Adachi Contemporary UKIYOE Award 2025 as a vital platform for artists who wish to expand their practice, gain international visibility and contribute to the future of Japanese woodblock printmaking.

There is no entry fee.

Eligibility

Open internationally with no restrictions on age, background, nationality or genre, but submissions must be individual (no group or workshop entries) and the works must be hand-drawn or digital drawings (not photographs, prints or 3D works).

Prize

First Prize: 300,000 yen plus the winner's design will be turned into a woodcut print by contemporary artisans and a complete print will be given to the winner; Second Prize: 150,000 yen plus likewise the design will be made into a woodcut print and a complete print given; Third Prize: 50,000 yen.
