



Exhibition & Opening Event: Art from the Garden – Ceramics & Sculptures by Marc Peter Keane

Discover the Art of Japanese Bontei

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WASHINGTON DC, (November, 08 2017) – The [Japan Information & Culture Center \(JICC\), Embassy of Japan, DC](#), invites you to delve into the world of Japanese gardens by discovering the art of Japanese bontei at the JICC's final exhibition of the year "Art from the Garden: Ceramics & Sculptures by Marc Peter Keane."

The art of bontei, which translates from Japanese to mean "tray garden," is a micro-cosmos of the natural world made from the simplest of objects. Designed to be the barest reflection of the natural landscape, stones and plants are presented on trays in ways that give a particular attention to time and space, constantly redefining traditional and nontraditional forms.

To open this exhibition featuring bontei and additional ceramics and sculptures, award-winning landscape architect [Marc Peter Keane](#) will present a special lecture to discuss how his artwork relates to his work as a Japanese-garden designer, and the connection to nature that is at the core of his work, on the evening of November 15, 2017.

"In these works, I am not trying to create gardens in miniature but rather to distill from the culture of Japanese gardens some essential aspects and reapply those as the basis of the sculptural process."

– *Marc Peter Keane, Artist Statement*

An accomplished artist and writer, Marc Peter Keane has designed numerous private gardens for individuals, companies, and temples, and several of his projects have garnered much praise and awards, including the Grand Prize at the 2000 Kyoto Arts Festival, and the gold at the A'Design Awards in Italy. Having lived in Kyoto, Japan for nearly 20 years, Keane has stated that much of his work is deeply influenced by Japanese culture and aesthetics.

To register for this event, please visit: <https://artfromthegarden.eventbrite.com?discount=press>

For media inquiries, please e-mail the Publicity Coordinator, at jicc-press@ws.mofa.go.jp

WHAT: Art from the Garden: Ceramics & Sculptures by Marc Peter Keane

WHEN: *Opening Event:* Wed. November 15, 2017, 6:30PM to 8:00PM (Registration Required)

Exhibition: Wed. November 15, 2017 thru Wed. December 27, 2017, Mon-Fri 9AM – 5PM

(Closed on Holidays)

WHERE: Japan Information & Culture Center, 1150 18th St NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC

WHY: Gardens have long been considered an essential part of Japanese traditional culture; a couple of designs for temple gardens having been named world cultural heritage sites by **UNESCO**. The JICC is hosting this exhibition with the intention of introducing bonteï, an art form that takes concepts from the traditional art of Japanese garden design, to the American audience.

PICTURES:



ABOUT THE JICC: *The Japan Information & Culture Center (JICC), Embassy of Japan in Washington DC is the region's #1 authoritative resource for Japan-related information and culture, a gift sponsored by the people of Japan since 1981. As part of the Embassy of Japan's public outreach program, the JICC is deeply committed to enriching the relationship between the people of Japan and the United States through an active, vibrant cultural and informational exchange. For more information, please visit <http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/jicc>.*

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