



30 Years of the Chihiro Art Museum



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# Three Decades of Gratitude



Chair,  
Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial  
Foundation

**Yoji  
Yamada**

The Chihiro Art Museum occupies two buildings located in completely different surroundings: the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo, nestled in a residential district of Nerima Ward, and the Chihiro Art Museum Azumino, situated atop a broad plateau overlooking the Hida Mountains (Northern Alps). Through the splendid teamwork of our curators and staff, each branch has carried out a succession of new projects, often working in close cooperation with the local community.

The members of our board have cherished the museum for decades and have an outstanding record of cultural achievement. In fact, a number of them were old friends of Chihiro Iwasaki during her lifetime.

My own feeling is that Chihiro Iwasaki's gentle pictures seem to be drawn in hopes of protecting children and people suffering hardship from violence of all kinds. I believe Chihiro was resolute in reaching out to such people. She was able to depict how invigorating it is to see the blue sky reflected in a puddle after a rainstorm or how one feels upon seeing a small, nameless flower, bringing to mind the preciousness of all life and the sensitivity that marks us as human beings.

My desire is for Japan to evolve into a peaceful, tranquil country whose people can pass the time in museums, leisurely looking at pictures with their loved ones, even if only once or twice a month. How wonderful that would be!

We will continue working to promote the Museum's activities, despite the current bleak climate for museum activities, while preserving the memory of Chihiro's opposition to all wars, no matter what the cause. We are grateful for the continued support of all those who believe in the Chihiro Art Museum.



# Sustaining the Heart of Chihiro Iwasaki's Work



Director,  
Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo/  
UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

**Tetsuko  
Kuroyanagi**

It has now been 30 years since the Chihiro Art Museum opened its doors, three years after Chihiro Iwasaki's death. Despite the passage of so many years, the Museum still receives countless visitors who tell us how much they love Chihiro's pictures. I think this is wonderful and am truly grateful for it. I think children remain as charming as ever, and fortunately people now realize that we can always use more innocence and charm in our lives.

While visiting 26 nations as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, I have profoundly felt how war victimizes countless children in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. It has always been this way.

Chihiro's youth was also a time of war. The messages of her drawings live on in my heart: "No more war;" "Appreciate the innate charm of children;" and "Never make these children cry."

The world has changed quite a bit over the past 30 years. Today, children learn by staring at machines. I hope that from time to time they will rest their eyes and their hearts by looking at Chihiro's pictures. It is up to us as adults to decide what to draw on the fresh canvases of children's hearts. I would like the first things children see to be beautiful, not coarse. I would like children to develop gentle hearts, inspired by looking at Chihiro's delicate pictures.

Today, an increasing number of four-generation families are visiting the Chihiro Art Museum. We hope that as the Museum reaches its 40th and 50th years, we can welcome fifth- and sixth-generation visitors as well. How happy Chihiro would be to see that! Her wishes were always for peace and the happiness of children.





Director,  
Chihiro Art Museum Azumino

## Takeshi Matsumoto

On September 10th, thirty years ago, a tiny art museum of only 180 square meters was born in a residential district of Tokyo's Nerima Ward. None of the persons involved at the time—including myself—knew that this museum, known at the time as the “Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books,” would be the world's first devoted to picture books.

This truly tiny museum had big hopes, beginning its activities with two ideals. The first was world peace and the happiness of children, and the second was to advance the culture of picture books.

As the mother of one child, Chihiro Iwasaki was deeply involved with the culture of children, and not just through her picture books. Her experiences in the Second World War also had a great impact on her career as an artist, and the above two ideals came to be deeply intertwined in her heart.

The importance placed on advancing the culture of picture books was not due solely to the fact that Chihiro Iwasaki illustrated picture books. At the time, almost no one properly understood picture books to be art. However, the Museum's first director, Tadasu Iizawa, and the rest of the museum staff knew that the world of modern picture books, so loved by children and parents alike, also included some wonderful works of art. We thought that if existing art museums refused to recognize the artistic nature of picture books, the Chihiro Art Museum could quietly call such negative judgments into question.

Today, the Chihiro Art Museum devotes its efforts to collecting, preserving, researching and introducing materials related to the history of picture books and original illustrations from picture books around the world, including Chihiro's works. Our collection numbers 26,000 works by 173 illustrators from 29 countries, including 9,400 works by Chihiro Iwasaki.



# 30 Years of the Chihiro Art Museum's Work



One of the world's largest collections, the works are shown to the public through rotating exhibitions at the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo and the Chihiro Art Museum Azumino.

Today, there are more than 30 museums devoted to picture books in Japan, and it is a common practice for public art museums to exhibit original illustrations from children's books. Nobody could have predicted this 30 years ago. I am proud of how the activities of the Chihiro Art Museum served as the first steps toward this appreciation of picture books as art. Nonetheless, I think the time has come for us to become even more aware of our social responsibilities.

Today, in cooperation with schools, the Chihiro Art Museum is working on activities intended to give children the opportunity to enjoy art through Chihiro Iwasaki's paintings and picture books. Also, in cooperation with other museums and the picture book industry, we are conducting research and surveys on picture books in order to promote their appeal, both at home and abroad. We believe that international exchange through picture books, which speak in the universal language of art, can contribute to international peace by leading to respect for the cultures of individual nations.

The environment children face today is a difficult one, and there is even talk of abolishing Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, which renounces war. As such, the Chihiro Art Museum's ideal of world peace and the happiness of children appears to be growing ever more important.

In the future, I would like to see the Chihiro Art Museum taking new steps forward based on an awareness of its social responsibilities, thus upholding its original mission.

# History of the Chihiro Art Museum

year	month	
1974	8	Chihiro Iwasaki dies of liver cancer
1974	10	Posthumous exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki's works held at Habataki Art Gallery in Tokyo's Ginza district
1975	6	Committee established to prepare for the establishment of the Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation
1975	9	"Exhibition of Original Chihiro Iwasaki Paintings on Love and Dreams" held at the Takashimaya Department Store in Tokyo's Nihonbashi district to commemorate the first anniversary of Chihiro Iwasaki's death
1975		Posthumous works " <i>The Red Candles and the Mermaid</i> ", " <i>The Lyrical Illustrations of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (Doshinsha Publishing), " <i>The World of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (Subaru), " <i>Illustrations of Flowers and Children</i> ", and " <i>Illustrations of Mothers and Children</i> " (Iwasaki Shoten) published
1976	6	Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation established (first chair: Tai Nakatani)
1976	10	Fundraising begins for the establishment of the Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books (more than 6.22 million yen raised over nine months from more than 30,000 signatories and 1,200 general contributors) - today: Chihiro Iwasaki Calendar, calling for peace, produced in cooperation with the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs " <i>The Youthful Years of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (Subaru) and " <i>The Collected Works of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (seven volumes/Iwasaki Shoten) published
1977	1	Construction begins on the Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books (Building A of the Chihiro Art Museum, designed by Yoo Hayakawa)
1977	9	The Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books opens (first director: Tadasu Iizawa)
1977	10	Concert held to commemorate the opening of the Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books
1977	11	The Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation officially authorized as a juridical foundation " <i>Collected Illustrated Scroll Poems of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " and " <i>Memories of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (Subaru) published
1978	4	The Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books officially registered as a museum
1978	6	Conference established for reading picture books from overseas, spread across seven weekly meetings " <i>Chihiro and Me</i> " (written by Zenmei Matsumoto/Shinnihon Publishing), " <i>The Pictures and Heart of Chihiro Iwasaki</i> " (written by Takeshi Matsumoto), and " <i>Words of Chihiro</i> " (Kodansha) published
1979	2	Serial magazine publication of " <i>Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at the Window</i> " (text by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi, published through the December 1980 issue) begins
1979	6	First Chihiro Art Museum Seminar, "The World of Chihiro Iwasaki" held every Saturday over the coming five weeks.
1979	7	Exhibition "Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition — The Heart of Wildflowers" held at the Fukui Fine Arts Museum (first exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki's works at a public art museum)
1979	9	Special exhibition "Exhibition of Modern Picture Book Illustrators" held
1980	7	Second Chihiro Art Museum Seminar, "Examining the Appeal of Chihiro Iwasaki" held monthly over a five-month period.
1980	8	Special exhibition "Chihiro's Yearnings for Peace — Chihiro's Lovely Round Eyes and Tiny Hands" held
1981	1	Construction begins on the Phase I expansion project (Building B)
1981	3	" <i>Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at the Window</i> " published (Kodansha)
1981	7	Special exhibition "Whispering Eyes and Chihiro's Heart — Seeking True Kindheartedness and Peace" held
1981	8	Seminar "Thinking About Peace and Education" held at Toshi Center Hall. Mieko Osanai proposes "Chihiro Peace T-shirts"
1982	4	Special exhibition "Peace and Happiness to All The Children of the World" held to call for the elimination of nuclear weapons and arms reductions, in advance of the second United Nations Disarmament Commission. Attendees were asked to sign an antinuclear petition (receiving more than 53,000 signatures). " <i>Letter to Chihiro</i> " published (Kodansha)
1982	11	Peace bulletin " <i>A Single Seed</i> " published six times through April 1983
1983	2	Construction begins on the Phase II expansion project (Building C)



Chair Tai Nakatani addresses the opening ceremony of the Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books (1977)



Tokyo Governor Ryo-kichi Minobe addresses the opening ceremony



Director Tadasu Iizawa addresses the opening ceremony



The exhibit room filled with museum visitors



Pamphlet from 1979 exhibition of works by Chihiro Iwasaki (Fukui Fine Arts Museum)



Chihiro Peace T-Shirts poster (1981)

- 9 The Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books annex opens
- 9 Special exhibition “From Yumeji to Chihiro: A History of Illustrators Who Preserved Their Childlike Hearts” held, Director Tadasu Iizawa appears on TV Asahi’s “Tetsuko’s Room”
- “*Chihiro’s Drawer – Talking About My Mother’s Paintings*” (written by Takeshi Matsumoto/Shinnihon Publishing), “*Chihiro’s Paintbrush of Love*” (written by Ikuko Taki/Rodo Junposha), “*Collected Pictures of Babies*”, “*Collected Pictures of Children in Various Poses*”, and “*Collected Pictures on Love and Peace*” (Iwasaki Shoten) published
- 1984 7 “Exhibition on the History of Chihiro’s Work” held to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Chihiro Iwasaki’s death
- 9 Special exhibition “Watching Children – Exhibition of Churyo Sato and Chihiro Iwasaki” held to commemorate the museum’s seventh anniversary
- Publication of part one of “*Complete Works of Chihiro Iwasaki*” (five volumes/Holp Shuppan) begins
- “*Blue Bird*”, “*Thumbelina*”, “*Snow White*”, “*Swan Lake*”, “*Dance for Two*”, and “*The Wise Queen*” republished (Kodansha)
- 1985 4 Museum visitors asked to sign the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Appeal, calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons (148,000 had signed by 1997)
- 9 Takeshi Matsumoto takes part as a panelist at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava (BIB) symposium marking the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, “Children and Peace in Illustrations of the Peoples of the World”
- Publication of part two of “*Complete Works of Chihiro Iwasaki*” (six volumes/Holp Shuppan) begins
- 1986 3 First of numerous exhibitions of artists other than Chihiro Iwasaki – “Exhibition of Original Picture Book Illustrations and Printed Books by Takeo Takei” held
- 7 Special exhibition “Exhibition on Development of Postwar Picture Books” held to commemorate the World Congress of the International Board On Books for Young People “*When You Were Born: Chihiro’s Baby Journal*” published (Iwasaki Shoten)
- 1987 3 “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition I” held Daimaru Museum at Osaka Umeda (touring five museums throughout Japan through 1988, this exhibition would be visited by 320,000 people)
- 4 Special exhibition “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition: [1] Chihiro as a Painter of Children, [2] The Heart of Chihiro, and [3] Chihiro’s World of Fairy Tales” held to commemorate the museum’s tenth anniversary
- 7 “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition I” held at Fukuoka Prefectural Museum of Art
- 9 Takeshi Matsumoto takes part as an international judge in the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava (BIB)
- 12 Entrance and front garden added
- 1988 1 Serial publication of “*Wearing a Broad-brimmed Hat*”, a critical biography of Chihiro Iwasaki (written by Tadasu Iizawa and Tetsuko Kuroyanagi/Kodansha) begins in monthly magazine *Hon* (published through the May 1989 issue)
- 1 “The World of Original Illustrations of *Babar the Elephant*” held (first exhibition of works by a non-Japanese artist)
- 7 Special exhibition “Gazing at Bright Eyes – a Takeyoshi Tanuma/Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition” held (jointly organized with the United Nations Children’s Fund [UNICEF]), with 10% of admissions receipts donated to UNICEF
- 9 Takeshi Matsumoto takes part as an international judge in the Premi Catalonia D’illustracio (a world illustration exhibition held in Barcelona, Spain), in which Květa Pacovská won the grand prize
- 11 Special exhibition “Binette Schroeder – Invitation to The World of Fantasy” held
- “*Chihiro’s Palette – Reflection on My Mother’s Paintings*” (written by Takeshi Matsumoto) and “*Chihiro in My Memories*” (written by Zenmei Matsumoto; both books published by Shinnihon Publishing) published
- 1989 2 Exhibition “Commemorating the Publication of “*You will be a breeze*” – A Machi Tawara and Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition” held
- Collections of illustrated scroll poems “*Baby*” and “*Mother*” (written by Hachiro Sato), “*Wearing a Broad-brimmed Hat*” (written by Tadasu Iizawa and Tetsuko Kuroyanagi/Kodansha), and “*18 Portraits*” (written by Machi Tawara and Yoji Yamada/Shinnihon Publishing) published
- 1989 4 Chihiro Iwasaki’s illustrations appear on the covers of *Mainichi Fujin* magazine (until Today)



Director Tadasu Iizawa (right) and Deputy Chair Zenmei Matsumoto unveil the restored a telier during the opening of the annex (1983)



Piano recital held to mark the opening of the annex (1983)



The director of the Musée Rodin (center), visiting the Churyo Sato/Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition, and Churyo Sato (1984)



Tetsuko Kuroyanagi (left), Hitomi Nakahara (center), and Yoji Yamada (right) at the reception held to commemorate the museum’s tenth anniversary (1987)



The reception held in the newly constructed garden to commemorate the museum’s tenth anniversary (1987)



The catalog of the Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition I (1987)

- 1990
- 2 Special exhibition “Květa Pacovská — Magician of Color and Space” held
  - 3 “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition II” held at the Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum of Art (touring 17 museums throughout Japan)
  - 3 Květa Pacovská visits Japan
  - 7 “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition II” held at the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art
  - 9 Special exhibition “Posthumous Exhibition of Works by Suekichi Akaba” held (also held in 1991 at the Himeji City Museum of Art and one other museum  
*“Chihiro’s Hand Mirror: Reflections on My Mother’s Paintings”* (written by Takeshi Matsumoto/Shinnihon Publishing) published
- 1991
- 4 After the retirement of the first chair Tai Nakatani, Genjiro Mita appointed second chair of the Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation
  - 4 “Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition III” held at the Isetan Art Museum, welcoming more than 100,000 visitors in three weeks
- Touring six museums in 1991 and 1995, this exhibition would be visited by 350,000 people
- 5 Efforts made to expand the collection by visiting 10 countries centered on the United States (May) and Europe (October)
  - 11 A series of seven exhibitions of the work of non-Japanese picture book illustrators held as a special project to commemorate the museum’s 15th anniversary, with the exhibition of works from overseas, centered on those in the collection of the Chihiro Art Museum (through January 1993)  
*“The World of Chihiro”* (written by Takeshi and Yuriko Matsumoto/Kodansha) published
- 1992
- 2 Exhibition “Chihiro Iwasaki and the World of Picture Books” held at the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, showing more than 30 works from the collection of the Chihiro Art Museum together with Chihiro Iwasaki’s own works
- 1993
- 3 Decision made to construct the new Chihiro Art Museum in Matsukawa-mura, Kita-Azumi-gun, Nagano Prefecture
  - 7 Exhibition “A Message to the Hometown of Chihiro’s Heart — A Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition” held at the Museum of Modern Art Toyoshina in Nagano Prefecture
  - 7 Shin-Etsu Broadcasting broadcasts (on July 24) “To the Things I Love — The World of Chihiro Iwasaki”
  - 9 Architect Hiroshi Naito asked to design the Chihiro Art Museum Azumino (provisional name)  
*“Chihiro: Scenes of Children”*, *“Chihiro: Message in Violet”* (Kodansha Bunko Gallery), and *“Rose-Colored Crayon — To the Ones I Love”* (Daiwa Shobo) published
- 1994
- 2 Exhibition “The Language of Flowers in Chihiro’s Paintings” held to commemorate the 100th exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works
  - 2 Nippon Television broadcasts (on February 20) “Things You Didn’t Know About Chihiro Iwasaki”
  - 4 Asahi Shimbun newspaper publishes an article (on April 20) about the 100th exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works
  - 7 Special exhibition “Rediscovering Chihiro — Transformations in the Later Years” held to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Chihiro Iwasaki’s death
  - 7 “Gathering to Rediscover Chihiro” held at Tokyo Kaikan. In this event, the construction plans for Chihiro Art Museum Azumino were announced. At the same time, a Chihiro Book Fair was held at bookstores across Japan
  - 11 Special exhibition “Chihiro, M.Laurencin, and K.Kollwitz: The Heart of a Girl, the Gaze of a Mother” held to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Chihiro Iwasaki’s death  
*“The Language of Flowers in Chihiro’s Paintings”* (Kodansha Bunko Gallery), *“The Story of the Chihiro Art Museum”* (written by Yuriko Matsumoto/Kodansha), and *“Collected Works of Chihiro Iwasaki”* (Mainichi Shimbunsha) published
- 1995
- 2 Tetsuko Kuroyanagi appointed second director after the death of the first director, Tadasu Iizawa
  - 4 “Květa Pacovská Exhibition II” held at Daimaru Museum Umeda, Isetan Art Museum, and three other venues, together with a seminar
  - 5 Construction begins on Chihiro Art Museum Azumino



The catalogue of the Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition II (1990)



Květa Pacovská working in the courtyard of Chihiro Art Museum (1990)



Yoshiko Akaba, Daishiro Akaba, and Kenzo Akaba (from left) at the opening of the “Posthumous Exhibition of Works by Suekichi Akaba” (1990)



Genjiro Mita (center), second chair of the Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation, accepts works donated by the Cuban ambassador (right) (1992)



*“The Language of Flowers in Chihiro’s Paintings”*, published to commemorate the 100th exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works (1994)



“Gathering to Rediscover Chihiro”, held at Tokyo Kaikan (1994)

- 7 Special exhibition “For Today’s Children of the World” held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II
- 7 Deputy Director Yuriko Matsumoto appears on the “Shining Person” feature of NHK’s “Good Morning Japan” program (on July 29)  
Chihiro: “*Chihiro’s Yearning for Peace*” (Kodansha Bunko Gallery) and “*The Picture Book Illustrators I Met – Artists Who Depicted Children*” (written by Takeshi Matsumoto/Daiwa Shobo) published
- 1996 2 Special exhibition “The World of Taro Yashima — Tracing the Career of a Japanese Illustrator Who Lived in the United States” held
- 11 November 1996: The Norman Rockwell Museum (Massachusetts, USA) holds an exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works (the first exhibition of her works at a museum outside Japan)
- 1997 3 Publication of the collection of illustrations entitled “*Chihiro Art Museum*” begins (12 volumes in total, plus supplements/Kodansha)
- 4 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino opens (director: Takeshi Matsumoto), a logo and logotype are created (designed by Taku Sato), and the Chihiro Iwasaki Art Museum of Picture Books changes its name to the Chihiro Art Museum
- 6 “Shin Nichiyō Bijutsukan” (“New Sunday Art Museum” on NHK Educational Television broadcasts (on June 1) “A Visit to Chihiro Art Museum Azumino,” featuring Hiroshi Takada, Machi Tawara, and Yoji Yamada
- 7 NHK broadcasts (on July 24) a “Paint for Dreams” episode entitled “Iwasaki Chihiro — Manazashi no Momoiro” (“Iwasaki Chihiro — A Rose-Tinted View”)
- 8 Total number of visitors to Chihiro Art Museum Azumino surpasses 200,000 (as of August 23)
- 8 Shinshū Broadcasting broadcasts (on August 9) “Kaikan Kinen Bangumi: Yumimiru Maarui Hitomi — Iwasaki Chihiro no Shinshū” (“Special Program Commemorating the Opening of Chihiro Art Museum Azumino: Big, Round Eyes Filled with Dreams — Chihiro Iwasaki’s Shinshū”
- 9 The Chihiro Art Museum marks its 20th anniversary (having hosted a cumulative total of 1.75 million visitors through the end of August)
- 12 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino officially registered as a museum
- 1998 2 Azumino Art Line plan announced
- 3 All works (approximately 6,800 in total) of the late picture book illustrator Suekichi Akaba donated to the museum by his heirs
- 1999 4 The Chihiro Art Museum launches its official website
- 6 “Shin Nichiyō Bijutsukan” (“New Sunday Art Museum” on NHK Educational Television broadcasts (on June 6) “Květa Pacovská: Picture Books Made Me”
- 7 The Kurohime Sanso villa, donated to the town of Shinano, is relocated to the south side of the Kurohime Nursery Story Museum and opened to the public
- 7 The Asahi Shimbun newspaper’s yearlong promotional framed-picture series “Chihiro and Her Friends from Around the World” starts (conducted by the newspaper’s distribution network ASA)
- 11 Exhibition “Takeshi Motai — Lens Impressions” held at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo
- 12 Monument constructed in Tennocho, Takefu, Fukui Prefecture at the birthplace of Chihiro Iwasaki
- 2000 2 Following the death of the second chair Genjiro Mita, Yoji Yamada appointed third chair of the Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation
- 6 Chihiro Iwasaki’s line drawings used in Japan Ad Council (AC) campaign to promote reading among children (till present)
- 7 The Asahi Shimbun newspaper’s yearlong promotional framed-picture series “Chihiro and Her Friends from Around the World II” starts (conducted by the newspaper’s distribution network ASA)
- 2001 1 Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo closed temporarily for renovation (having hosted a cumulative total of 1.95 million visitors through the end of December 2000). Closure reported in Asahi Shimbun December 13, 2000
- 3 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino annex opened  
Special commemorative exhibition I, “The King of “Nonsense” Picture Books: The World of Shinta Cho” held



Aerial photo of Chihiro Art Museum Azumino upon opening (1997)



Introductory panel for exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works at the Norman Rockwell Museum in the United States (1996)



Party held to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo (1997)



Accepting the donation of Suekichi Akaba’s works (1998)



Children’s workshop (at Chihiro Art Museum Azumino) led by Květa Pacovská (1999)



Japan Ad Council (AC) campaign to promote reading among children (2000)

- 2001 9 Construction begins on the new Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo (architect: Hiroshi Naito)
- 2002 1 Exhibition “Chihiro Iwasaki and Japanese Picture Book Illustrators”, featuring works from the Chihiro Art Museum collection, held at the Isetan Art Museum. The same exhibition toured the Daimaru Museum Umeda in April and the Daimaru Museum Kyoto in October
- 3 Chihiro Iwasaki covered (on March 15) on TV Tokyo’s program “Takeshi’s Anybody Can Be Picasso”
- 7 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino welcomes junior-high-school student volunteers to explain works to visitors and conduct tours during the summer vacation. These efforts continue each subsequent summer vacation
- 8 The Tokyo edition of Asahi Shimbun publishes a story (on August 30) on the museum’s efforts to create a relaxing, barrier-free space
- 9 The new Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo opens to commemorate the museum’s 25th anniversary. Commemorative exhibition “Perspectives of Passing Time: Chihiro Iwasaki and Masamichi Yamamoto” held
- 9 Tetsuko Kuroyanagi, director of the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo, holds a seminar entitled “The Children of the World Today”. This seminar would continue each subsequent year except 2006
- 2003 3 Distribution of Chihiro Iwasaki “No War” stickers in opposition to the US-led attack on Iraq begins. Applications for approximately 150,000 stickers were received in two months
- 5 Yoji Yamada Selection Cinema Club begins at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo. This event would continue each subsequent year
- 11 As the first step toward preparation of a digital archive of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works, creation of high-resolution digital images and PiezoGraph reproductions of her works begins, with the cooperation of Seiko Epson. (As of March 2007, these efforts had been completed for approximately 200 works)
- 11 Exhibition “Paintings of Michio Mado — The Universe Between the Lines” held at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo. This exhibition would visit Chihiro Art Museum Azumino in March 2004
- 2004 3 “Shin Nichiyō Bijutsukan” (“New Sunday Art Museum”) on NHK broadcasts (on March 7) “Iwasaki Chihiro’s Depictions of Girls During War”
- 3 NHK BS-hi broadcasts (on March 20) “Gifts From Chihiro — Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki”
- 3 Matsuzakaya Museum, Nagoya holds “Exhibition Commemorating Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki”
- 5 First exhibition of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works in China is held at the LiaoNing Normal University Art Museum in Dalian, China, using PiezoGraph reproductions
- 5 The Chihiro Art Museum launches a website for mobile-phone use
- 6 “Chihiro Peace T-shirts” (designed by Shigeo Fukuda) introduced, featuring the word “peace” in 18 languages
- 7 Mainichi Shimbun devotes an entire page (on July 22) to an article on “Chihiro’s world”
- 8 Monument to Chihiro Iwasaki, “Chihiro’s Chair” erected in Joyama Koen park in the city of Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture
- 8 August 2004: Takeshi Matsumoto appears on TV Asahi’s “Tetsuko’s Room” (on August 10)
- 8 Shin-Etsu Broadcasting broadcasts (on August 29) “Special Program Marking Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki: My Chihiro”
- 9 “Chihiro Box” (edited by the Chihiro Art Museum/Kodansha) published
- 9 Based on more than 4,000 requests continued by people from across Japan, both the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo and Chihiro Art Museum Azumino held “Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki: My Selection of Chihiro’s Works”
- 9 Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo receives the 45th Building Contractors Society (BCS) award
- 9 The (September 20) evening edition of Asahi Shimbun publishes an article on “Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki: My Selection of Chihiro’s Works –4000 requests”
- 10 BS-i broadcasts (on October 12) “My Art Museum: The Chihiro Art Museum — Entrusting Kindness to the Paintbrush.” This program was later released on DVD.



Chihiro Art Museum Azumino welcomes Józef Wilkoń (2001)



Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo opens after renovations (2002): The exterior (top) landscaped with keyaki trees; inside the barrier-free museum facilities (center), children can view distorting mirrors (bottom)



Junior-high-school student volunteers demonstrate how to create works of art and explain works on display in the exhibit “Playful Woodcraft of Akiyoshi Shimazoe” at Chihiro Art Museum Azumino (2002)



The installation for the exhibit “Ryoji Arai: Proposal for a Way of Life” at Chihiro Art Museum Azumino, with Ryoji Arai present (2003)

- 2005
- 5 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino begins offering travelling classes and travelling lectures
  - 5 NHK broadcasts “Drawings of our Own Children” on “Labyrinth Museum” (on May 20)
  - 6 NHK reports (on June 4) on its program “Good Morning Japan” on an exhibition recording the activities of Tetsuko Kuroyanagi as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
  - 7 Admission fee reduced to zero for high-school students and younger visitors at both the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo and Chihiro Art Museum Azumino
  - 7 The (July 7) evening edition of Asahi Shimbun publishes an article on five sisters depicted in a picture by Chihiro Iwasaki who survived the war and were still in good health
  - 7 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino was used as a location for the film “Memories of Tomorrow” (directed by Yukihiro Tsutsumi, starring Ken Watanabe)
  - 9 Historical documents related to picture books from the Chihiro Art Museum collection and PiezoGraph reproductions of works by Chihiro Iwasaki exhibited in Paju, South Korea
  - 11 First exhibitions of Chihiro Iwasaki’s works in Vietnam are held at the Vietnam Women’s Museum (in Hanoi) and the South Vietnam Women’s Museum (in Ho Chi Minh City), using PiezoGraph reproductions
  - 11 The Asahi Shogakusei Shimbun newspaper for elementary-school students begins publication (on November 20) of a series “A Special Lecture by Hisashi Inoue: ‘What Do You Know About Our Nation’s Constitution?’”
  - 12 The efforts of Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo to make the entire facility barrier-free are recognized, as the facility is presented with an award at the 29th Nerima Ward conference on people with disabilities
- 2006
- 3 Chihiro Art Museum Azumino changes its schedule, so that the museum no longer closes every Wednesday but now closes only on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month
  - 4 The Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo is used as a location for the TBS dramatic television series “Kurosagi” (April 21)
  - 5 NHK broadcasts “A Visit to the Chihiro Art Museum: The Secrets of Cute Drawings” on “Labyrinth Museum” (on May 14)
  - 5 The Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo holds an exhibition “Thank you, Mr.Cho!: A Shinta Cho Exhibition”. This exhibition later goes on tour to the Kariya City Art Museum in Aichi Prefecture and three other museums.
  - 7 “*Secrets of Chihiro’s Pictures*” (edited by the Chihiro Art Museum/Kodansha) and “*Hisashi Inoue’s Constitution of Japan for Children*” (written by Hisashi Inoue/Kodansha) published
  - 7 An article by the news agency Kyodo News on experiencing Chihiro Iwasaki’s artistic methods is carried in the newspapers Akita Sakigake, Niigata Nippo, Gifu Shimbun, Ehime Shimbun, Iwate Nippo, Minami Nippon Shimbun, Kahoku Shimpō, and Sanyo Shimbun
  - 8 “*A thousand winds: Chihiro’s Sky*” (Japanese poems written by Man Arai/Kodansha) published
  - 9 *Fujingaho* magazine publishes a special feature on “revisiting Chihiro Iwasaki’s message”
  - 10 Eighteen original early Chihiro Iwasaki illustrations, including ones for the magazine *Shin Shijin*, are discovered in the city of Nagano and entrusted to the museum
  - 11 Exhibition “An Exhibition of Yuriy Norshteyn’s Picture Book Creation” held at the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo. In March 2007, this exhibition goes on tour to Chihiro Art Museum Azumino
  - 12 Chihiro Iwasaki’s works exhibited in the War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and one other museum, using PiezoGraph reproductions
- 2007
- 3 Full-year commemorative exhibitions held at both the Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo and Chihiro Art Museum Azumino, to mark the 30th anniversary of the opening of the former and the 10th anniversary of the latter
  - 3 The Separate-volume *Taiyo* series edition *Iwasaki Chihiro* published (by Heibonsha)
  - 3 Supervisory authority over the Chihiro Iwasaki Memorial Foundation transferred from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Board of Education to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology



A gallery talk held in March 2004 at the Nagoya Matsuzakaya Museum



Kayoko Ebina (second from left) and Emiko Shiratori (fourth from left) at the reception held for the exhibition “Thirty Years Since the Death of Chihiro Iwasaki: My Selection of Chihiro’s Works” (at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo, 2004)



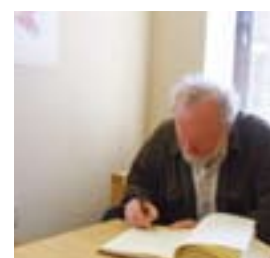
“Churyo Sato and Chihiro Iwasaki Exhibition” held at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo (2005)



Pamphlet for the exhibition “Shinta Cho Exhibition” held at Chihiro Art Museum Tokyo (2006)



Masashi Sada delivers a congratulatory address at the opening ceremony of the Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum (2006; photo courtesy Nagasaki Shimbun)



Yuriy Norshteyn visits the museum (2006)