

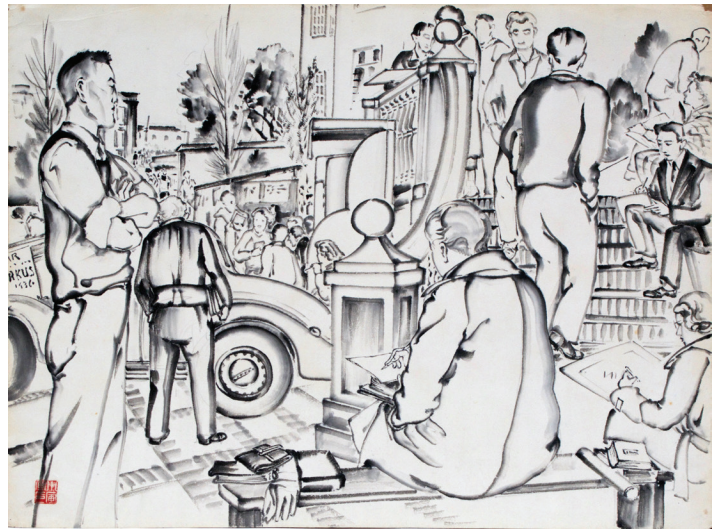
Chiura Obata:

An American Modern

JUNE 23, 2019 — SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

Born in Okayama, Japan, Chiura Obata (小園千浦, 1885–1975) emigrated to the United States in 1903 and embarked on a seven-decade career that saw the enactment of anti-immigration laws and the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. He nevertheless emerged as a leading figure in the Northern California art scene and as an influential educator, teaching at the University of California, Berkeley, for nearly 20 years and acting as founding director of art schools in two internment camps. This exhibition offers an unprecedented survey of Obata's rich and varied body of work and includes more than 100 paintings, drawings, prints, and personal items — many of which have never been on public display. They range from the artist's early formal studies as a student in Japan to the California landscapes for which he is most recognized.

Chiura Obata: An American Modern is organized by the Art, Design & Architecture Museum at the University of California, Santa Barbara, with generous support provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.



Chiura Obata, *Untitled (UC Berkeley Students)*, ca. 1930s. Ink on paper, 15 1/2 x 20 3/4 in. Private Collection.

RELATED PROGRAMS

Look & Learn Tour

TUESDAY, JULY 2 AND THURSDAY, JULY 25, 12 & 1 PM

FREE FOR MEMBERS • FREE WITH ADMISSION FOR NONMEMBERS

A slow and mindful approach to art appreciation, this 30-minute exploration of Obata's *Setting Sun of Sacramento Valley (1922)* is led by experienced docents and enriched with group discussions.

Guest Curator: ShiPu Wang

SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2 PM

\$7 MEMBERS • \$14 NONMEMBERS

Dr. ShiPu Wang, curator of *An American Modern*, offers an enlightening discussion on one of the most significant Japanese American artists of the 20th century. Dr. Wang delves into Obata's compelling personal story as an immigrant and an American.

Sketch Night: Obata Edition

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 6 PM

FREE FOR MEMBERS • FREE WITH ADMISSION FOR NONMEMBERS

Enjoy informal sketching instruction in select Museum galleries, or relax in your favorite spot. Learn to sketch ikebana flower arrangements, a source of inspiration for Obata, whose wife was a celebrated ikebana artist. Limited sketching supplies are provided, or feel free to bring your own. All ages and drawing levels are welcome.

Fourth Friday: Nature Colors

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 10 AM

FREE FOR MEMBERS • FREE WITH ADMISSION FOR NONMEMBERS

Chiura Obata's paintings are filled with colors and themes from nature and are the inspiration for nature-themed live performances, art-making, play, and exploration for the whole family, especially children ages 3 – 12.

Conversations That Matter: Immigration

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 6:30 PM

FREE FOR MEMBERS • FREE WITH ADMISSION FOR NONMEMBERS

Conversations That Matter returns with a dynamic panel talk and community discussion on immigration in California, connecting to the themes found in *An American Modern*, and *The Race to Promontory: The Transcontinental Railroad and the American West*. The Crocker will convene local experts to address the historical, legal, and political components of immigration, including the critical issues faced by immigrants, residents, and citizens today. A moderated community dialogue will follow the panel presentation.

Register at crockerart.org/obata.

216 O Street • Downtown Sacramento • (916) 808-7000

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