

# SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

## THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

For immediate release

### EXHIBITION

## *Meiji: Japan's Transition into a Global Society*

January 13 – June 17, 2007

Asia Gallery

### MEDIA CONTACT

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**Lawrence, KS** — The art of Japan's Meiji period (1868-1912) reflects a story of transformation, adaptation, and rapid change set against a world of increasing globalization. Literally meaning "enlightened rule," the Meiji period began after the forced opening of trade by American Commodore Matthew Perry and his fleet of "black ships" in 1853. After two and a half centuries of near isolation, the opening of Japan's borders created both opportunity and internal conflict. To successfully transition into a world of growing globalization, Japan adopted many institutions and practices from Western nations, with the government employing foreign experts to assist in education and training of professionals, government officials, and the military. At the same time, many Japanese felt it crucial to maintain their traditions and culture in the face of rapid national transformations.

This exhibition was organized by guest curator Alison Miller, KU graduate student in art history.

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#### **Spencer Museum of Art**

The University of Kansas

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- On the Web: [www.spencerart.ku.edu](http://www.spencerart.ku.edu)
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#### **Gallery hours**

Tues., Wed., Fri., & Saturday 10 AM—5 PM

Thurs. 10 AM—9 PM

Sun. Noon—5 PM

Closed Monday

Museum Shop closes 30 minutes before the galleries close.

- Free parking in Lot 91 after 5 PM on weekdays and all day weekends, excepting home football games.
- Parking garage adjacent to Kansas Union is \$1 per hour weekdays. free on Saturdays