

Miraculously Colorful Paintings by IRIE KAZUKO

# Wonders of the Silk Road

入江一子「シルクロード色彩自在」

December 2~15, 2009

10:00 am~6:00 pm Closed on Sundays

The Nippon Gallery at The Nippon Club

Free Admission

Fairies in Dunhuang, China 200F

## Forty years of my quest, charmed by the Silk Road

I am very delighted to see my longtime dream – a personal exhibition in New York - coming true.

Since 1969, I have visited more than 30 countries along the Silk Road, ancient trading route between China and Europe that passes through West Asian highlands. Attracted by the people, their behavior and customs in the mountainous areas in the Eurasian continent, I kept on painting them during those journeys. Sometimes I carried a heavy oxygen tank in 5000 meter-level (15000 foot-level) highlands, sometimes I traveled on a horseback, and stayed in a tent for many nights. Among many other things, I had painted the huge stone Buddhist statues in Bamiyan, Afghanistan, before they were destroyed in 2001.

The Silk Road area is characterized by vivid and powerful colors. The land, nature, the produce and the lively market places inspired me a lot. They indeed gave me enough energy and passion to go on. I sincerely hope that I can share such stimulation with the people who visit my exhibition in New York. I would be very grateful if, through my pictures, I could convey what I learned in the Silk Road area; its historical charm and the peacefulness of the people who live in mountains and deserts.

IRIE KAZUKO

## シルクロードを旅して40年

この度は、ニューヨークで個展を開催したいという長年の夢を叶えられたことを心から嬉しく思います。

私は1969年から30ヵ国余りのシルクロードの国々を訪れ、時に標高5000メートルの高地で酸素ボンベを背負い、時に馬に乗って移動しテントに寝泊まりしながら、大陸的な風物や辺境に生きる人々を描き続けてきました。その中には、2001年に破壊されてしまったバミヤンの巨大石仏も含まれます。

シルクロードは鮮烈な色彩のパワーにあふれており、大地・自然の恵みやバザーの賑わいは私に生きるエネルギーと情熱を与えてくれました。ニューヨークの方々にも、現地で私が得たのと同じ感動を共有していただき、同時に、シルクロードの悠久の歴史を体感し、山岳地帯や砂漠に暮らす人々の平和についても思いを寄せていただければ、これ以上の幸せはありません。

入江一子



Photograph by Akiyama Shotaro

## Profile

- 1916: Born in Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan. Spent childhood in Daegu Korea.
- 1938: Graduated from Joshibi University of Art and Design
- 1947: Became a founding member of Japan Women Artists Association
- 1957: Became a member of Dokuritsu Art Association
- 1960: Took part in Japan-US Exchange Exhibition at Riverside Art Museum in New York
- 1964: Took part in International Female Artists Club's Exhibition in City Museum of Modern Art, Paris, France
- 1974: Took part in Japan-US Female Painters Joint Exhibition at Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena
- 2000: Opened Irie Kazuko Silk Road Museum in Tokyo, Japan
- 2006: Took part in Japan Women Artists Exhibition at Caelum Gallery in New York
- 2008: Took part in Japan Women Artists Exhibition at the Nippon Gallery in New York

## 略歴

- 山口県出身。少女時代を韓国の大邱で送る。
- 女子美術大学卒業
- 女流画家協会創立会員
- 独立美術協会会員
- 日米女流交歓展(リバーサイド美術館/ニューヨーク)出品
- 国際女流クラブ展(パリ近代美術館)出品
- 日米女流画家合同展(バシフィックアジア美術館/カリフォルニア州パサディナ)出品
- 入江一子シルクロード記念館(東京・阿佐ヶ谷)オープン
- 日本の女流画家展(セーラムギャラリー/ニューヨーク)出品
- 日本の女流画家展(日本ギャラリー/ニューヨーク)出品



Recollection of Bamiyan, Afghanistan 150F: Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum of Art