

# Glenbow

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## Over 75 years of printmaking on display for first time in Calgary

*Takao Tanabe: Printmaker opens September 21 at Glenbow at The Edison*

**CALGARY, AB – September 20, 2024** – Across his incredible career, artist Takao Tanabe has made significant contributions to the visual arts, as a painter and printmaker and as a supporter of other artists. Now, at 98 years old, an exhibition dedicated to Tanabe’s printmaking highlights the unique medium in which he has honed his skills for over 75 years.

“Takao Tanabe has had a long and complex relationship with printmaking and has explored an enormous range of print media,” says Ian Thom, curator of this exhibition. “He started making prints as a student at the Winnipeg School of Art in the late 1940s. This followed his internment in camps during the Second World War, ending his high school education as he and his family were forcibly removed from their home on the British Columbia coast.”

Tanabe, born in 1926 in Canada, is a distinguished artist renowned for his contributions to the landscape genre. The influence of Canadian landscapes on his artistic vision has led him to capture the serene and expansive beauty of the natural world. Tanabe’s work is marked by its contemplative minimalism and profound use of color, reflecting both his Japanese heritage and his deep connection to the Canadian landscape.

“It’s an honour to host Tanabe’s work at Glenbow at The Edison for our visitors to experience and see many of these unique works for the first time,” says Nicholas Bell, Glenbow’s President & CEO. “Tanabe’s impact on Canada’s art scene and artists cannot be overstated. His works on display in this exhibition emphasize Canada’s natural beauty, showcasing many landscapes from across Canada and Tanabe’s keen technical approach to printmaking.”

Tanabe’s work in printmaking goes back 75 years, reflecting his deep engagement with the natural world and his exploration of colour, light and shadow, and technical precision. His printmaking process includes various techniques such as etching and lithography, allowing him to explore different textures and effects that enhance his depictions of the Canadian landscape.

“Takao Tanabe’s works contain so much raw physical and emotional power within them,” says Nataley Nagy, Executive Director at the Kelowna Art Gallery. “We are very honoured to circulate this exhibition within Canada, a 75-year survey of Tanabe’s accomplished printmaking, with work borrowed from the Vancouver Art Gallery and Winnipeg Art Gallery.”

Opening September 21 at Glenbow at The Edison, *Takao Tanabe: Printmaker* is an incredible showcase of the artist’s printmaking across his career. Tanabe’s printmaking continues to be highly regarded for its technical precision and its evocative portrayal of natural beauty.

*Takao Tanabe: Printmaker* is organized and circulated by Kelowna Art Gallery and curated by Ian M. Thom. *Takao Tanabe: Printmaker* runs from September 21 to November 24, 2024 at Glenbow at The Edison (150 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE). The exhibition is open Wednesday to Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Free, timed tickets can be booked at [glenbow.org](http://glenbow.org).

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## **About Glenbow**

Founded in 1966 as an independent, non-profit museum, archive and gallery, Glenbow cares for an extraordinary collection of more than 250,000 works of art and historical belongings – from Canada and cultures around the world – on behalf of the people of Alberta. *Glenbow Reimagined* is a project to renovate the museum's 50-year-old building and provide a vibrant, thriving cultural resource in the heart of Calgary, committed to expanding the accessibility and impact of arts and culture. Glenbow's main building is closed as it renovates to become the JR Shaw Centre for Arts & Culture. While renovations are underway, visitors can experience exhibitions at the museum's satellite gallery, Glenbow at The Edison.

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