# PRESS RELEASE



INTERMEDIATHEQUE
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Special Exhibition

August 2017

Intermediatheque Natural History Series (1)

"The Golden Age of Botanical Art – Flowers from the Collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew"

#### Main Features of the Exhibition

"Science and Art"

"In front of Tokyo station, flowers bloom with an academic intent"

- This exhibition is a unique opportunity for the public in Japan to appreciate 28 botanical artworks from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, on loan from the great collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
- The exhibition concept combines historical botanical artworks from Kew with scientific botanical specimens of the University of Tokyo, a leading institution in botanical studies. It communicates to the public the beauty and richness of Natural History, as seen through the eyes of both botanical artists and botanists.
- The exhibition is the fruit of a partnership between the University Museum, the University of Tokyo and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. It is the first exhibition of the "Intermediatheque Natural History Series." The Intermediatheque will further develop this exhibition series in the future, with various international academic institutions.

#### **Key Information**

[Title] Special Exhibition: Intermediatheque Natural History Series (1)

"The Golden Age of Botanical Art – Flowers from the Collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew"

[Dates] September 16 – December 3, 2017

[Opening Hours] 11:00 - 18:00 (open until 20:00 on Friday and Saturday; last entry 30 minutes before closing) \*Opening hours may change.

[Closed on] Mondays (or the following Tuesday if Monday is a National Holiday). May close irregularly.

[Venue] Intermediatheque 2F [GREY CUBE]

[Organizers] The University Museum, the University of Tokyo (UMUT) + Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

[Cooperation] Botanical Gardens, Koishikawa, Graduate School of Science, University of Tokyo

[Support] Toshiba International Foundation, Neal's Yard Remedies

[Patronage] British Council, The Asahi Shimbun

[Admission] Free of charge

[Address] KITTE 2-3F, 2-7-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN

[Access] JR lines and Tokyo Metro Marunouchi line Tokyo Station. Direct access from the Marunouchi Underground Pathway.

### **Publications**

- Exhibition catalogue "The Golden Age of Botanical Art Flowers from the Collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew" (152 pages)
- Card leaflet
- Poster
- Postcards (5 variations)

#### Main Exhibits

#### 1-K. Kew Collection of Botanical Art

# Rhododendron arboreum (Rhododendron, Ericaceae)

Drawn by Walter Hood Fitch in 1862. Fitch was one of the most famous and productive botanical illustrators of the Victorian era. Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker, who served the director of Kew, carried out field research in Sikkim Himalaya. Hooker collected seeds of this species during his trip and sent them to England, where the plants grew and flowered in Kew.

## 1-T. University of Tokyo Collection of Botanical Specimens

#### Rhododendron arboreum Sm. (Ericaceae)

Nepal: Janapur Zone, Dolakha Distr., alt. 2065m. 24 Feb. 2007 coll. S. Noshiro, Y. Omori, Y. Ibaragi, T. Tanaka & N. Subedi No. 20700120.

From an expedition in Nepal in 2007. Collection of Botanical Gardens, Koishikawa.

#### 2-K. Kew Collection of Botanical Art

#### Strelitzia augusta (Bird-of-Paradise, Strelitziaceae)

Drawn by Franz Andreas Bauer from late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Sir Joseph Banks, who is known for his considerable contribution to Kew Gardens, recognized Bauer's talent and secured him a position as resident draughtsman at Kew. Banks named the genus *Strelitzia* in honour of Queen Sophia Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

# 2-T. University of Tokyo Collection of Botanical Specimens

# Strelitzia nicolai Regel & K. Koch

Cult. in Japan: Kanagawa. Ofuna Flower Center. 15 Jan. 1968 coll. M. Togashi.

A set of four sheets. Cultivated at Ofuna Flower Center, Kanagawa, Japan. Collection of Department of Botany, UMUT.

# 3-K. Kew Collection of Botanical Art

# Tulipa 'Bisard Adelaar' (Tulip, Liliaceae)

Drawn by Georg Dionysius Ehret in 1740. Ehret is said to be the most accomplished botanical artist of 18th century England. The illustration achieves stunning composition by boldly cutting the elongated stalks that is characteristic of tulins

# **3-T.** University of Tokyo Collection of Botanical Specimens

#### Tulipa gesneriana L. (Liliaceae)

Cult. Japan: Tokyo. Koishikawa Botanical Garden. 10 Apr. 1877 coll. J. Matsumura.

1877 is the establishment year of University of Tokyo when the Botanical Gardens were belonged to the University. Collection of Department of Botany, UMUT.

#### 4. Kew Collection of Botanical Art

### Knema linifolia (as Myristica longifolia) (Myristicaceae)

Characterized by its energetic expression, this is an early 19<sup>th</sup> century work by an Indian artist who was a member of the Company school. The genus *Knema* is distributed in the Indo-Malaysian region.

# 5. University of Tokyo Collection of Botanical Specimens

# Cardamine flexuosa With. (Bittercress, Brassicaceae)

Japan. Honshu. Niigata Pref.: Minami-Uonuma-gun, Shiozawa-machi, Undo, foot Mt. Kinjoo., alt. 200-300m. 8 May 1950 coll. Miyoshi Furuse No. 22118.

Miyoshi Furuse Collection. Duplicates from his Japanese Plant Collection in the Herbarium at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, now returned to Japan. Collection of Department of Botany, UMUT.

植物画の黄金時間の黄金時

# -英国キュー王立植物園の精華から 代





2-T.



2-K.



4.





3-T.

Special Exhibition: Intermediatheque Natural History Series (1)

The Golden Age of Botanical Art

-Flowers from the Collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew



1-K.