“The Life and Art of Chiura Obata” Presentation by Kimi Hill
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Date and Time: March 28th at 7pm

For Immediate Release

On March 28th at 7pm, Kimi Hill will present to the community in the South Gallery of the Moab Museum. Hill has lectured for over 30 years on the life and work of her grandfather, the renowned artist, Chiura Obata. She has been a consultant on numerous books and exhibitions including the 2018-2020 retrospective *Chiura Obata: An American Modern* with venues at UMFA and the Smithsonian American Art Museum. As family historian, she edited the book *Topaz Moon: Chiura Obata’s Art of the Internment*, which chronicles Obata’s art historical record while imprisoned at Tanforan and Topaz during World War II.

In addition to this presentation there will be a screening of *Obata’s Yosemite*, with an introduction by the filmmaker Adam Prieto. This 2023 film was produced by the Yosemite Conservancy and the National Park Service.

_Free with membership or regular admission._

**Chiura Obata Bio:**

*Always go with nature, anywhere, any circumstance, with gratitude.* -Chiura Obata, 1965

Renowned American artist and distinguished UC Berkeley art professor, Chiura Obata (1885-1975), is considered by many today one of the foremost California landscape painters of the 20th century.

His seminal work depicting the High Sierra was created nearly 100 years ago in 1927 and was captured vividly in the book Obata's Yosemite. Obata's art and his philosophy of gratitude and reverence to "Dai Shizen"-- Great Nature -- continues to resonate with admirers both new and old.

As people today search for inspiration and healing as stewards of our planet, a fresh look at Obata's art and life affords lessons for everyone. "Paintings must give to others the kinds of feeling about Nature that Nature gives us. If we pass this along, not just to art lovers but to everybody,

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our friends, our community, our country, it is the best possible promise for peace in the future." Obata, 1968

In 2024 Utahns have the opportunity to view two exhibits related to Obata’s career at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts (UMFA) in Salt Lake City:

Pictures of Belonging (Feb 24-June 30) highlights the careers of three Japanese American women artists who were colleagues of Obata. [https://umfa.utah.edu/pictures-of-belonging](https://umfa.utah.edu/pictures-of-belonging)

Chiura Obata: Layer by Layer (Mar 23-Sept 8) explores the surprising discoveries made during the conservation of Obata’s 1932 Horses screen. [https://umfa.utah.edu/layer-by-layer](https://umfa.utah.edu/layer-by-layer)

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