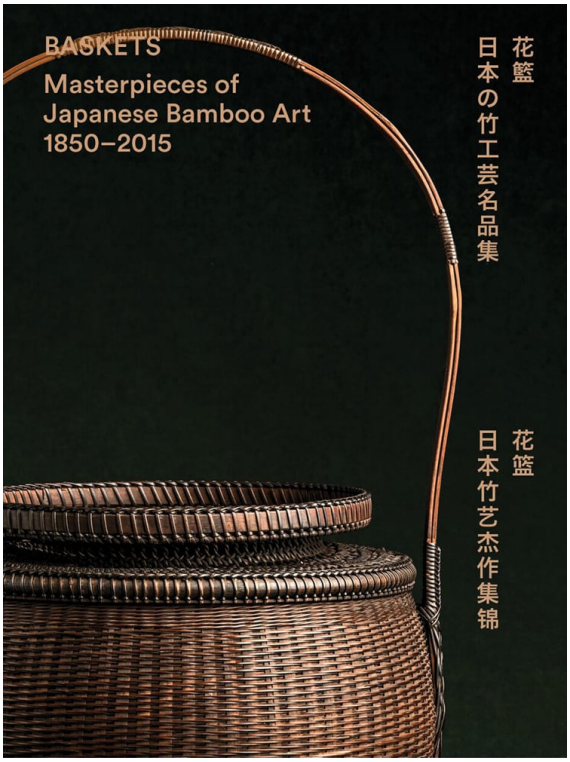
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Baskets

Masterpieces of Japanese Bamboo Art 1850-2015

Joe Earle

Photographs by Bertrand Stark

ISBN	9789881375452
Publisher	John Adamson
Binding	Hardback
Territory	USA & Canada
Size	9.29 in x 12.19 in
Pages	752 Pages
Illustrations	500 color, 900 b&w
Price	$160.00

- Japanese basketry is attracting attention as never before
- A groundbreaking catalog of 323 works by the greatest masters of the last 150 years combines dramatic photography with a wealth of documentary information, making it not merely the visual record of a great collection but also the essential reference tool for a developing field of connoisseurship

"One of the world's most complete, resonant art mediums (which) submits to spectacular skill and structural concepts" – Roberta Smith, New York Times These are exciting times for Japanese bamboo art. May 2017 saw the opening of Japan House São Paulo, whose inaugural exhibition 'Bamboo: The Material That Built Japan' drew over 300,000 visitors. From June 2017 to February 2018 the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York mounted another bamboo show that was seen by about 400,000. From 27 November, the Musée du quai Branly in Paris will present the largest-ever exhibition on the subject. This authoritative catalog of 323 works from the Naej Collection thus appears at a moment when a new global audience has emerged. The Naej Collection is especially strong in works by leading artists from 1850 to 1950, when great craft dynasties were established and first Osaka and then Tokyo emerged as major centers of artistic basketry. The catalog breaks new ground by combining dramatic photography with precious documentary information drawn from signatures and inscriptions, making it not merely the visual record of a great collection but the essential reference work for a developing field of connoisseurship.

Text in English, Japanese and simplified Chinese.





Published 11th Jun 2018