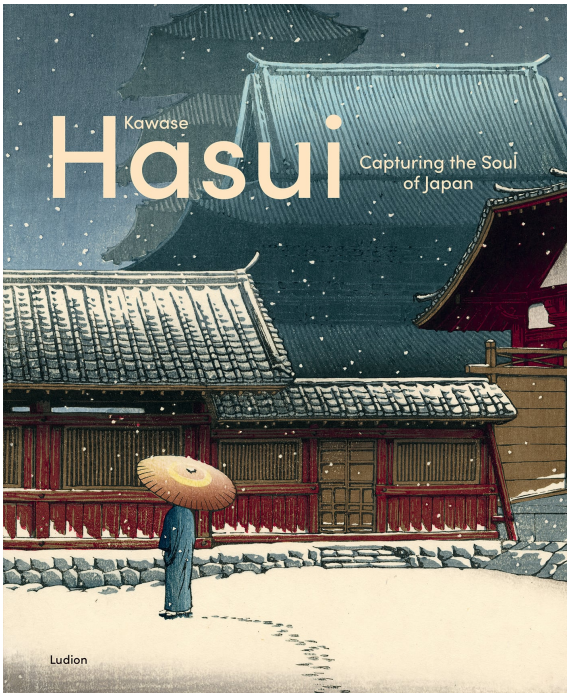
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Kawase Hasui

Capturing the Soul of Japan

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- Definitive guide to Kawase Hasui, showcasing nearly 40 years of his breathtaking woodblock prints
- Expert insights & stunning reproductions
- A must-have for collectors and Japanese art enthusiasts: featuring rare and iconic prints from one of Japan's most important shin hanga artists

Kawase Hasui (1883–1957) was one of the most important and prolific Japanese printmakers of the 20th century. He was one of the main creators of the shin hanga ('new prints') movement, whose artists depicted traditional subjects in a style influenced by Western painting. Shin hanga prints are harmoniously balanced designs, printed on the highest quality paper using the finest pigments, and in small editions. They are the fruit of a traditional yet successful collaboration between artist, publisher, block cutter and printer and have become increasingly popular among collectors of Japanese prints in the last decade. Hasui began his artistic career studying Japanese painting. However, soon after seeing Shinsui's *Eight Views of Lake Biwa* series, Hasui turned to woodblock printing in 1919. Shozaburo Watanabe was the first to recognize his artistic genius, and Hasui Kawase soon became the most popular artist working for this prestigious publisher. He produced nearly a thousand woodcuts in a career that spanned almost forty years. Towards the end of his life, the Japanese government recognized him as a 'Living National Treasure' for his contribution to Japanese culture.

Author **Chris Uhlenbeck** has organized several major exhibitions on Japanese art, including *Shin Hanga: the new prints of Japan* which was on view in the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, Sieboldhuis Leiden and in the Museum for Ostasiatische Kunst in Cologne, in 2022. **Jim Dwinger** is an expert in Japanese art history and a specialist in woodcuts, and **Philo Ouweleen** is a visual artist with an MA in Japanese studies.

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