



## DECADENT ECCENTRIC AND POETIC MOON-VIEWER<sup>1</sup>

Helena Gaudeková – Alice Kraemerová<sup>2</sup>

**ABSTRACT:** This article deals with the personality and art of Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839–1892), one of the last *ukiyo-e* masters in Japan. Educated before Japan opened to the world, Yoshitoshi absorbed the best of his country's traditions. Developing his career in the decades of rapid change in Japanese culture and society, Yoshitoshi also mastered new trends and brought stunning originality into the field of woodblock printing. The Náprstek Museum is proud to have a large collection of Yoshitoshi's work, including his phenomenal album "*One Hundred Aspects of the Moon*". This article offers a deeper analysis of some of the most intriguing pieces from the NpM collection.

**KEY WORDS:** Tsukioka Yoshitoshi – *ukiyo-e* – Japanese woodblock printing – One Hundred Aspects of the Moon.

### 1. Yoshitoshi in the Japanese Collection of the Náprstek Museum

The Japanese collection of the Náprstek Museum includes 58 prints by Tsukioka Yoshitoshi. Of these, 46 were bought by Joe Hloucha in 1906 when he travelled for the first time to Japan. He donated them together with other items from his private collection to the Náprstek Museum in 1955. Of the remaining prints ten were purchased from private collectors, two were donated by Karel Jan Hora, who also collected prints during his stay in Japan, and three were stored in the Náprstek Museum's library as presents received by Vojta Náprstek and Josefa Náprstková. It is highly probable that these prints were also purchased in Japan by Karel Jan Hora or by another traveller or collector and were later donated to Mr. and Mrs. Náprstek.

Beside single prints this catalogue includes the famous album by Yoshitoshi called *One Hundred Aspects of the Moon*. This album was also given as a present to Mr. and Mrs. Náprstek and is thus part of the historical library. There is a letter pasted inside

---

<sup>1</sup> This article was written with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic (National Museum research plan: Personalities of Czech Science and Culture, MK 00002327202) and it is a part of the Czech-English CD ROM catalogue: Yoshitoshi's Prints in the Japanese Collection of the Náprstek Museum, published by the National Museum, Prague 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Curators of the Japanese and Korean collection in the Náprstek Museum of Asian, African and American Cultures, contacts: helena\_gaudekova@nm.cz, alice\_kraemerova@nm.cz.