



Alphonse Mucha, *Rêverie*, 1898

Alphonse Mucha (1860-1939) was a leading painter and decorative artist of the Art Nouveau movement that flourished in the late 19th to early 20th century. Mucha was born in Moravia (the present Czech Republic) and he became instantly famous after making a poster to promote a theater show for Sarah Bernhardt, the superstar actress of Paris. Mucha's work features elegant women surrounded by flowers, and employs gracefully curving lines and soft colors. In his twilight years he moved back to his Czech homeland and displayed patriotism and a love for

humanity through his art. The work of Sakai poet Akiko Yosano was published

in the poetry magazine *Myojo* ("Bright Star"), which introduced Art Nouveau and Mucha to Japan. It is also known that Mucha influenced Japanese art in this period. Sakai City houses approximately 500 works by Mucha and related artists that formerly belonged to Mr. Kimio Doi (1926–1990), founder of Doi Co., Ltd. The collection is broad-ranging, from lithograph posters and oil paintings to sketches and even jewelry. The Sakai Alphonse Mucha Museum holds three exhibitions a year of artwork produced by Mucha from his earliest pieces to those of his later years, based on creative endeavors covering many different themes. Lectures and workshops on Mucha are also held, along with art appreciation educational activities, which creates the opportunity for more people to encounter Mucha's art.



About the Sakai Alphonse Mucha Museum

Exhibitions are held three times a year in the exhibition room on the fourth floor. The exhibition room on the third floor has Art Nouveau furniture and painting reproductions on display. Visitors can also



browse books written on Mucha, search a database on artwork belonging to Sakai City, and explore hands-on digital content.

3F Exhibition Room 4F Exhibition Room

About the Gallery The Sakai City Cultural Hall Galleries are cultural facilities open to all residents for casual enjoyment. There are eight galleries on the second.