

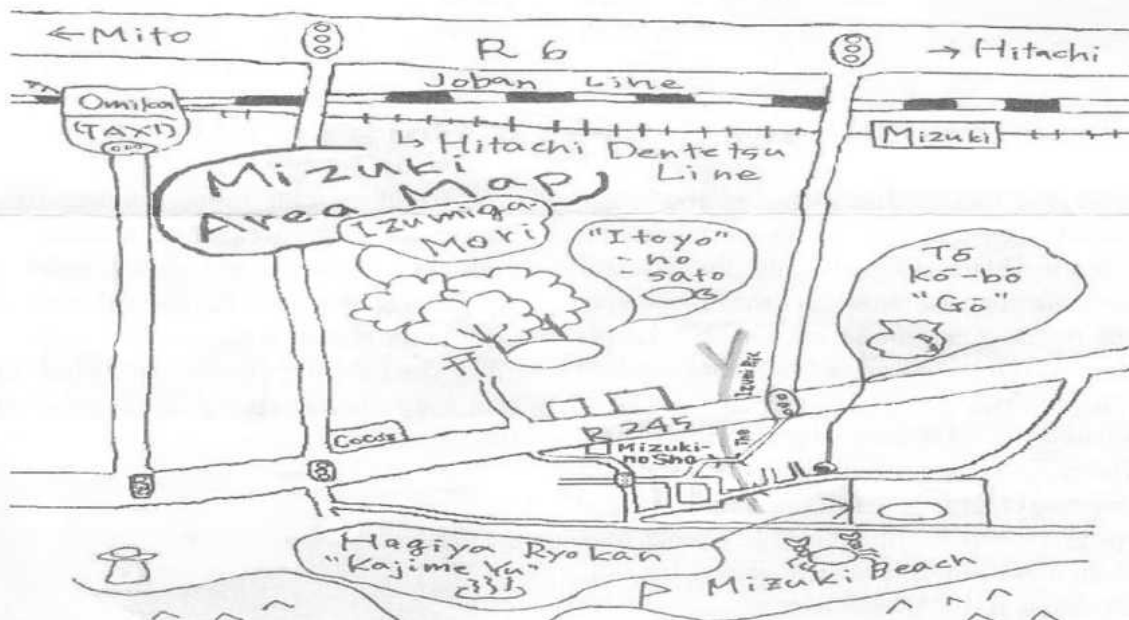
Hyotan

No.149

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Interesting spots of Mizuki Area



Izumi Jinja (Izumi Shinto Shrine) and Izumigamori



Izumi Jinja is about 1 kilometer northeast of JR Omika Station. If you go along route 245 northward, you'll find an indicating post to the shrine at the traffic signal on the other side of the "Mzuki no sho". Turn left there and go on about 100 meters. You come across a tall stonework *torii*, a Shinto shrine archway. Pass under the archway. Then, in a comfortable shade of trees, a straight stone paved lane leads you to the main shrine of Izumi Jinja. This main shrine was rebuilt in 1983 by the donation of parishioners. The previous one had been burnt down in 1802 with many treasures and records.

The foundation is reported to be about 1,500 years ago. Among the many shrines in this city it is the oldest and highest in its status.

Going down the narrow path at the side of the shrine, you find a calm mysterious spring with a tiny shrine for a goddess ruling water. From the bottom of the spring water, pale sand spouts ceaselessly. Many

carps, big and small with various colors are idle quietly in transparent water.

The district around this spring and the shrine is called Izumigamori (that means a grove which has a spring). One of the old Japanese local topography texts, "Hitachinokuni Fudoki" written in early 8th century, reports that villagers gathered together by the spring to hold feasts.

Many old trees, the beautiful shrine, and the silent spring will surely make your mind calm and easy. The noise of the road nearby can be hardly heard. It is a nice place for refreshing, especially in this hot and damp season.

Cars are the best access. Less than 15 minutes' walk by a short cut from Omika Station is also a good way to get there.



Itoyo-no-sato Izumigamori Park

Go across a road to the north side of Izumi Shinto Shrine and the spring, and you'll find Itoyo-no-sato Izumigamori Park.

Itoyo is a fish which has lived around the place for long time. Because it can live only in very clean water, it is getting rare and designated as a protected species in various regions of Japan.

In this park, Itoyoes are bred in a pond by using the spring water of Izumigamori. The length of the fish is about 5 centimeters. The blue green color of Itoyo's back and red of its belly, which are nuptial coloration of the male, will catch visitors' eyes.



You can see such figures in the breeding season, from the middle of April to the middle of October.

There is a wooden bridge at the center of the pond, so you can watch Itoyoes close and easily. Flowers of the season are planted around the pond, and also there are lawns and a summerhouse. We saw children shouting with joy, pointing at the fish and playing on the grass.

It will take you only several minutes to go around the park, but take your time, you can enjoy staying there. We hope it will be your favorite place!

Kajime-Yu(かじめ湯)

-Traditional Seaweed Bath in Mizuki-

Summer has come! The season of the ocean. The Mizuki Beach is one of the most beautiful seashores in Hitachi City. But do you "Hyotan" readers know that the seaweed of the Mizuki area has the power of improving our health? Let us introduce to you the Mizuki's traditional seaweed bath, "Kajime-Yu".

"Kajime" is a kind of seaweed in the Hitachi-area sea. The seaweed bath called "Kajime-Yu" is a bath with mixture of Kajime, which was locally believed to cure every bad health condition. People from mountain areas are said to have visited Hitachi's "Kajime-Yu" to regain their fitness.

Today, you can experiment with the effect of Kajime-Yu at the seawater bath hotel, "Hagiya Ryokan"(はぎ屋旅館) at Mizuki Beach.

("Kajime-Yu" かじめ湯) Traditional seaweed bath refreshing the condition of the skin and body by the essence of Kajime.

("Shio-Yu" 潮湯) Seawater bath to cure the ill condition of body by the mineral of the salt.

("Shio-Mushi-Yu" 潮蒸し湯) Special sauna of the Hagiya-Ryokan. Beauty service using marine products is also available. (For female only)

At the restaurant inside, we can recommend homemade soba (buckwheat noodles), which is praised by many visitors. As souvenirs, you can get packs of "Source of Kajime-Yu", which you can enjoy in the bath at home.

Why don't you try "Kajime-Yu", which can relax your body and mind naturally the great scenery of the Mizuki Beach?



(Details)

Hagiya-Ryokan Tel. 0294 - 52 - 2522 E-mail kajimeyu@mito.ne.jp

(Access)

About 25 walk from Omika Station

(Use of car or taxi is recommended)

Ceramic Studio “豪“(Go)

Mr. Tsugio Nagai, the owner of the studio, used to work for one of the subsidiary companies of Hitachi, Ltd. In his mid thirties he became a pupil of Mr. Ryoichi

Munakata, a ceramic artist in Aizu, Fukushima Prefecture. After having worked 22 years as an engineer, he left the company and started a new life as a ceramic artist



in 1994. The name of his studio “豪“(Go) is his nickname which was taken from the famous cartoonist “永井豪”(Nagai Go). Though his works covers a wide range from daily tableware to artistic ornaments, he has recently given high priority to make in a spherical shaped ceramic lights. The exhibition of his work under the title “Invitation to the Microcosm” was held at Tenshin Memorial Museum, IBARAKI last September to commemorate the 10th year of his work. His beer mug, which was put up for an ‘Artist Prize’ in the Beer Mug Exhibition sponsored by Sapporo Beer brewery, will be displayed at Sapporo Museum in mid June.



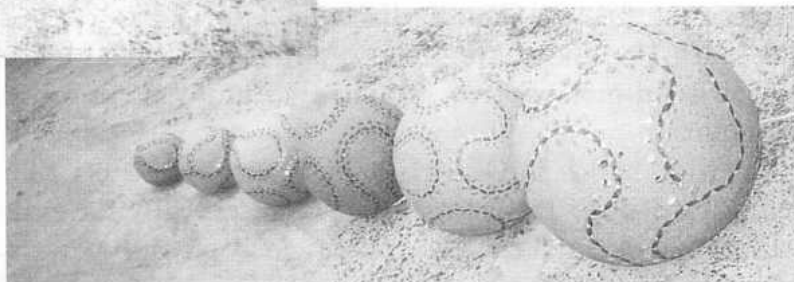
陶 歴

1952年
茨城県日立市生まれ。
1994年
22年間の会社勤務を辞め独学にて陶あかりの作陶を始める。
1996～2000年
日立シビックセンターにて第1～4回個展
1999年
クラフト全国公募'99/札幌 入選
2000年
ビアマグランカイ/札幌 入選
2001年
ギャラリー陶芸館(五間)にて陶あかり・器展
2002年
ビアマグランカイ/札幌 入選

陶あかり展

小宇宙への誘い

陶工房 豪 永井次男



He is also planning to have an exhibition of his works at the gallery in Ikebukuro, Tokyo in December. He wants to try his luck with ceramic lights in Tokyo where such works are highly rated.

It is not easy to describe his style in a word as his works include many different shapes and colors designed to match for all the seasons. However, spherically shaped ceramic lights in various sizes are very unique and eye catching. These are baked at 1,250°C. It is very difficult to keep the lights to a perfect round shape as they collapse easily under the weight of the clay. To avoid this problem, the light is

made in the shape of an oval before baking.

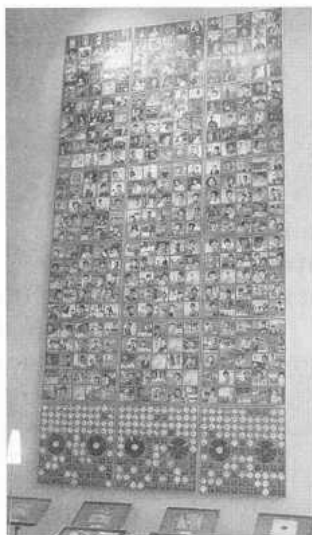
Mr. Nagai also teaches ceramics classes in his studio. At the moment he has 18 pupils. Most of them are in their late forties. He does not tell them what to do. Rather he lets them do as they like and he gives them advice when necessary.

Our lives are surrounded by too many unnecessary things these days. But we still want to get something we really like. Maybe you can find what you like in this ceramic studio or you will at least get some idea how to make the most of ceramics. (Open: 8:00am-5:00pm except Monday, tel: 0294-52-3778)

The Yoshida Tadashi Memorial Museum of Music is Now Open to the Public

The Yoshida Tadashi Memorial Museum of Music, which was recently showcased in Hyotan No. 146, was opened to the public on April 29th. On the day, a memorial public performance by a singer, Mr. Akira Mita, one of Yoshida's disciples was presented on the open stage. In fine weather suitable for an opening day, Mr. Akira Mita cheerfully sang songs and gave a talk to a large audience, so all in all it was a great opening day.

Now, let's talk about the interior of the museum. In the studio (a picture theater) on the first floor, you can enjoy 15 pieces of music from Yoshida's works with pictures of Yoshida and other singers of those days. From the second floor to the fourth floor, the progress of Yoshida's melodic composition is exhibited chronologically. If you borrow a "mobile music player" at 200 ¥ and select one of 214 pieces of music in his hit album by touching the panel, you



can listen to the music (usable for about 2 hours). 690 record jackets on the wall of a well-style entrance hall symbolically represent the progress of Yoshida's melodic composition.

On the second floor, the life of Mr. Tadashi Yoshida, who was born in Hitachi and grew up to be a big star of the post war popular music industry, is introduced through a picture display.

On the third floor, Mr. Tadashi Yoshida's living room complete with a piano for giving his students lessons and a desk used for writing music are exhibited, and there is also a corner where you can freely watch "Memories of Tadashi Yoshida".

On the fourth floor, is a corner for yourself "Tadashi Yoshida's composition classroom", where you can try out composition for yourself using a personal computer. The fifth floor is used as an observation cafe, where you can enjoy coffee as well as viewing most of Hitachi City on a clear fine day. Furthermore, you can log onto an internet homepage relating to music and listen to music using a music table installed in the cafe for free.

How would you like to visit the museum? It is conveniently located by the parking lot at the top of Kamine Park, admission is free, and it is open all year long. I truly recommend you visit the museum at least once.

EVENTS in HITACHI

- Science Museum Summer Special Exhibition: July 21-August 31. Each exhibition has its own theme, like puzzle, maze, firefly model "Yume-Hotaru" and workshop. You can also enjoy the Globe Theater movies. Inquiry: 24-7711 Hitachi Civic Center.
- A lot of fans in Kamine Park and Zoo. (1) Andon-matsuri or lantern festival: July 31-August 16. (2) Zoo Summer Special Exhibition – waterside animals and insects: July 17-August 16. (3) You'll discover true faces of animals on Night Zoo: July 31, August 1, 2, 13, 14, 15. Open extended 6-9p.m. (4) Movies for Children in the Horizon Kamine: August 4, 11, 15. Admission free. You'll also enjoy swimming pool. Inquiry: 22-4737 Hitachi Park Association.
- Exciting times in Oku-Hitachi Kirara no Sato Leisure Center. (1) Beetles and stag beetles exhibition: July 18-August 16. (2) Sketch rally for children: July 21-August 16. (3) Carpentry workshop: August 20-22. Never close on July-August. Open 9a.m-5p.m. Inquiry: 24-2424 Oku-Hitachi Kirara no Sato Leisure Center.
- "Relics of excavated in Hitachi" Exhibit – Hitachi Local Museum Collection: July 17-September 5. Inquiry: 23-3231 Hitachi Local Museum.

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

NAME	LOCATION	DATE & TIME	Fee	Contact
Sakura	Shichokaku Center etc	Saturday 10:00-11:30	¥1,800/semester	Ms. Reiko Tsuru Tel (0294) 53-4558 reiko_tip@yahoo.com
	Kyoiku Plaza	Thursday 10:00-11:30	¥1,800/semester	
Sakura (Kanji)		Friday 10:00-11:30	¥1,000/semester	
Anzu	Shichokaku Center	Tuesday 19:00-20:30	¥300/month & ¥1,500 (text)	Ms. Kyoko Kamada Tel/Fax (0294) 33-3399
	Kyoiku Plaza	Friday 13:00-16:00	¥300/month & ¥1,500 (text)	

Movies in July

Theater	Day	Titles (Original Titles)
Cinefesta 1&2 Tel:21-7472	-9	The Passion of The Christ [E]
	-16	Tengoku no Honya [J]
	10-	Walter Shounen to Natsu no Kyujitsu (Secondhand Lions) [E]
	17-17-	Soreyuke Anpanman [J] Pocket Monster [J]
Hitachi Central Tel:21-1386	-9	Sekai no Chushin de Ai wo Sakebu [J]
	10-	Spider-Man 2 [E]
Aigakan 1&2 Tel:23-2323	-16	Shimozuma Monogatari [J]
	-16	Umizaru [J]
	-22	The Day After Tomorrow [E]
	17-	Steam Boy [J]
	24-	King Arthur [E]
Theater Isejin Tel:22-1761	-	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban [J]
	-	Brotherhood [K]
	24-	Shrk 2 [J]

[E]: English with Japanese subtitle [J]: Japanese
[K]: Korean with Japanese subtitles

Emergency Doctors on Duty

Hitachi uses a system called "TOBAN-I". The doctors in the city take turns standing by for emergency patients from 9:00 to 16:00 on Sundays and national holidays. This system includes surgeons, physicians, pediatricians and dentists. Be sure to bring your money and health insurance card.

🏥 Surgeons

July	Hospital Name	Address	Tel
4	Yamate Byoin	Chikoku-cho	33-2121
11	Kuriyama Seikei-geka Iin	Hitaka-cho	42-8100
18	Hitachiko Byoin	Kuji-cho	52-3576
19	Heiwadai Shinohara Clinic	Suwa-cho	34-6800
25	Shimada Geka Iin	Omika-cho	53-4888

🏥 Physicians, Pediatricians and Dentists

Seven days a week: Hitachi Medical Center
(Address: 5-1-1 Higashitaga-cho Tel: 34-2105
Fax: 34-3718 E-mail:
webmaster@hitachi-medical.or.jp)

Editor's Note

Thank you for reading the **Hyotan**. If you'd like to inquire about anything, please send us a letter, fax or e-mail. Any subject is welcomed. We are looking forward to receiving your letter.

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