

Tulane University hosts Lafcadio Hearn exhibition

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An exhibition featuring first editions of books by Lafcadio Hearn, whose writings promoted the mystique of New Orleans to the nation, as well as prized works from his art collection will be on view Oct. 18-28 in Tulane University's Special Collections Gallery, located in Jones Hall, Room 205. The exhibit is free and open to the public, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon – 6 p.m. Sunday.

"The Open Mind of Lafcadio Hearn in New Orleans" will celebrate Hearn's tolerance and cooperative mindset with art from Greece, Japan and the Hearn Collection at Tulane. The exhibition, which is financed and co-organized by Matsue City, Japan with support from Tulane's Asian Studies Program and Tulane's Louisiana Research Collection, will also include "La Cuisine Creole, A Collection of Culinary Recipes" and numerous other Hearn works, as well as pieces by artists such as Ynez Johnston and Masaaki Noda.

"We are delighted to bring this exhibit to New Orleans," said exhibition curator Saeko Yatsuka-Jensen of Tulane's Asian Studies Program. "This is a rare opportunity to view not only many of Hearn's personal items, but to gain insight, through artists' interpretations, into how Hearn has influenced Japanese culture."

The exhibition will open at 6 p.m., Oct 18, with a lecture in the Freeman Auditorium, Room 205, of the Woldenberg Art Center by Bon Koizumi, Hearn's great grandson and curator of the Lafcadio Hearn Museum in Matsue, Japan. A reception will follow.

Hearn, also known by the Japanese name Koizumi Yakumo, was internationally known for his books about Japan, especially its legends and ghost stories and for his writings about New Orleans, where he lived a decade.

Additional co-sponsors of the exhibition include the Japan Club of New Orleans, the Japanese Garden Foundation of New Orleans, the Japan Society of New Orleans, the city of New Orleans, the Consulate-General of Japan at Nashville and

the Special Collections Division of Howard-Tilton Memorial Library.