



Woodblock Print Coloring Page Inspired by Utagawa Hiroshige

Who was Utagawa Hiroshige?

Utagawa Hiroshige (Japanese, 1797-1858) is considered one of the greatest masters of the *ukiyo-e* artistic tradition. At age 14, he became a pupil of Utagawa Toyohiro and only after one year of study, he was able to use the artist name Utagawa Hiroshige, thus becoming a member of the most prominent and influential *ukiyo-e* artist family of the day. Hiroshige had a significant influence on the Impressionists and Post-Impressionists in the West, including Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Pierre Bonnard and Vincent van Gogh.



Memorial Portrait of Hiroshige by Kunisada

Credit:
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=218257>

What is *ukiyo-e* art?

This uniquely Japanese art form developed during the Edo Period (1615-1868). Known as *ukiyo-e*, or "pictures of the floating world," this style came to be associated with the interests of the rising middle class. Artists produced color woodblock prints and paintings of kabuki actors, sumo wrestlers, landscapes, as well as scenes from history folk tales and travel. .



Utagawa Hiroshige, Japanese, 1797-1858
Narumi, "Pictures of Famous Places on the Fifty-Three Stations of the Tokaido," Edo Period (1615-1868), 1855
Ink and color on paper