

A Personal History of Kyushu-Ha

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Introduction

The exhibition "Kyushu-Ha" was held at the Fukuoka City Art Museum from September 23 to October 10, 1988. The exhibition "Kyushu-Ha" was held at the Fukuoka City Art Museum from September 23 to October 10, 2011. Kyushu-Ha was formed by young painters and sculptors mainly in Fukuoka City, with the aim of exploring the possibility of art to the maximum extent possible, without preconceived ideas. A quarter of a century has already passed since the end of Kyushu-Ha. This exhibition was designed to reveal the real image of Kyushu-Ha, which has become a legend, to clarify its light and shadow, and to explore its significance today..

I was a member of Kyushu-Ha for only a little more than two years, from the time it was formed in 1957 until late autumn of 1959. As a result of a dispute over the line of the Kyushu-Ha movement, I broke away and formed Doukutsu-Ha with Ochi Osamu and Kikuhata Mokuma. Even after I quit Kyushu-Ha, I have been keeping an open mind about the group's movement and the activities of its former members after the end of its existence. This time, I was unexpectedly given an opportunity to write in this magazine, so I decided to stir up my almost forgotten memories and write down a personal account of Kyushu-Ha. This is the reason for calling it a personal account.

(I would like to mention that the Fukuoka City Museum of Art has published a catalogue of the Kyushu-Ha exhibition, which includes critiques by art critics and curators, photographs of the works, a chronology, and comments by former members.)