

SPOTLIGHT

...is a yearlong salute to a single work of art in the McNay Art Museum's collection. For 2011–2012, Roger Shimomura's *Him-a-Hero* challenges you and your students to:

- Find cross-curricular connections with the work of art in the classroom.
- Act, dance, make art, play a game, respond, sing, solve a problem, or write imaginatively, in response to *Him-a-Hero*.
- Submit your collaborative response to the McNay by Thursday, March 15, 2012. Visit mcnaytrc.org/spotlight for more information, teacher resources, and submission form.
- Share your response (if selected) at a *Spotlight* celebration on Sunday, April 15, 2012, at the McNay.

2011–2012 *Spotlight* Events

Evening for Educators: A Floating World of Cultural Exchange **Thursday, October 6, 5:00 pm, Stieren Center for Exhibitions**

View the exhibition *The Orient Expressed: Japan's Influence on Western Art, 1854–1918* and learn ways to incorporate the works and themes into the classroom. Learn more about *Him-a-Hero*, a contemporary painting with Japanese influences. Space is limited and registration is required.

Fee: McNay members \$5; nonmembers \$13.

Teacher Sharing Session: *Spotlight Him-a-Hero*

Thursday, November 3, 6:30–8:00 pm, Valero Learning Centers

Three educators present lessons that use Roger Shimomura's painting in the classroom. Approaches include art making, art history investigation, and interdisciplinary connections.

Expressions of the Orient: *Cross-cultural Infusions*

Thursday, December 1, 6:30 pm, Chiego Lecture Hall and Leeper Auditorium

Artist Roger Shimomura speaks about his influences, and artistic approaches. Asian-inspired hors d'oeuvres follow. Fee (includes exhibition admission, lecture, and hors d'oeuvres): \$5 McNay members, students and teachers with IDs; \$15 nonmembers.



Spotlight Celebration

Sunday, April 15, 2012, 1:00–4:00 pm, Leeper Auditorium

The McNay invites schools to find inventive ways to incorporate Shimomura's *Him-a-Hero* into their classrooms. Selected *Spotlight* participants present their inventive responses, from visual to vocal.

If you have questions about *Spotlight* programs or the submission process, please see mcnaytrc.org/spotlight for more information.

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Roger Shimomura, *Him-a-Hero*, 2004. Acrylic on canvas. Collection of the McNay Art Museum, Museum purchase with funds from the McNay Contemporary Collectors Forum.

About this artist

Roger Shimomura's art addresses issues of ethnicity, identity, and politics. He draws upon the diaries kept by his late immigrant grandmother. Born in Seattle, in 1939, Shimomura spent two years in Minidoka, Idaho, one of 10 concentration camps for Japanese Americans during WWII. Inspired by the style of post-war artists Jasper Johns and Roy Lichtenstein, Shimomura combines elements of traditional Japanese Ukiyo-e printmaking with American cartoons and Japanese anime.

Recently retired from the University of Kansas, Shimomura speaks about his work at the McNay on Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 6:30 pm.

Discussion Questions

Look at *Him-a-Hero* and discuss the following questions:

Who is *Him-a-Hero*?

How does this self-portrait compare to others that you have seen? Who is the hero in this painting? If you were in this work of art, what heroic qualities would you have?

A Curious Cast of Characters

What defines hero? What defines villain? Who are the heroes and villains in this painting?

Ukiyo-e and Pop Art

In 17th-century Japanese Ukiyo-e prints, artists used floating images and diagonal compositions. American Pop art often has flat colors and bold lines. Find examples of both Ukiyo-e and Pop in *Him-a-Hero*.

Influential Experiences

How does *Him-a-Hero* reflect Shimomura's identity?