"Special exhibition of Wang Shaofei, 'Picasso of the East'" will be held at Kobe Kitano Museum from April 29th to May 15th, in memory of the 150th anniversary of the opening of Kobe port, the 22nd anniversary of Kobe Kitano Museum (118th construction anniversary of the U.S. Consulate), and the 45th anniversary of friendly relations between Japan and China.

Along with his new works, Wang's earlier works including body painting and calligraphy, as well as the famous ink painting "The High Sun" (known as the most expensive work in the China Art Fair, CCTV news and other media conducted a special report), will also be displayed. Its estimated price is 8.5 billion yen (approximately 560 million yuan, 74 million American dollars), which surpasses the highest auction price of a number of famous painters such as Qi Baishi, Xu Beihong, Zhang Daqian, Zeng Fanzhi, Zhang Xiaogang, Cui Ruzhuo, and so on, breaking the world's selling price of all Chinese artwork.
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Additionally, Wang's representative watercolor painting in the early 90s called “The Life of a Musician”, will be another highlight of the exhibition. First announced in the Daily Yomiuri in 1992, the painting was highly appraised by “Art Top”, a popular Japanese art magazine initiated by Michiaki Kawakita, a very prominent art critic.
The Life of a Musician

Born in Hunan province, Wang started painting at the age of 3. He trained for his Doctor's degree of art education at Kobe University. Having held a number of exhibitions throughout the world and with his unique style of art, he is honored as being the “Picasso of the East”. His most well known work is his ink painting, in which he beautifully integrates the elements of traditional Chinese painting. Without a doubt, Wang is amongst the very few who will continue to blossom as one of the greatest painters of Contemporary Abstract Art.

Kobe Kitano museum

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