



# The Floating World

## at the Worcester Art Museum

### Wednesday, January 25

**8:30 am** - Arrive at the Museums' State Street parking lot located directly across the street from the Springfield City Library. Park in the lot and board the bus at the curbside. **Depart at 8:45 am sharp.**

**10-10:15 am** – Estimated arrival at the Worcester Art Museum. The Worcester Art Museum, houses over 38,000 works of art dating from antiquity to the present day and representing cultures from all over the world. Opened in 1898 in Worcester, Massachusetts, its holdings include some of the finest Roman mosaics in the United States, outstanding European and American art, and a major collection of Japanese prints. Since acquiring the John Wood Higgins Armory Collection in 2013, WAM is also home to the second largest collection of arms and armor in the Americas.

**Docent guided tour of the special exhibit *The Floating World*.** This special exhibit will focus specifically on ukiyo-e artworks, a diverse genre of art created throughout Japan's Edo period (1603-1868). Translating to "pictures of the floating world," ukiyo-e prints often depict scenes of leisure and arts regularly enjoyed by the working class during an age of great economic growth. Artworks featured include Hiroshige's Sudden Shower over Shin-ōhashi Bridge and Atake (1857). The rich colors and intriguing flatness of Hiroshige's work inspired Vincent van Gogh's Bridge in the Rain (after Hiroshige).

**12 noon** – Following our guided tour, enjoy a boxed lunch at the museum. Please choose from the following sandwiches topped with lettuce, tomato, and cheese:  
Tuna salad, Ham, Turkey, Chicken salad, Roast Beef and Vegetarian.  
A beverage, fresh salad, potato chips and a cookie are included.

Also on view:

- ***Art of the Samurai: Japanese Arms and Armor*** - Samurai, members of Japan's warrior class, ruled the country for nearly a millennium, from the 12th through the 19th century, and continue to be revered as symbols of bravery, loyalty, and honor. The objects on display here demonstrate not only the delicate balance between, and paradoxical relationship of, bu and bun—the arts of war and of culture—that characterized Japan's great warriors, but also the evolving position of samurai arms and armor in Japanese society, culture, and craftsmanship.

**3 pm** – Meet the bus and depart for Springfield, with an estimated return by 4-4:30 pm

**Cost: \$72, Members, \$85, nonmembers; includes guided tour, lunch, bus travel and driver tip.**