



HIROSHIGE - FIFTY-THREE STATIONS OF THE TŌKAIDŌ SERIES - WOODBLOCK PRINT, YEAR 1915



Publication: Ōsaka, Darumaya Shoten, Taisho 4, circa 1915.

Dimensions: 27 x 40 cm (Woodblock Print) 40 x 53 cm (passepartout)

Condition: Good condition, slight oxidation spots. Mounted on acid-free, pH-neutral museum-quality passepartout for preservation.

Technique: Woodblock Print (The work is created by printing with wooden plates, one for each color)

Utagawa Hiroshige 1797 - 185, was a Japanese ukiyo-e artist, considered the last great master of that tradition.

Hiroshige is best known for his horizontal-format landscape series *The Fifty-three Stations of the Tōkaidō* and for his vertical-format landscape series *One Hundred Famous Views of Edo*. The subjects of his work were atypical of the ukiyo-e genre, whose typical focus was on beautiful women, popular actors, and other scenes of the urban pleasure districts of Japan's Edo period (1603–1868). The popular series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji* by Hokusai was a strong influence on Hiroshige's choice of subject, though Hiroshige's approach was more poetic and ambient than Hokusai's bolder, more formal prints. Subtle use of color was essential in Hiroshige's prints, often printed with multiple impressions in the same area and with extensive use of bokashi (color gradation), both of which were rather labor-intensive techniques.

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Reference: MD-8526

