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# Koson's Prints

... but not in the book

### Introduction

One of Japan's most famous designers of flower-andbird prints is the 20th century artist Koson Ohara. His more than 500 designs for woodblock prints far outnumber those of any of his contemporaries. Many of these woodblock prints are shown in a book about his art, published in 2001. The book's title page is shown on the right. The book's authors note that "only those prints by the artist for which reproducible images were obtainable have been included. This has resulted in the insufficient representation of certain prints and formats such as those in the small souvenir 'postcard' size (c. 140 x 90 mm)". The Reader Collection of Japanese Flowerand-Bird art includes 30 of Koson's smaller print designs which were not in the book. These not-inthe-book prints are the subject of this virtual exhibition. The 30 prints are arranged by size, starting with the smallest. For each print the following information is given: names of the flowers and (or) birds depicted and print size.

## Crows, Cranes & Camellias

the natural world of Ohara Koson 1877-1945

> Japanese prints from the Jan Perrée collection

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Hotei Publishing, Leiden

**1** Japanese laurel (*Aucuba japonica*) and Java sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*), 75 x 105 mm



**2** Heavenly bamboo (*Nandina domestica*) and Eurasian tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*), 90 x 140 mm



**3** Cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and green peafowl (*Pavo muticus*), 90 x 140 mm



**4** Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*) and golden pheasant (*Chrysolophus pictus*), 95 x 145 mm



**5** Little ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*), 100 x 155 mm



6 Scops owl (*Otus* sp.), 105 x 155 mm



**7** Copper pheasant (*Syrmaticus soemmerringii*), 100 x 145 mm



**8** Large-billed crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*), 105 x 155 mm



**9** Cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and Java sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*), 120 x 165 mm





**11** White-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*), 115 x 180 mm



**12** Japanese white-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*), 120 x 180 mm



**13** Cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), 125 x 185 mm



**14** Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and whitefronted goose (*Anser albifrons*), 125 x 185 mm



**15** Red-crowned crane (*Grus japonensis*), 95 x 200 mm



**16** Little egret (*Egretta garzetta*). 130 x 185 mm



17 White-cheeked starling (*Sturnus cineraceus*), 145 x205 mm



**18** Large-billed crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*), 150 x205 mm



# **19** Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 150 x 210 mm



### 20 Mallard duck (Anas platyrhynchos), 150 x 205 mm



Eurasian tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*), 150 x 210 mm



Cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and Daurian redstart (*Phoenicurus auroreus*), 150 x 210 mm



Oriental reed warbler (*Acrocephalus orientalis*), 150 x 205 mm

Asiatic dayflower (*Commelina communis*) and Japanese quail (*Coturnix japonica*), 150 x 210 mm





Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), scarlet macaw (*Ara macao*) and hyacinth macaw (*Amodorhynchus hyacinthinus*), 105 x 265 mm



Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*), 90 x 250 mm



**27** Common reed (Phragmites australis) and mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 175 x 255 mm



28 Black-headed gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*), 180 x255 mm



China rose (*Rosa chinensis*) and canary (*Serinus canaria*), 185 x 255 mm



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Japanese laurel (*Aucuba japonica*) and Eurasian tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*), 85 x 250 mm

