



Ghosts and Spirits from the Tikotin Museum of Japanese Art: Felix Tikotin: A Life Devoted to Japanese Art (AUP - Leiden University Press)

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Ghosts and Spirits from the Tikotin Museum of Japanese Art tells the life story of Felix Tikotin (1893–1986), one of the twentieth century's most important European art collectors. Tikotin built successful galleries in Dresden and Berlin before World War II, and during the conflict he went into hiding but managed to survive and keep his collection intact. He donated his huge collection of Japanese Art to the city of Haifa in 1960 and founded the Tikotin Museum of Japanese Art there. This catalog contains more than one hundred works of art featuring Japanese ghosts and spirits, including paintings, prints, and miniature carvings called *netsuke*.

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Editorial Review

Review

“On traditional Japanese robes, cords around the waist were threaded through netsuke, carvings made of ivory, wood, metal, horn, ceramic, coral, stone and nuts. The netsuke depict animals, humans and deities, and collectors sometimes vie for the creepier forms. . . . Established collections, kept intact, are the subject of two new books. . . . *Ghosts and Spirits from the Tikotin Museum of Japanese Art* explains how the German dealer and collector Felix Tikotin amassed his collection, starting in the early 1900s. During World War II, he hid the valuables in a basement in The Hague, and his collection survives in a museum he founded in Israel. In the new book, netsuke represent demon masks, mythical beings riding fish, and exorcists.”

(Eve M. Kahn *New York Times*)

About the Author

Jaron Borensztajn is Felix Tikotin’s grandson. He has a background in theoretical computer science, cofounded a middle-sized consultancy firm in the 1990s, and currently serves as an advisor for startups.

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