

SHOWCASE

Choreographing exhibition galleries with delicate, uninterrupted layers of light

Kyoto National Museum

Location: Kyoto, Japan
Main use: Museum
Design: Taniguchi and Associates
Constructed: July 2013

Lighting Design: Taniguchi and Associates
Iwai Lumimedia Design
Fixture design: YAMAGIWA Corporation
Photography: YAMAGIWA Corporation
Iwai Lumimedia Design (bottom two on page A-11)



Overview of 1st floor sculpture gallery: Wall lighting from the floor and ceiling cascades over the sulfur oxidized brass finished wall behind the Buddhist sculptures



View from the 2nd floor galleries over the 1st floor sculpture gallery: The stainless steel mesh screen is illuminated from below the glass railing, evoking delicate layers of light



View between the railing and screen: Glare is reduced by honeycombed louvers (The line of light showing on the left is a reflection on the glass railing.)

The Kyoto National Museum's Heisei Chishinkan Wing exhibits a wide range of significant artworks, including National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. After a sixteen-year period of design and construction, it opened on September 13, 2014. Seamless line LED fixtures are used in areas requiring continuity of light. One such area is the wall lighting from the floor and ceiling over the sulfur oxidized brass finished wall that forms the backdrop for works on display in the building's largest room, the 1st floor sculpture gallery. Another is lighting over a stainless steel mesh screen covering a broad opening on the 2nd floor overlooking the 1st floor gallery. Others include luminous ceilings connecting the 2nd and 3rd floor galleries.



Lighting fixtures for front lighting in the sculpture gallery are hidden under the floor and in the ceiling.



Lighting for the passageway connecting the 2nd floor galleries: The continuous luminous ceiling is uniformly illuminated using a minimal number of lamps.