

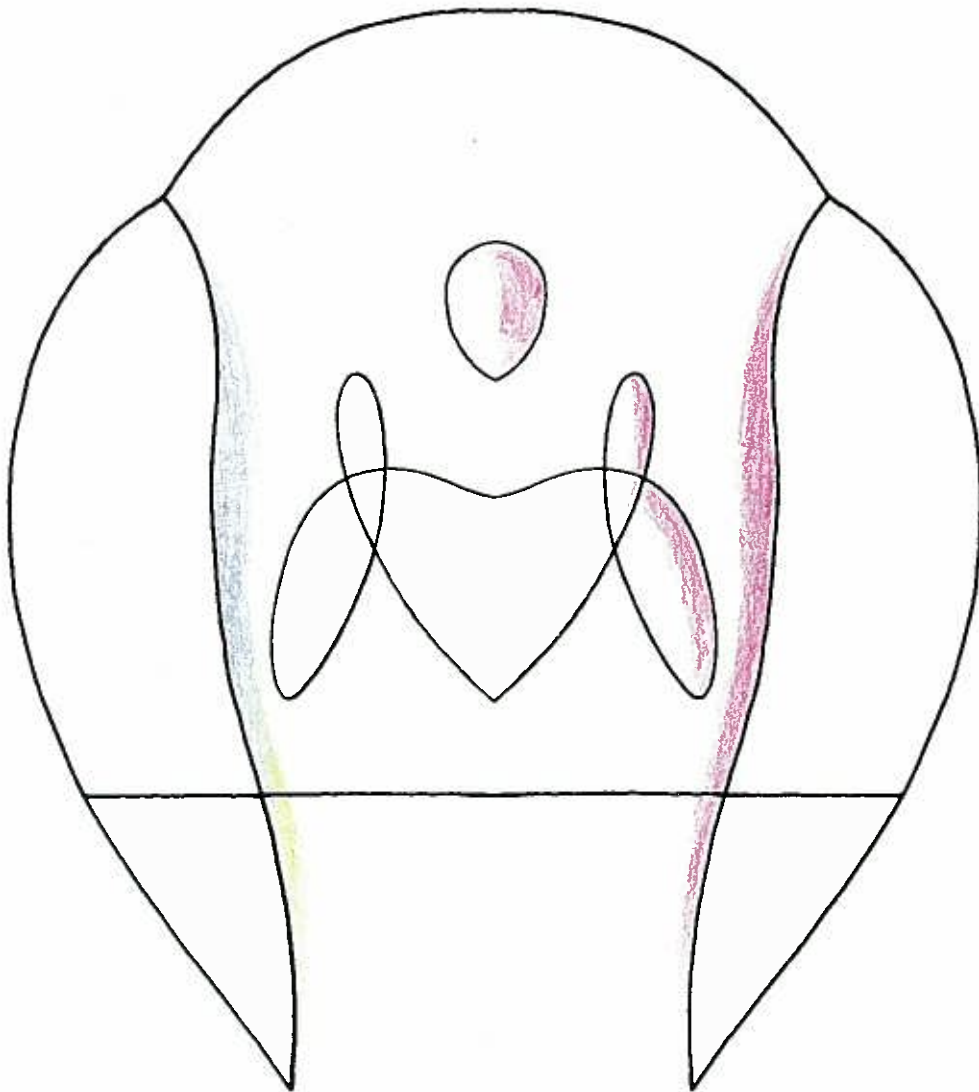
## Seasonal Greetings

The heads of government of the Group of 8 gathered at Lake Toya, in Hokkaido, the northland of Japan, for the annual summit meeting. The "Kiriko Glass", from the shop of old-standing that represents the Edo Kiriko, was one of the gifts chosen to be presented to the heads of government of the nations participating in the summit. Being an avid fan of glass crafts myself, I would like to express my sincere joy that the Kiriko glass has been chosen as a craftwork that represents Japan. It is intelligible that trying to get nations with a wide spectrum of opinion to focus on a single goal is no easy task. However, at the present moment, we are all aboard on a "leaky boat". Spaceship Earth is analogous to a boat that is creaking all over and crying out for help with the water beginning to leak. What we must do first is to pour out the water and repair the areas that have been damaged. The ice in the North Pole is beginning to melt, and a competition for the rights to the oil that sleeps in the region has begun. Could this be the beginning of disagreements, new disputes and the further decline of the environment which will drive everyone crazy, and could it lead to the sinking of Spaceship Earth? Would it be the prologue or epilogue by Earth? Answering this question by saying "Heaven only knows" can no longer be tolerated. The next summit will be held in Italy. I hope that further progress can be made in the land where raising awareness on crucial global issue through the report "The Limit to Growth" by the Club of Rome was made, which warned the world about "overpopulation and the food crisis" as well as environmental constraints.

We had another international gathering in Asia that took place. The 29th Olympic Games were held in Beijing, after overcoming numerous difficulties such as the disastrous earthquake that struck the Sichuan region. It was an exciting assembly of athletes in which people from 204 nations and regions came together in the "Bird's Nest" (Beijing National Stadium). This Olympics in China followed the commemorative Olympic Games four years ago, which was held in Greece. Is the unsurpassed spirit and rationality of the ancient Greeks—who halted a war and gathered in front of the gods of Mt. Olympus to begin a festival of peace—still alive? Have we been able to take some steps towards the attainment of peace, goodwill and advancement? The "clean street", "kindness of people" of the China, and the bracing spirit of the athletes will be passed on to London. What remains after the big event?

VIN has just finished publishing Issue No. 3 and the time has come for its release. As for the celebrities, we asked for the cooperation of individuals from the two Olympic nations—Greece and China. We were able to include wonderful interviews by two people from Athens and Beijing. As for the theme of "the environment", we focused on Germany as an example of an environmentally-advanced nation. I would like to thank people concerned with DSD (Dual System Deutschland AG), the recycling system in Freiburg, the "environmental capital", for their cooperation with our interview. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude towards the many people who cooperated with us in the making of "World Topics". I would also like to thank Akiko Inoue, President of Association for Glass Art Studies, Japan, for her advice on the stories related to the Kiriko glass, Chitose Matsuo, Assistant Director of the Shoko-Shuseikan, for his stories related to the Satsuma Kiriko, and Yoshirou Kobayashi, Representative Director of Tokyo Cut Glass Industry Association, for providing information on the Edo Kiriko as a whole, for their cooperation. In addition, the insertion of the Ukiyo-e painting "Bakuren", a painting that symbolizes the Edo culture, was by courtesy of Ei Nakau, Executive Director of the International Ukiyo-e Society. We were able to use one of the masterpieces of Utamaro Kitagawa from the Nakau Collection, under the auspices of the Shibunkaku Art Museum. Information on the glass beads, which were the burial item found in the ancient tombs, was provided by Mr. Kitabayashi of the Nanao City Cultural Properties Division and Ms. Imai of the Notojima Glass Art Museum. In addition, although it was difficult to follow the traces of the Satsuma Kiriko which once vanished, the fact that we were able to close in on one of the mysteries regarding it with a single piece of literature may have been the greatest accomplishment for us with this project. In cooperation with Mayumi Ikeda, a historian of arts and crafts, the accomplishment was the fact that we were able to show that, according to "L' EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE DE 1867 ILLUSTRÉE PUBLICATION INTERNATIONALE LE AUTORISÉE PAR LA COMMISSION IMPERIALE REDACTEUR EN CHEF Mr. Fr. DUCUING Premier volume, p. 331", the "Satsuma Crystal" was on exhibit at The Paris Exposition of 1867. It is not clear whether it was the Satsuma Kiriko itself, but there would be a great possibility. Since we receive questions about the cover page of "VIN" from time to time, allow me to provide some information regarding the name. For the title, we used "VIN", which comes from the word "vintage" (high quality goods also means good wine in particular year), as well as the Japanese word meaning glass bottle. The cover of VIN was designed by a celebrated designer and depicts a three-sided mirror and a woman. We devoted the prose, which express the spirituality of fragrance, to Venus for this issue as well.

## Glass, the gift from the earth repeating its rebirth



Everyone who ever they may be, looks at their own face as they look into the mirror, but it is often the case that the people around them are looking at their profile. The three-sided mirror has helped women maintain their physical appearance as the closest "third set of eyes", but even that is beginning to fade away. "The return of the three-sided mirror" That idea will no longer be a far-fetched dream thanks to a mirror with features that are perfect for the new age.

Fragrance is "abstract" and "universal".  
Abstraction and universality are ubiquitous.  
Ubiquity embraces and nourishes the particularities.  
The "perfumier (=nez)" is the magician  
of the world of fragrance, and has created many  
"particular universalities" of happiness.  
"Fougère Royal", "Vol De Nuit", "Cyprés", "No.5",  
"Arpège", "Narcisse Noir", "Cabochar",  
"L'Air du Temps", "Poison", "L'interdit",  
"Zen", "Mitsouko", "Trésor", "Youth Dew",  
"Joy", "Paris" and "Tabu"

All of these are imaginations in the name of "perfumes".  
They create "anthems" towards "life".  
The "universality of fragrances" creates a "new universality".  
It is the "chain of fragrances" that depicts life.  
"Perfumes" have spun many "happinesses".  
An ancient proverb says  
"Making someone happy is much like  
putting perfume on someone."  
There might be a couple of drops falling on to you."



# The "Blooming" and "Efflorescence" of glass craftworks Engraved by Edo and Samurai Cultures

Edo and Satsuma, the Two Kiriko Stories



Perhaps she would be described today as "Rokudenashi (Dissolute)". The "beautiful woman" that ukiyo-e artist Utamaro depicted in his painting entitled "Bakuren (Hussy Girl; Canaille)" was a dashing "bossy girl" holding a crab in her left hand and drinking liquor out of a stylish glass, a trend at the time.

This was during a time when the townsman culture, which was mostly based in Edo (the former Tokyo), was at its peak and glass products, although

expensive, were available to common folk. This was during the late 1700's. In Japan, glass productions such as Magatama (curved beads) and Tombodama (glass beads) date back to the Yayoi period 2000 years ago. The technique, however, seems to have disappeared for many years after that (until the 1600's) but returned again in the 1800's. The scene in "Bakuren" is a snapshot from such a time during the Edo period when glass production was prosperous. It was during this time that a glass worker named Kyubei Kagaya (who had studied the technique of glass craftwork and trade in Osaka) and his clan of glass workers were successful in developing the "Kiriko Craft".

The year was 1834. The material was mostly a transparent and colorless lead glass. For the cut patterns, a unique grinding method of manually placing emery sand (suspended in water) on a metal rod was used. In 1853, Commodore Perry from the United States, during his stay in Japan when negotiating with the Edo Shogunate, saw a Kiriko that was made by Kagaya and was amazed. He immediately ordered one and brought it back with him to the United States. This was when the Kiriko made its way across the sea.

There is also another story related to the Kiriko. The story is about the Satsuma Kiriko, an "invention" that also blossomed in Kyusyu Island, southern part of Japan, during the end of the Edo period. The new genre of art glass that prospered in the southern land was characterized by color-cased glass. With his strong leadership, Nariakira Shimazu, the 28th in line of Shimazu clan lords, strongly promoted the encouragement of new industry and had gathered workers from all over Japan. One of them, surprisingly, was Kamejiro Yotsumoto, a glass worker from Kagaya in Edo. In such a way, the Kiriko technique was transmitted from Edo to Satsuma. The technique of making the cut while covering the thick, colored glass and then gradating the glass, a unique characteristic of the Satsuma Kiriko, was a method that could have only been done by the unaffected and sincere samurai of Satsuma.



Upper left: Ukiyo-e painting: "Kyokun Oya no Mekagami (A Parent's Moralizing) Bakuren" Utamaro Kitagawa/ Nakau Collection

Lower Right: A Kiriko glass from the Edo Period (Individual Collection)

Upper Right: Satsuma Kiriko "Green Kiriko Bowl and Crimson Kiriko Bowl" Shoko-Shuseikan Collection

Column: Found in Archeological Dig at Nukui Tomb No. 15 in Nanao City "Glass Ball"

However, in 1863, the "Shuseikan" Kiriko factory was badly damaged through the Anglo-Satsuma War and the Satsuma Rebellion, and the technique was lost. What remained was drinking vessels which had been bridal gifts for Nariakira's daughter, Atsuhime (who had married the shogun Tokugawa Iesada) and several hundred "rare Satsuma Kirikos".

At the start of the Meiji period, the Japanese government founded the "Shinagawa Glass Factory" and in 1881, invited an English engineer E. Hauptman to visit the factory. Since that time, a new cutting technique that uses a rotating grinder was adopted. Today, there are over ten different traditional design patterns that have been inherited, and these patterns have been either combined with one another or with new patterns that have been developed. The Edo Kiriko expressed the "stylishness" as well as the "toughness" of the Edo common folk (Edokko).

The Edo Kiriko has survived the period of chaos at the end of the Edo period, the Meiji Restoration, the Great Kanto Earthquake and World War II. It has been selected to be included in the Tokyo Metropolis collection of designated traditional arts and crafts, and has 170 years of history. On the other hand, the Satsuma Kiriko has awakened from a 120 year-long sleep. It came back to life in 1985, when it was recreated thanks



to the hard work of the Shimazu family and other involved parties, and is currently a designated enterprise for traditional arts and crafts in Kagoshima Prefecture. One of the traditional beauties of Ancient Japan is the adoration of small and elaborate objects. It is the world of "Everything that is small is beautiful" from "Makura-no-Soshi" (An essay written by Sei-Shonagon in Heian era). It is probably the many elaborate designs on the surface of the Kiriko glass bowls small enough to fit on a palm that attract people to this story. In July, 2008, the Edo Kiriko was selected as a gift for the leaders of the world, along with Imari porcelain, at the Lake Toya Summit, which was held in Hokkaido, the northland of Japan.

Kiriko glass, a traditional craft that represents the Japanese glass culture, has once again crossed the sea.

## Column: "Noto, an Ancient Romantic Land Full of Bliss and Peace"



The Nukui Tomb No. 15 of Noto, which is located in Nanao city, was built in the early 6th century, when large keyhole-shaped tombs were still built. Who is it that sleeps in this land, which is surrounded by the beautiful landscape of the Noto Peninsula and Nanao Bay, as if he were defending it? Among the items that were found in a wooden coffin during an archeological dig of the area was a "glass beads", in addition to a knife and an iron arrow.

According to "Kojiki" (the Records of Ancient Matters), the Noto family, who had gained control of the land, were descendents of Ooiriki-no-mikoto, the prince of Emperor Sujin. The Kokufu system was established, which served as the culture of the Japan Sea coast, and played a key role in relations with the Emishi, other cultural regions within Japan, and regions in the Asian continent such as Goguryeo and Bo Hai. The region to the west of the Noto Peninsula is Hakui-city, and the people there are believed to be the descendents of "Watsukuwake-no-kimi", the prince of Emperor Suinin. Both of these places contain mysteries and continue to keep us wondering if there was a romantic story. Another question worth raising is whether the fact that the family of Kyubei Kagaya of the "Kiriko Craft" happened to be from Noto was a historical coincidence.



# A Three-sided Mirror with one Design

"China's problems are our problems as well." A woman from Athens, Greece (Age 42)

The Olympics take place every four years. This August, it was held in Beijing.

Four years ago, it was in Athens. We had the opportunity to interview two business women from the two Olympic cities.

A Woman from Athens (Age 42)

She operates two eyeglass shops in central Athens. Her husband is an orthopedist, but she is a blond-haired woman with look of an ancient Greek, and claims, with a cheerful smile, that she has never gotten plastic surgery. She has two twin sons.

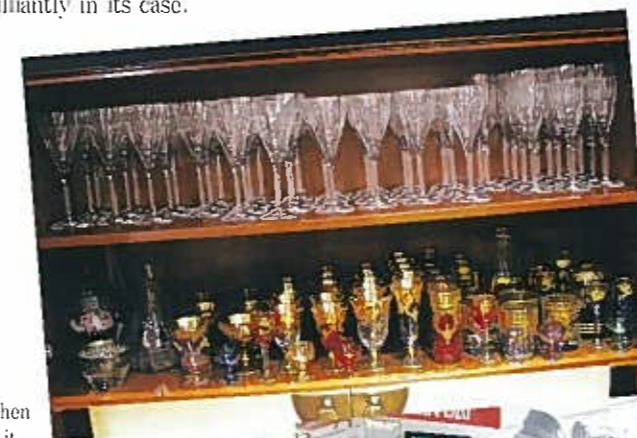
She goes overseas on business about two or three times a year. She buys her cosmetics at duty-free shops during these trips and buys any new product that comes out, so she has a large collection. She also has a countless number of perfumes.

The residence is spacious. The inside of her home is decorated nicely. The concept of the interior décor is "glass"—which she likes and she designed and selected all of the furniture. She, of course, likes cosmetic containers that are made of glass.

She brings out a subtle tasting tea that contains 15 kinds of herbs and explains that her hope right now is to take the time out of her busy schedule to spend time with her children. The tea is delicious. The countries that she would like to visit the most right now are Japan and China. She wants to visit China because the next Olympics after Athens are going to be in Beijing.

She wants also to visit before China turns into a global major power. Her friend has a job related to the Olympics in Beijing and has heard that there are many environmental problems there. That is why she wants to go there and see how the situation is, and visit Japan while she's at it. She wants to compare the conditions in China, where environmental problems still remain, with Japan, where they have overcome environmental issues.

She would then like to think about the future of Greece. While saying these words, across from her eyes, glass cups shine brilliantly in its case.



A Woman from Beijing (Age 28)

She operates a shop that sells "Ultraman" character goods on the 4th floor of a popular fashion design building.

She lives in an apartment with two rooms and a dining kitchen, not too far from her shop. A full-length mirror can be seen as soon as the front door is opened. There is also a mirror in the bathroom, but she does her makeup on the table of the reception set in front of the TV.

There, tabletop mirrors and cosmetic products lie beside one another. Her makeup items are in a bag that she got from a manufacturer as a promotional item, and is on a shelf next to the TV. She buys her cosmetics from a department store or online. She picks her cosmetics by trying them out. She tries a sample to make a choice, but she clearly points out that she prefers glass containers.

Her goal right now is to open a complete shop with "Ultraman" character goods that includes children's clothes, which apparently exists in Japan as well.

She wants to do this because it is likely that, in the future, the consumer pull of Chinese people will continue to increase and a variety of products will begin to circulate.

If this happens, there will likely be a demand for high quality goods with some specialty.

She recognizes that these types of consumers are beginning to increase. That is why she wants to open a complete shop that aims for specialty.

While expressing her future plan, across from her eyes, is a photo with a beautiful smile.





# “The Green Mark System: Why Germany is the most environmentally-advanced nation in the world”

The Garbage Disposal Situation in Environmentally-advanced nation, Germany (1)

Although it may not be as serious as the situation in Naples, Italy, garbage disposal is an issue that any country around the world must face. Under these circumstances, Germany, an environmentally-advanced nation, has developed an excellent garbage disposal system. During the next 2 issues, we will be introducing the garbage situation in Germany by focusing on four cities in southern Germany.

## Freiburg, the Environmental Capital

Freiburg has a population of 220,000. It sits adjacent to the Black Forest (Schwarzwald), and even among the cities of Germany, which is known as an environmentally-advanced nation, Freiburg leads the way with its transportation system, energy policies, garbage disposal and natural environment conservation.

The city's garbage disposal policy is to "decrease wastes as much as possible and dispose the garbage in an environmentally-friendly way" and is "a garbage disposal system that is paid for completely by the citizens". In order to "decrease garbage", it is important to understand a type of garbage called "residual garbage (Restmüll)", which refers to "garbage that cannot be separated or recycled". Homes in Freiburg have three plastic boxes-

used for recyclable garbage, raw garbage, and residual garbage- and a bag for packaging material



(DSD ... Explained in the next section). The garbage collection fee, which is paid by the citizens, is a system that includes a basic charge for the number of household members and an added charge for the sole use of the residual garbage boxes.

In addition, the charge for the boxes depends on the size. By using smaller boxes, people are able to lower their fees.

"Environmentally Friendly Disposal" is a system in which recyclable garbage is recycled, but in addition, glass bottles are collected in a special colorful container (see photo) at a designated collection area, compost is fertilized in a special facility, and packaging material is collected by DSD.

Freiburg has made great contributions to the conservation of the natural environment and is now known as the environmental capital of Germany, and many people from around the globe who are involved with the environment are paying a visit.



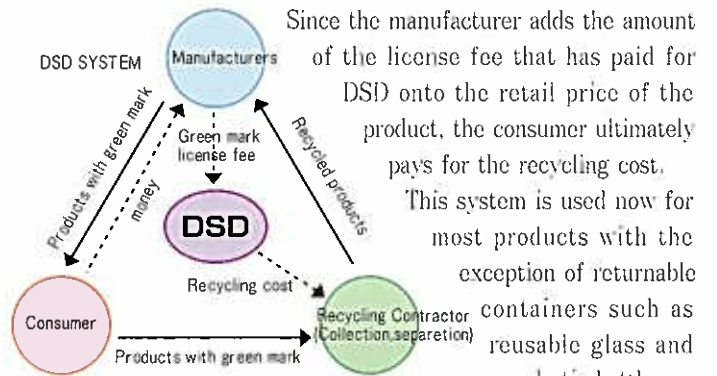
## DSD Augsburg (Dual System Deutschland AG)

In 1990, the "Ordinance on the Avoidance of Packaging Waste" was passed. This ordinance required that manufacturers take full responsibility for their packaging after production, including collection, separation and recycling.

DSD is a company that was founded by manufacturers and retailers in order to promote this ordinance. It is located in Augsburg, a city with 2000 years of history, with its headquarters in Cologne and the other branch office in Hamburg.

The system works something like this: A producer pays DSD a license fee of, for instance, certain amount per ton.

They would then print a "green mark" on the package of their product before selling it. Products with this "green mark" are collected, separated and recycled by a contractor selected by DSD. The fee for this is paid for with the money that DSD received from the manufacturer for the license. (see diagram)



Since the manufacturer adds the amount of the license fee that has paid for DSD) onto the retail price of the product, the consumer ultimately pays for the recycling cost.

This system is used now for most products with the exception of returnable containers such as reusable glass and plastic bottles.

Although, at the time the ordinance was passed, many people wondered if the system would work, it has now been accepted and adopted by the citizens. Now, 21 nations have taken Germany's example and adopted it in their own country.

DSD system shows nations around the world how environmentally aware people in Germany are.

The next issue will focus on the cities of Munich and Karlsruhe.



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