## UNRYU-ZU BY OHGUSHI

## Background

"Saijo Inari-san Myokyoji Temple" in Okayama City, Japan, has been loved by the local people for over 1200 years. An ink painting artist OHGUSHI has depicted "Hachidai-Ryuo-Son", the god of water, who has been enshrined in this temple since ancient times.



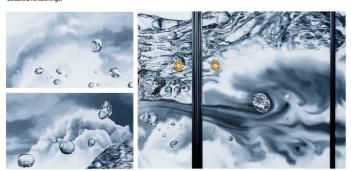
## <u>ldea</u>

OHGUSHI, hoping to express the god of water as "pure, bountiful water" itself, presented his work with a "unique and unprecedented style", instead of following the traditional Japanese conception of beauty.





The painting stretches 10 meters long and was painted with traditional Japanese calligraphy tools in a series of meticulously detailed renderings.



The clouds and storms in the background have been depicted with irregular ink smudging to represent the uncontrollable natural phenomena. The result is a majestic and dynamic work of art in which figuration and abstraction coexist.



Unryu-zu\* | Total length: W9.87m x H 1.83m | Production time: 6 years | Painted on 8 panels of fusuma (sliding paper partitions) | Public viewing: 26th June, 2022 – 22nd July, 2022 | \*Unryu-zu: painting of dragon and clouds



The storm on the right side portrays the current social challenges (under COVID-19 and the global conflicts), while the blank space on the left represents light. These are a reflection of the artist's wish for a bright future ahead for all mankind. The fusuma painting will be displayed for the public once every year and will be passed down through centuries and centuries to come.