



## The Colors of Japan

The colors that exist in nature and which change with the passing seasons stir a variety of emotions in Japanese people. In this month's Feature, we introduce some of the quintessential colors of Japan—indigo, the reds and yellows of maples in autumn, the light of the moon, *makie* lacquerware and more. We also look at some of the ways in which the feelings such colors engender have been and continue to be expressed in arts, crafts and literature, as traditions are protected and handed down.

A sixteenth-century *makie* screen restored using original techniques by Shimode Yutaro  
Photo: Courtesy of Shimode Yutaro