Shoin (living quarters)

In a temple, the Shoin usually refers to the monks’ private living quarters. Here, the alcoves and sliding doors burst forth with the “Four Seasons,” rendered in bold yet exquisite brush strokes by contemporary artist Taisuke Hamada. Each room comes alive with works titled “Spring Morning,” “Buds in Early Summer,” “Sounds of Autumn,” and “New Snow.”

Fuusenkan (tea-ceremony room)

In this Shoin-style structure, members of the ruling Ashikaga clan and upper-class samurai enjoyed the tea ceremony in the 14th to 16th centuries. The tea-ceremony room has a main room with a nobleman’s entrance and an inner room. The garden has stone lanterns, a stone washabasin, and a water basin made of rare fossil.

五大虚空蔵菩薩像 五艸 唐時代 (重要文化財)

空中に浮かび、広大無辺の知恵を無尽に蔵していることをいう。仏国に至り開き放つ（空蔵）なる知恵を念じて起立して得る法（虚空蔵）として伝わられ、空海も一説にこの法を勤務歴の真言実教を聞く足がかりとしている。五大虚空蔵は、その知恵を五つに表したものが、善識善行の新義のための本尊となっている。この五大虚空蔵は、唐の長楽寺の大聖寺の大本殿であったもので、847年に皆さんが奉安されたものである。その面相、姿勢のすばらしきする伝は末期の道法にみられる傾向で、これら像は後の南極の実験を基づくものである。

Five Great Kokuzu Bosatsu (Aksagarbha Bodhisattva), Tang Dynasty China (important cultural property)

"Kokuzu" refers to the holding of infinite and never-ending wisdom. The concept was transmitted to Japan in the form of praying to these Buddhist saints to gain the power of memory. According to some accounts, the great master Kukai also studied this technique under the eminent scholar Gosho, through which he gained the insights for starting the Shingon Esoteric Sect. The Five Great Kokuzu Rosatsu embody this wisdom in the form of five beings in charge of safety and prosperity. The five statues in Toji Temple were originally the main deity of the main hall of the Amure Dragon Temple in Chang-an, the capital of Tang Dynasty China. The statues crossed the sea to Japan in 847 at the request of the Japanese monk Eun who studied in Tang China. The facial features and slender body structure of the statues are characteristic of Song period sculpture, and give a glimpse into the artistic styles employed in the late Tang period when they were created.

愛染明王像 ー五禽時代ー

この明王は愛の明王として知られ、愛染明王をそのまま供養聖人にまで昇華させる、移説明王の本尊である。今日では最も普及し、信仰を受ける本尊として多くの仏教の信仰を築いている。

Aizen Myoo, Eco period

Aizen Myoo is known as the Wise King of Love who transforms worldly desires and lost into spiritual enlightenment. Today, Aizen Myoo is venerated by many as the deity of match-making, good fortune, and fertility.
客殿（御記）
この客殿は慶長十年（1605）に再建されたもので、入母屋造り、軒側桁倉を付けた板倉複合式の一翼堂である。道端、桜の花、竹の庭園、組物の構造は住居生活を考え、住居建築として貴重な存在である。

涅槃縁起—長者の庭
御物殿は長らく東寺長者が住持し、尊崇されきたた庭殿である。「長者の庭」は、平成二十九年に東寺第236世長者が薬師師範の代に、真言宗立教関口1200年慶奠事業として新たに作成された。石水柵木様式の庭は涅槃縁起の庭と称し、白壁のような広がりの中に長島の赤松、杉、竹、古木に、守山石を巧みに嵌め、真言宗の無限の宇宙観と涅槃思想の場所を表している。

Chojano niwa Garden: An Embodiment of Nirvana
Kanchi-in Hall has long been overseen and maintained by the Chōjō (chief abbot) of Toji Temple. Chojano niwa Garden was newly created in 2017 during the tenure of Toji Temple's 250th Chief Abbot Shuten Sunahara, as a part of the commemorative project for the 1200th anniversary of the founding of the Shingon Sect. The rock garden embodies nirvana in its expanse of Shizakura white gravel with arficial arrangements of Japanese red pine from Okinoshima Island, moss, and rocks from Yoshihito and Mori, respectively. It is an expression of the infinite cosmos of Shingon esotericism and the spirit of nirvana enlightenment.

鷹の図 日本武蔵筆
床の間に、二羽の鷹が今にも飛びかかるような様で描かれており、その真後は他の鷹図を許さない。また、鷹図の左は鷹があたかも追跡するように張りつめた情景で描かれ、二月流鶏の心を想わせる。

Kyakuden Guest House (national treasure)
Rebuilt in 1605, this Kyakuden is a classic example of Momoyama period Shoin-style architecture featuring hip-and-gable roof and caged gable eaves. The staggered shelves, board and batten ceiling, bamboo joint transoms, and built-in ornamental doorway suggest daily life, making this building a precious piece of residential architecture.

Painting of Eagles by Miyamoto Musashi
In the arrow is a vivid depiction of two wild eagles about to attack, painted with precise, piercing brush strokes like no other. The bamboo forest painted on the sliding doors conveys a sense of tension and strain as if two swallows are locked in battle. The spirit of Miyamoto Musashi, master of the two-sword technique, lives on.