

Yamaguchi Seishi Haiku Monument

Two stone monuments next to the Itadori River commemorate a visit to Mino in 1956 by haiku poet Yamaguchi Seishi (1901–1994). Yamaguchi is considered one of the leading lights of twentieth-century haiku. His work is characterized by modern imagery drawn from daily life. His haiku poems often use colloquial language to create slices of life, like scenes from a movie.

While in Mino, Yamaguchi wrote a haiku about making washi. His words capture the dedication of the papermaker, who puts heart and soul into each sheet. This haiku is inscribed on one of the monuments:

*ichi-mai o
nenzuru gotoku
kami sukikeri*

Sheet by sheet

Screened with

Heart

and

soul