



BONSAI

ART | NATURE | DESIGN

WHAT IS BONSAI?

- Pronounced 'bone-sigh'
- BON (盆) - Tray or Pot
- SAI (栽) - To Plant
- Much more than a potted plant...



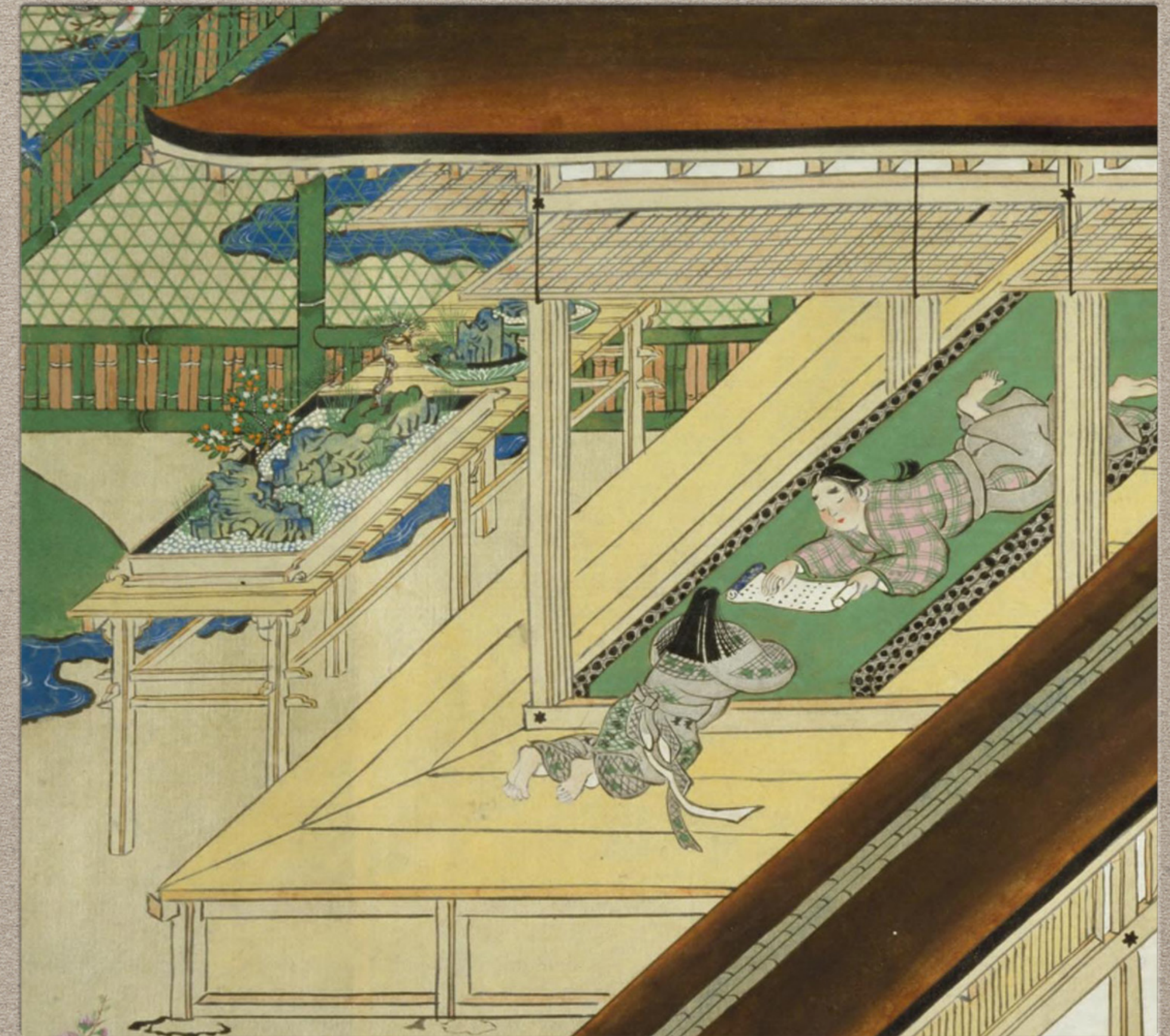
CHARACTERISTICS OF BONSAI

- Single Chosen Front
- Features vs. Flaws
- Artistically Pruned & Styled
- Displayed from Proper Angle



HISTORY OF BONSAI

- Started in China nearly 2000 years ago as Pen-tsai or Pen-jing
- Brought to Japan in Nara Period (710-794 CE)
- Popularized in Japan during Heian Period (794-1185 CE)
- First pictorial evidence in Japan in Kasuga Gongen Genki-E (14th century CE)



HISTORY OF BONSAI

- Brought to Europe in 1889 at Paris World's Fair
- Brought to the US after WWII (Yuji Yoshimura)
- Popularized on the West Coast by John Naka



HISTORY OF BONSAI

- Contemporary (Gendai) vs. Pre-Contemporary Bonsai
- Kimura & Ebihara
- Apprentices in Japan
- What we practice today...



SPECIES FOR BONSAI



CONIFERS



BROADLEAF

CONIFERS

- PINES - Japanese White, Black & Red, Scots, Mugo, Ponderosa, Limber, Lodgepole, etc.
- JUNIPERS - Chinensis, Rocky Mountain, One Seed, Utah, California, Sabina, Common, etc.
- SPRUCE & FIRS - Colorado Blue, Engellmen, Black Hills, Ezo, Norway, Douglas, Subalpine, etc.
- YEWS - Japanese and European
- CYPRESS - Hinoki, Sawara, Sekka, etc.



BROADLEAF

- Maples - Japanese, Trident, Amur, Red, etc.
- Hornbeam & Beech- Japanese, European, American, etc.
- Flowering Apricot
- Quince - Chinese & Japanese
- Gardenia, Pyracantha, Silverberry, Stewartia, Azaleas, etc.



STYLES OF BONSAI



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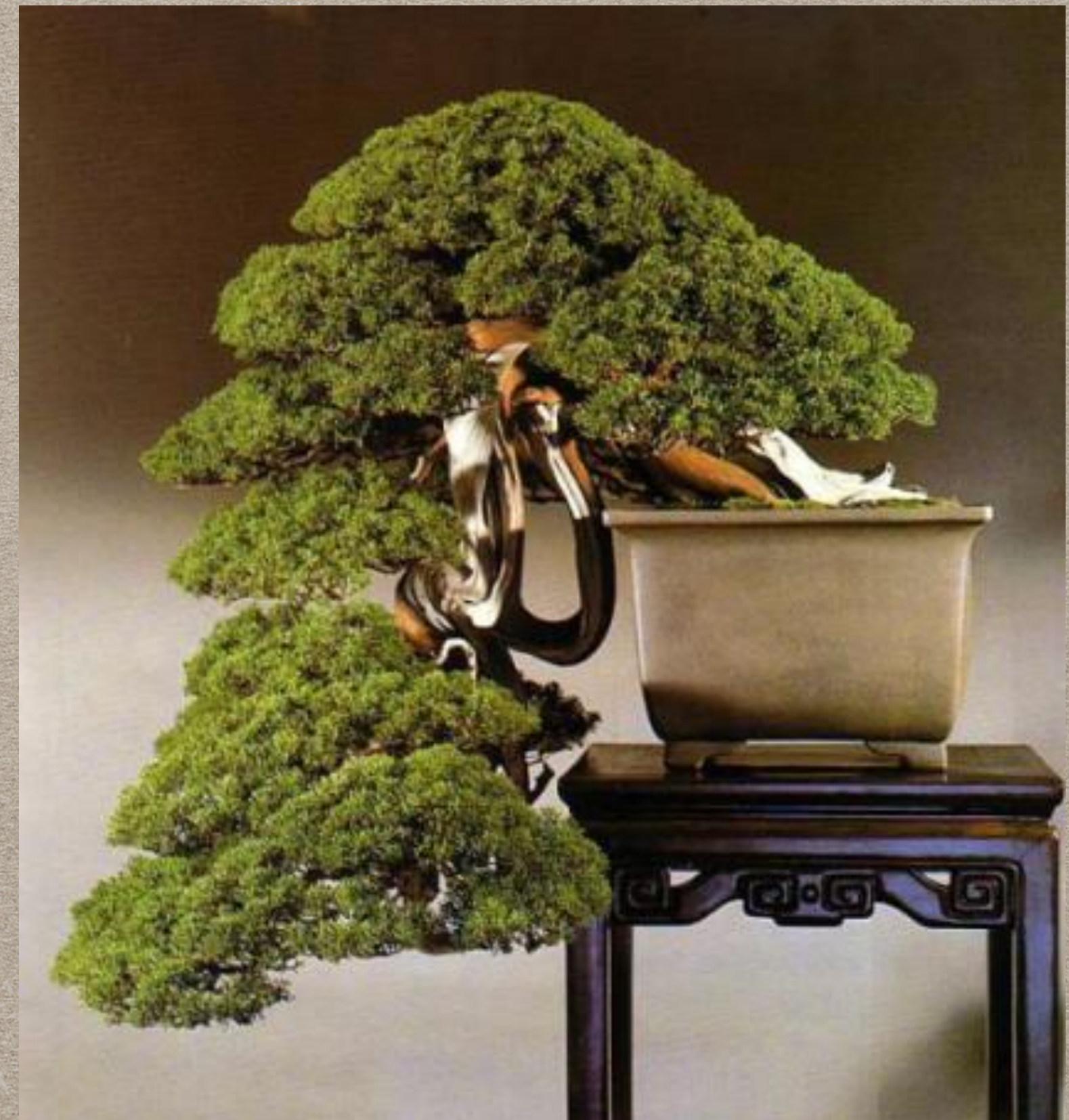
FORMAL UPRIGHT



INFORMAL UPRIGHT



SEMI-CASCADE



FULL CASCADE



WINDSWEPT



BUNJIN (LITERATI)



DOUBLE TRUNK



CLUMP STYLE



FOREST STYLE



EXPOSED ROOT



ROCK PLANTING

CREATING A BONSAI

CHOOSING A FRONT

- Surface Roots (Nebari)
- Trunk line
- Deadwood (Shari & Jin)
- Branches



PRUNING & WIRING

- Removing unnecessary branches
- Cleaning undersides
- Wiring primary branches
- Creating pads



REPOTTING

- Choosing a Pot
 - Glazed vs. Unglazed
 - Masculine vs. Feminine
- Pruning the Roots
- Soil Components
 - Organic vs. Inert
- Timing



QUESTIONS?