企画 文化庁 / 製作 日経映像





京都に住む織物作家・北村武資。織物との付き合いは長い。昭和26年、 15歳で中学を卒業して、すぐ生活のため西陣で織物の仕事に就いた。

Kyoto-based artist Kitamura Takeshi has worked with textiles all his life. Soon after completing middle school in 1951, the 15-year-old Kitamura took up work in the textile houses of the Nishijin district.

経錦の新作意匠図案の作成が始まった。縦横に線が引かれた罫紙に向かい、枡曽ごとに図案を描いて行く。

Kitamura begins working on the design for his latest *tate-nishiki* creation. He painstakingly plots the design square by square on fine graph paper.

絹糸を染める。今日、多くの染織作家が、植物染料の自然な色合いを 好んで使っている。明治期以降、西陣では、伝統的に化学染料が使われてきた。その地で育った北村は、化学染料を使っている。

Next Kitamura goes about dyeing the silk thread that will be used in the work. While many textile artisans today favor the natural tones produced by botanical dyes, Nishijin artisans have used chemical dyes since their first introduction from the West in the late 19th century. Preferring the colorfast qualities of chemical dyes, Kitamura carries on that practice.

黒、赤、緑の三色の糸の整経が始まる。生命の拍動を宿した赤。 成長する植物の力がみなぎる緑。高貴な佇まいを見せる黒。

With threads dyed black, red, and green, preparation of the warp begins. Red represents the pulse of life; green, the vitality of flourishing plants; black, the high and noble.

西陣では、昔から分業制度が発達してきた。 経糸を整経する作業は、専門の職人の手に委ねられる。 経錦を織る時に使う経糸の本数は、8,000本にも及ぶ。 The textile industry in Nishijin has long been marked by division of labor. The job of warping the loom is entrusted to a specialist. As many as 8,000 warp threads may be required to produce a single *tate-nishiki* textile.







経錦は、きわめて細い糸を密に使う。それが、しなやかな生地を生む。 *Tate-nishiki* is composed of extremely fine threads densely woven to produce a smooth, supple fabric.

経糸を浮き沈みさせる。その経糸の間に二種類の緯糸を通して、文様を織り出して行く。 Kitamura works the loom, using two types of weft to give shape to the pattern.







二種類ある緯糸は、錦の地を織る母緯と、文様を浮き上がらせるための陰緯とを使い分けて織る。

The hidden weft functions to push the colors of the pattern to the surface. The outer weft forms the background.

千年以上の間、経錦の技法は眠っていた。北村は、それを現代に甦らせた。 Such techniques of *tate-nishiki* had lain forgotten for more than a thousand years before Kitamura brought them back into the modern age.





北村が織る経錦には、古代の織物にある伝統のわざと、現代織物作家の創作の力が、ともに織り込まれている。

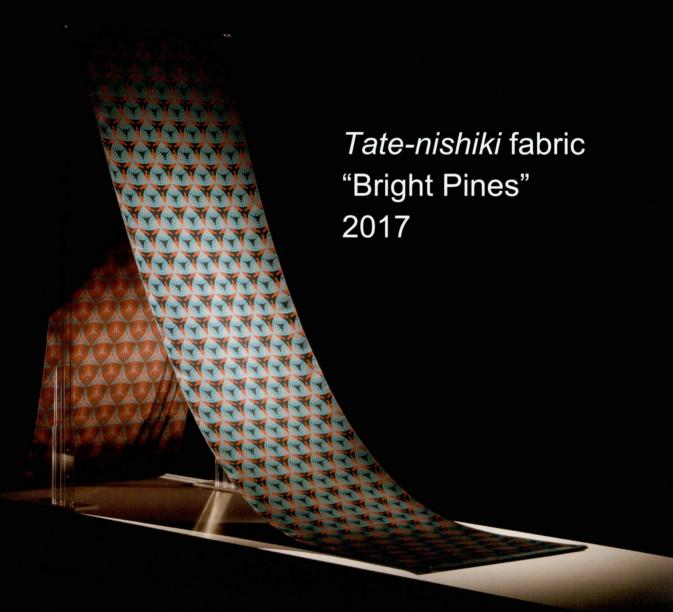
In Kitamura's *tate-nishiki* we see the secrets of an ancient weaving tradition united with the creative prowess of a modern textile artist.



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The Art of KITAMURA Takeshi



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