

# “BLANK” & “BEAUTY”

## A Wonderful Culture in Japan!!

2721 Jishukan S.H.S.  
Yu Murase

### 1. Introduction

When I was researching traditional music, I learned about BLANK culture and I came to be interested in it. In this research, I'm going to study characteristics of BLANK culture by analyzing a few types of BLANKs and their relationships to beauty.

### 2. Concept of “MA-間”



In this research, I define the concept of MA or BLANK (written in capital letters) as follows:

1. Blank
  2. Space
  3. Pause
  4. Empty space
- This concept is rooted in the unique Japanese tradition and culture.

### 3. BLANKs and People's Imagination

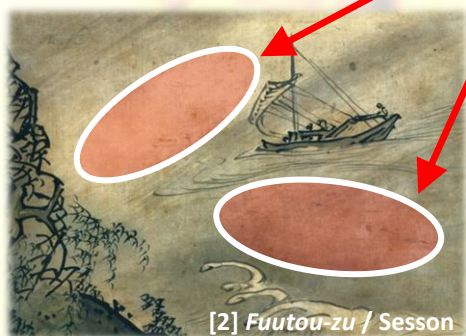
#### 1. Paintings



BLANK -Blank, Space  
- Stimulate people's imagination

Imagination  
- Think deeply about meaning of BLANK  
- Capable to draw anything from their own imagination

**BLANK**



#### 2. Gardens (Karsansui)

BLANK -Empty space  
- No visually beautiful things

Imagination  
- Feel existence of water



#### 3. Poetry (Tanka)



BLANK -Empty space  
- Create poorness

Imagination  
- Imagine the scene  
- Move hearts the same as composer

### 4. Spirit of Wabi-Sabi

#### Wabi-Sabi

- One of Japanese traditional aesthetic senses.
- Created in field of tea ceremony



#### Wabi

- A sense which we try to find beauty in poorness and emptiness. → Beauty of Paintings and Gardens

#### Sabi

- An elegant beauty which is felt naturally in the stillness and silence. → Beauty of Poetry

### 5. Conclusions

1. There are various types of BLANKs found in many kinds of Japanese culture.
2. BLANK became a beauty because of *Wabi-Sabi* spirit in Japanese people's minds.

### 6. My Opinion

I was surprised at the deep meanings of BLANK in Japan. I felt Japanese people have a wonderful imagination because they see invisible things from their minds. So, I'd like to research their unique viewpoint in the future.