

Comparing haiku poets Bashô, Buson and Issa

1. One is Bashô, one is Issa

like the droning of a struck temple bell
cicada chorus

撞鐘もひびくやうなり蟬の声

cicada's shrill cry!
falling onto my sleeve, a drop of rain

蟬鳴や袖に一粒雨落て

2. One is Bashô, one is Buson

among pear blossoms, by moonlight, a girl reads her love letter

梨の花月に書 (ふ) ミよむ女あり

purely upon the waves of the Ôi River
summer moon

大井川波に塵なし夏の月



nashi (Jse pear):



Ôi River:

3. One is Bashô, one is Issa

cries from the Great Buddha's nosetip
baby sparrow

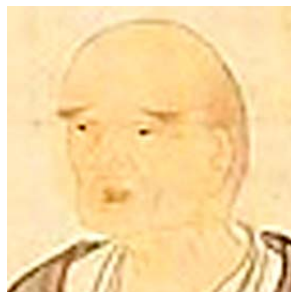
大仏の鼻で鳴也雀の子

trading peeps with the baby sparrows
mice nest

雀子と声鳴きかはす鼠の巢



Matsuo Bashô (painted by Buson)



Yosa Buson



Kobayashi Issa