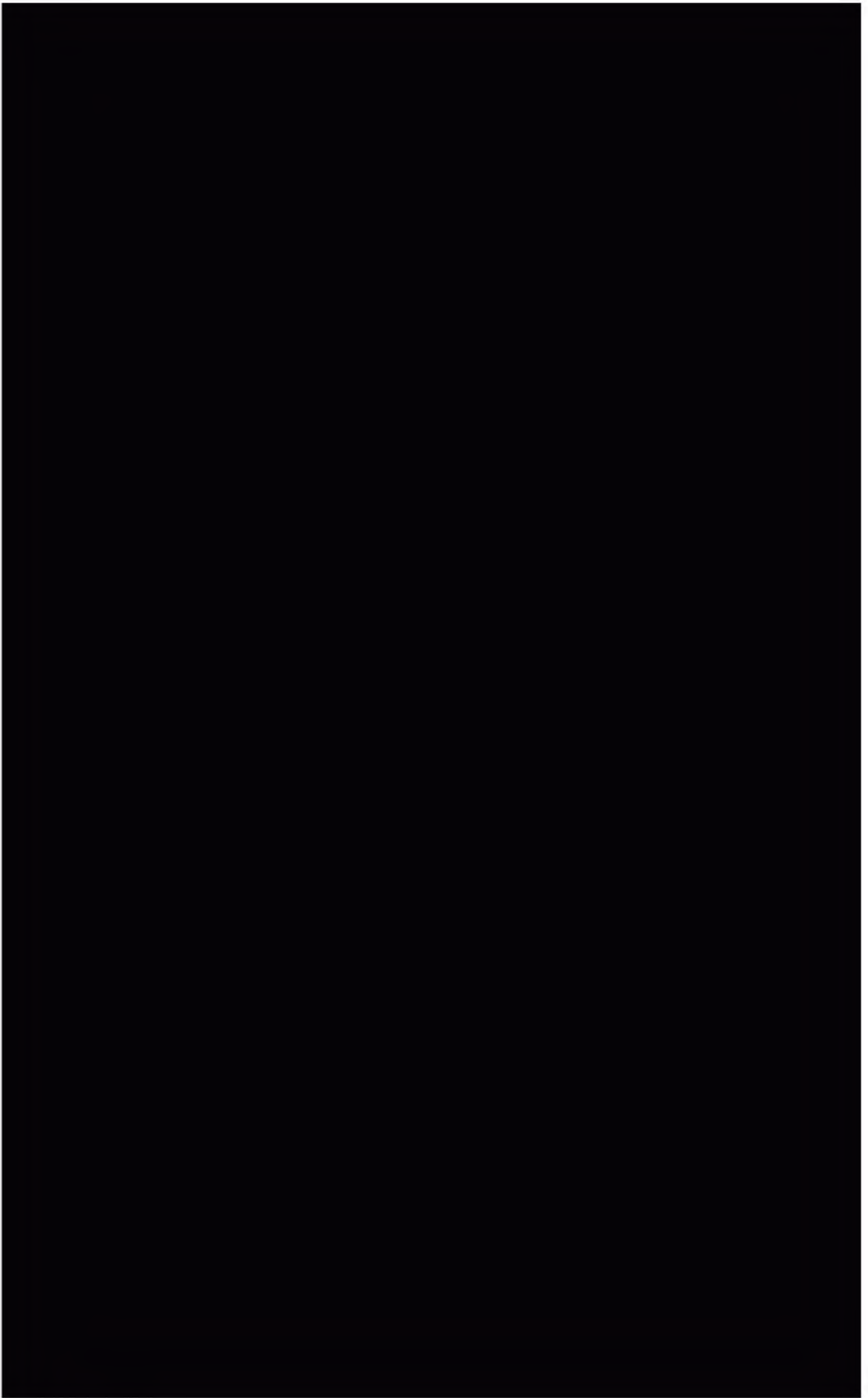


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DŌGEN KIGEN (1200–1253)

This portrait of Dōgen is the oldest still existing. Known as the “Moon-Viewing Portrait,” it is said to be a copy made during the time of the Sōtō priest Giun (1253–1333) from an original probably dating from Dōgen’s lifetime. The calligraphy above the painting, which in the original was presumably in Dōgen’s own hand, has been attributed on stylistic grounds to Giun. The poem itself is found in Dōgen’s *Sayings* in a rather altered form. As found here, it reads:

With a spirit pure and refreshed,
Amid the deepening autumn of the mountains,
I gaze up where the moon floats in her white
brilliance:
Even the One cannot approach this,
Even the Six cannot hold it.
There is complete freedom, with rice and
rice gruel in dearthless plenty,
Vibrant life, totally true from top to bottom—
In heaven, on earth, the clouds and the waters
flow free and unrestricted.

Written by Shamon Kigen (Dōgen),
founder of the Eihei-ji, in the first
year of Kenchō (1249), on the night
of the full moon.

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