

Tem an Baru

HIGHLIGHTS

RIE MANDALA
SOLO EXHIBITION

Kabuki THE
masseUR
and
THE
THIEF

Demonstration and Performance

JAPANESE FILM MONTH

... presenting a few series of
screenings in the month of March!

JAPANESE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

- Public Lecture on 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake:
Japan's Recovery and Revival from the Disaster
- Public Lecture on Japanese Studies Program in Malaysia

JAPAN
Kingdom of
Characters

**Come and meet your
favorite anime character
in Kuala Lumpur!**



JAPAN Kingdom of Characters

*Come and meet
your favorite anime character
in Kuala Lumpur!*

Kuala Lumpur

Date : 20 February – 20 March 2012
Venue : **Balai Seni Visual Negara,**
2, Jalan Temerloh, Off Jalan Tun Razak,
53200 Kuala Lumpur

Admission : Open to Public

REPORT:

JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters in Penang:

The exhibition "JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters" in Penang started on 9th January at Muzium & Gallery Tuanku Fauziah (MGTF), Unicversiti Sains Malaysia.

The opening ceremony was held on 13th January 2012. Present there were Ms. Hiroko Taniguchi, Deputy Consul-General, Consulate-General of Japan in Penang, Prof. Asma Ismail, Deputy Vice Chancellor, USM, Prof. Madya Hasnul Jamal Saidon, Director of MGTF, USM, Mr. Zolkurnian Hassan, Senior Curator of MGTF and Mr. Shoichi Toyoda, Director of the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur. The guests of the ceremony including the university students, cute children from USM kindergarten and local cosplayers all seemed to have fun at the exhibition.



Gundam figure and some visitors



Visitors are designing their own characters



Ultraman and Children

Kabuki

THE masseur and THE THIEF

Demonstration and Performance

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, together with ASWARA Faculty of Theatre presents a demonstration and performance of kabuki, *The Masseur and the Thief* (Anma to Dorobo).

Kabuki is a traditional form of Japanese theatre that originated about 400 years ago, the same period when William Shakespeare wrote Hamlet and Monteverdi composed the first opera in Italy. Kabuki is a cornerstone of Japanese contemporary theatre, music, dance and other forms of arts, which has been enjoyed as entertainment for the general public for many generations. It was designated as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO in 2005.

The Masseur and the Thief is a famous contemporary comedy piece that involves comical interaction between the two characters. It is a performance filled with laughter, tears of sympathy and a surprising end. The demonstration that precedes the performance will introduce the audience to the traditional make up, dressing, and dancing used in Kabuki. Do not miss this rare opportunity to experience the world of Kabuki here in Malaysia.



Date & Time:

9 March (Fri), 2012, 8:30 pm

10 March (Sat), 2012, 8:30 pm

Venue :

Experimental Theatre, ASWARA

464, Jalan Tun Ismail, 50480 Kuala Lumpur

Reservation:

03-2284-6228 (The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur)

jfcc@jfkf.org.my (Cultural Affairs Department)

03-2697-5327 (ASWARA Faculty of Theatre)

wongoimin@aswara.edu.my (Dr. Oi Min Wong)

Admission:

Free (Reservation required)



Organised by:



Co-organized by:



Presented by:



In co-operation with:



Embassy of Japan in Malaysia

*ATPA (Association for the Traditional Performing Arts of Japan) is a non-profit organization to present educational and out-reaching programs of KABUKI and other traditional performing arts of Japan.

JAPANESE FILM MONTH

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur is presenting
a few series of screenings in the month of March.



DOCUMENTARIES ON DISASTER RESTORATION

To commemorate the 1st anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake on 11th March, JFKL brings you a series of documentaries featuring the efforts by the local community to rebuild the devastated region that was hit by an earthquake and tsunami.

Date & Time : **5 & 7 March, 8pm** Venue: **Black Box, MAP@Publika, Solaris Dutamas** Admission : **Free**

5 March (Mon)

"Can You See Our Lights? ~Festival After the Tsunami" (NHK/ 2011/ 48min)

Japanese summer festivals serve as a time to hold memorial services for the souls of the departed. Although some of the many places devastated by the disaster of March 2011 were unable to hold their colorful and passionate centuries-old festivals, the people of Rikuzentakata, Soma and some other cities decided to go ahead as usual. The festival committee members busily repair damaged floats and drums and encourage the participation of dispersed former residents.



"Setting Sail from the Ruins" (NHK/ 2011/ 30min)

Ofunato, in Iwate Prefecture, suffered devastating damage in the Great East Japan Earthquake. Kenichiro Yagi, who sells fish online, quickly rose up from the tragedy along with fellow fishermen. He took the first step toward recovery by resuming fishing from the debris-filled port where many boats had been washed away. This program documents the local fishermen's road to recovery three months after the disaster.



7 March (Wed)

"LIGHT UP NIPPON" (KAKIMOTO Kensaku / 2011/ 28min)

On 11th August 2011, 5 months after the Great East Japan Earthquake, a project called "LIGHT UP NIPPON" was carried out. Young businessmen in Tokyo asked for donation, repeated discussion with the locals over and over, finally set off big fireworks at 10 severely damaged areas to cheer up the communities and people there.



"Fukushima Hula Girls" (KOBAYASHI Masaki/ 2011/ 100min)

Iwaki-city, which was severely attacked by the disaster, has a beautiful resort hotel and facilities called "Spa Resort Hawaiians," located close to Fukushima Nuclear Power Plants. After the disaster, everyone, including hula dancers, called "Hula Girls" at Hawaiians, has tried to overcome and re-build the resort as the first step of reconstructing Fukushima.



Japanese film screenings at Publika's Films Beneath the Stars

Date & Time : **6, 13, 20, 27 March, 8pm**
Venue : **The Stage@Publika Square, Publika,
Solaris Dutamas**
Admission : **Free**

6 March (Tue)

"Happy Flight" (YAGUCHI Shinobu/ 2008/ 103min)

A co-pilot Kazuhiro Suzuki is on an assessed flight that will determine whether he gets promoted to the rank of pilot. However, an emergency situation occurs! A rookie cabin attendant Etsuko Saito also brings chaos from the strain. Will this flight safely arrive at Honolulu?



13 March (Tue)

"Noriben ~The Recipe of Fortune~" (OGATA Akira/ 2009/ 108min)

Komaki leaves her good-for-nothing husband and takes her daughter back to live with her mother. She doesn't want to become a burden to her mother, so looks for a job. But there are few employment opportunities for an over-30 single mother with no qualifications and no experience. The only thing she is good at is making lunch box.



20 March (Tue)

"The Place Promised in Our Early Days" (SHINKAI Makoto/ 2004/ 91min)

In an alternate timeline, Japan has been divided and occupied by two rival powers. Hokkaido has been annexed by the "UNION" while Honshu and the other southern islands have come under U.S. occupation. Hiroki, Takuya and Sayuri are living in Aomori, the closest province in Honshu to Hokkaido. These three young classmates become fascinated by the gigantic yet mysterious tower that they see across the Tsugaru Strait, promising that one day they will build and fly an aircraft to the tower to unravel its mystery.



27 March (Tue)

"Quartet!" (MIMURA Junichi/ 2012/ 118min)

Kai Nagae hopes to become a professional violinist. He lives in Urayasu-city with his parents and older sister. The family used to perform classical music together, however, nowadays they care less for music and for each other. Wishing to be back together, Kai decides to form a family quartet.



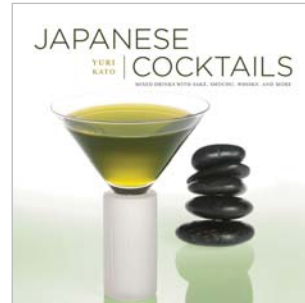
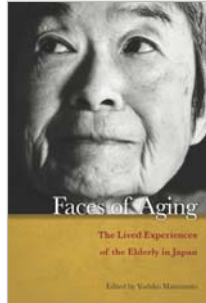
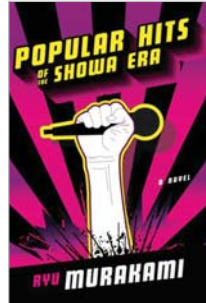
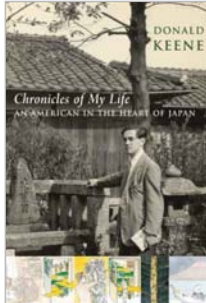
JAPANESE CLASSIC COMEDY SCREENING

Screenings of Japanese classic comedies which were produced in between 30's and 60's. The titles include "I Was Born, But...", a silent film by OZU Yasujiro and "Crammed Streetcar" by ICHIKAWA Kon, which often described as a 'caricature film.'

Date : **24 March (Sat) & 25 March (Sun)**
Venue: **Mini Pawagam @ ASWARA**
*Screening schedule to be announced soon.



English Books



Arts and Culture

[400 Japanese Motifs] / by Graham Leslie McCallum. London: Badsford , 2011. Library Call no. 745.4 MCC

[The samurai mind: lessons from Japan's master warriors] / by Christopher Hellman. Tokyo : Tuttle Pub., 2010. Library Call no 796.860952 HEL

[Idle idol: the Japanese mascot] / by Edward & John Harrison. New York : Mark Batty, 2010. Library Call no.741.60952 HAR

[Popular hits of the Showa era] / by Ryu Murakami ; translated by Ralph McCarthy. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2011. . Library Call no.895.635 MUR

[A geek in Japan : discovering the land of manga, anime, Zen, and the tea ceremony] / by Hector Garcia. Tokyo: Tuttle Pub.,2010. . Library Call no.915.204 GAR

Cooking

[The food and cooking of Japan & Korea: the very best of the classic Asian cuisine] / by Emi Kazuko and Young Jin-Son. London: Lorenz, 2010. . Library Call no.641.5952 KAZ

[Japanese cocktails] / by Yuri Kato. San Francisco, California: Chronicle Books, 2009. . Library Call no. 641.874 KAT

Novel

[Norwegian wood] / by Haruki Murakami ; translated from the Japanese by Jay Rubin. New York: Vintage International, 2000. . Library Call no.895.635 MUR

Non fiction

[The rise and fall of Japan's LDP: political party organizations as historical institutions] / by Ellis S. Krauss and Robert J. Pekkanen. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2011. Library Call no. 324.252 KRA

[Faces of aging: the lived experiences of the elderly in Japan] / edited by Yoshiko Matsumoto. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2011. Library Call no.305.260952 FAC

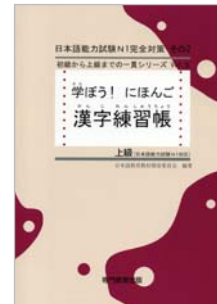
[Chronicles of my life: an American in the heart of Japan] / by Donald Keene .New York, N.Y. : Columbia University Press, 2008. Library Call no.895.609 KEE

Notice of Library closure

Chinese New Year on 24th January 2012 – Tuesday



Japanese Books



Japanese Language Studies

『日本語能力試験徹底トレーニングN1文法』	アスク出版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『使って、身につく!』漢字×語彙1	凡人版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『分野別カタカナ語彙トレーニング中上級』	スリーエーネットワーク	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『日本語単語スピークマスターN3』	Jリサーチ出版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『学ぼう! にほんご漢字練習帳上級』	専門教育出版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7

Japanese Language Teaching

『SLA研究入門』	くろしお出版	2010年 Library Call No.807
『日本語教育研究への招待』	くろしお出版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『にほんごボランティア手帖』	凡人版	2010年 Library Call No.810.7
『待遇コミュニケーション教育』	スリーエーネットワーク	2011年 Library Call No.810.7
『よくわかる異文化コミュニケーション』	ミネルヴァ書房	2011年 Library Call No.361.45

JFKL Japanese Language Program JLPT Boleh! : A Familiarization Course for the New JLPT



This course is intended to introduce learners to the new JLPT format and its contents.

• Course Schedule (10th to 31st March 2012)

- i 10 Mar Brief on JLPT & Vocabulary (compulsory)
- ii 17 Mar Grammar
- iii 24 Mar Reading
- iv 31 Mar Listening

- Fees: Full sessions: RM120 (for JFKL's Integrated Course students RM80) or RM40 @lesson
- Application Period: 8 Feb- 2 Mar
- Details: <http://www.jfkl.org.my> Tel: (03)2284-7228

JLPT 2012 (July Paper)

- Date: July 1, 2012
- Kuala Lumpur
- Penang

Application Period: Mar 18 – Apr 1
Online Registration: www.jlsm.org

Enquiries:

KL Test Center

The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia
jlsm.enquiries@gmail.com / (03)6259 7180/8180

Penang Test Centre

Penang Japanese Language Society
casee343@yahoo.co.jp/ (04)226 5908

3rd JSA-ASEAN International Conference 2012

The Japanese Studies Association in Southeast Asia, JSA-ASEAN is an academic network of scholars and researchers set up in 2005 to serve as a catalyst in promoting and advancing Japanese studies in the region. One of the objectives of the association is to organize the JSA-ASEAN International Conference, a biennial conference in the region as the major platform for a trans-disciplinary international exchange and networking among scholars working on Japan in Southeast Asia, as well as other parts of the world. The previous two conferences were held in Singapore in 2006 and Hanoi, Vietnam in 2009, respectively. This year, the Malaysia Association of Japanese Studies (MAJAS) in collaboration with the Japan Studies Program, University of Malaya and supported by the Japan Foundation, has the honour of organizing the 3rd JSA-ASEAN International Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 22 to 23 February 2012. The conference was held at Hotel Armada, Petaling Jaya, Selangor under the theme of "Change and Continuity in ASEAN's Perception of Japan since the 1990s".

For further details, please visit <http://www.jsa-asean.info/> for full info.

JAPANESE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

We are pleased to invite you to attend these free Public Lectures for the month of March 2012, organized by The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur. Don't miss it and please mark these dates on your calendar!
どうぞ宜しくお願いします。

JFKL Events:

12 March: Public Lecture on 3.11: Great East Japan Earthquake
@ **UM, KL**

14 March: Public Lecture on 3.11: Great East Japan Earthquake
@ **USM, Penang**

27 March: Public Lecture on Japanese Studies Program
in Malaysia @ **UM, KL**

MARCH 2012

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Public Lecture on 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake

The Great East Japan Earthquake which occurred on 11 March inflicted enormous damage, represent one of the greatest disasters to strike the nation of Japan in modern memory. Many people were affected by the tsunami and earthquake and even now people are living in shelters and worries about the nuclear plant continue to persist. This lecture is to share what actually happened on 3.11 and also to provide understanding on ethics, behaviour and psychological aspect of Japanese people. Admission is free for all these public lectures.

Date : **Monday, 12 March 2012**

Time : **9:00am – 12:00 noon**

Venue : **Lecture Hall B, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Malaya, KL**

Guest Speaker:

1) 1st Lecture: "What Happened at the Site on 3.11" by **Mr. Hatsuhsa TAKASHIMA**, a Special Advisor of Japan International Broadcasting Inc., former television journalist & former governmental spokesman.

2) 2nd Lecture: "The Great East Japan Earthquake and Japanese NGO's Endeavors for its Relief & Revival" by **Professor Masaaki OHASHI**, a Professor from Keisen University, Tokyo and Chairperson of the JAPAN NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)

Jointly organized:  Embassy of Japan in Malaysia  JAPAN FOUNDATION  MAJAS  Japan Studies Program  UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Date : **Wednesday, 14 March 2012**

Time : **10:00am – 12:00 noon**

Venue : **Dewan Persidangan Universiti, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang**

Guest Speaker:

Professor Masaaki OHASHI, a Professor from Keisen University, Tokyo and a Chairperson of the JAPAN NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)

Jointly organized:  JAPAN FOUNDATION  UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Public Lecture on Japanese Studies Program in Malaysia

Date : **Tuesday, 27 March 2012**

Time : **10:00 am – 12:00 noon**

Venue : **Lecture Hall A, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Malaya, KL**

Guest Speaker: **Associate Professor Dr. Md. Nasruddin B. Md. Akhir**

Executive Director of Asia-Europe Institute & former Head Coordinator, Faculty Of Arts And Social Sciences
Dean's Office, Faculty Of Arts And Social Sciences.

The amazing 43 days of my life!

First and foremost a big thank you to Japan Foundation for making my dream comes true. I always wanted to travel to Japan since I took up Japanese Language classes during my undergraduates but opportunity was not at my doorstep.

20th – 26th July 2011

Orientation started in Japan Foundation I got to meet new friends, there are 22 of us where 19 of us from 11 different countries and 3 Japanese participants. Then we headed for lunch before going to tour around Tokyo in a bus. We visited the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation and had our welcoming dinner in an Indian restaurant.

Hiroshima

Places visited : Governmental office, Hiroshima Peace Memory Museum and Park
Experiences gained : Meet the Major of Hiroshima and listen to a real story during WWII by an old lady.

Miyajima (also known as the island of god)

Places visited : Itsukushima shrine (famous Torii gate in the water)
Experiences gained : My first experience to stay in Ryokan a traditional Japanese hotel, got the chance to wear yukata and they have public bath.

Onomichi

Places visited : Shrine (in the hill)
Experiences gained : boarding a Shinkansen the bullet train

Kyoto

Places visited : The Museum of Kyoto, Kyoto Ninna-ji Temple, The Rock Garden of Daisen-in Temple and The Golden Pavilion (Rokuon-Ji Temple) also known as Kinkakuji
Experiences gained : Have a clearer picture of the Japanese culture after visiting number of shrines.



27th July – 17th August 2011

Sophia University summer session started and it will last for 3 weeks. A day before the summer session we visited National Diet Library, while in the evening we enjoy great time cooking and having dinner with a Japanese family.

Studying in Sophia University is a golden opportunity to experience studying in one of the oldest universities and most prestige in Tokyo. It is an incredible place to meet friends from all walks of life. I enjoy the lectures as well as the activities in the afternoon such as wadaiko (drum), visit Meiji Shrine, tea ceremony, Ikebana (flower arrangement) and kabuki and Noh play.

I took business and economic studies of Japan, with great lecturers from oversea I learn a lot from them which is important for me as a MBA student majoring in International Business. Even though the summer session schedule is hectic because we need to sit for midterm, final as well as prepare for presentation-but at the end all this does pay off with a good knowledge of Japan and its people.



18th -31st August 2011

We have 8 days for research before the final presentation. During the free time in research weeks, we visited some interesting places in and around Tokyo. Disneyland, Kamakura, Yokohama, Tokyo Tower and Mount Fuji are few of the famous places I visited. Besides that, also included Shinjuku, Shibuya, Ikebukuro, Ginza, Ueno, Akihabara, Asakusa and Harajuku. It is very convenient to move around with their effective subway line. The biggest Hanabi (firework) during summer in Asakusa river is a must not miss event with 1 million people and 1 and half hour of non-stop firework.



Last but not least, I wanted to dedicate this poem to all the friends in JENESYS, Sophia University and other friends I met during this wonderful trip.

Friends

*Friends are there until the end,
They're always themselves, no pretend.
They're not afraid to be seen with you,
They will never betray you.
Friends never tell secrets they promise to keep,
they make you feel good about yourself in times of weep.
They come and cheer for you at your games,
In a friend there is no shame.
Friends are there to listen when you're depressed,
They are the people you should know best.
Friends are like presents you open again and again,
Always are with you through thick and thin.*

By Lindsey Shirocky

Written by Lee Lian Kim

Ms. Lee Lian Kim, a postgraduate student from Graduate School of Business, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), was invited to Japan for 43 days from 20 July to 31 August under the JENESYS Special Invitation Programme for Graduate Student. Her research "Challenges and Sustainability of Environment Management Practice (EMP): A Case Study of Hyatt Regency Hotel Tokyo" was supported by the Japan Foundation.

WAGASHI

(Traditional Japanese Sweets) Workshop, Lecture & Demonstration

Pictures credit to AeonView.com

Do you know what is Wagashi?

Wagashi is a Traditional Japanese Sweets incorporate and express the flavors of Japan's changing seasons. These sweets are delightful to look at and also delicious to eat. It has always been loved as a form of "food artistry that can be enjoyed by the five senses." For Malaysian, the well-known wagashi, Dorayaki was always associated with anime character called Doraemon.

This event was organized by The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) in collaborated with Kampaci Restaurants at Pavillion. The three experts are Mr. Noriyuki Myojin, Mr. Keisuke Yoshihashi, and Mr. Naoya Koizumi.



From (Left) Mr. Naoya Koizumi, (Centre) Mr. Keisuke Yoshihashi, and (Right) Mr. Noriyuki Myojin.



This picture shows, Mr. Keisuke Yoshihashi demonstrating how to make Hasamikiku while participants focusing on him.

Noriyuki Myojin (Mitsuya-honpo Co., Ltd./ Kure City, Hiroshima Prefecture):

Mitsuya-honpo is a confectionery that is famous for its production and sale of the "Mitsu Manju," a delicacy of Kure City that has previously won the Honorary President's Prize (Technical Category) at the National Confectionery Exhibition. It is particularly well-regarded for the beauty and deliciousness of its "Jō namagashi," or unbaked sweets. Mr. Myojin, who won the Annual Grand Prix Award in a technical contest for "Jō namagashi" last year, continues to develop his skills at Mitsuya-honpo, his family's business.

Keisuke Yoshihashi (Yoshihashi Kashijo/Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture):

Yoshihashi Kashijo is one of the venerable names in Kanazawa City, one of the three great confectionery areas of Japan. The company is particularly famed for its traditional sweets for the tea ceremony, and known around the country as a purveyor of beautiful sweets, whose appearance and flavor change to reflect the changes of Japanese four seasons. Mr. Yoshihashi is working hard with his father, who is a current owner and also confectioner, to become a third generation owner of this renowned shop maintaining its reputation and brand.

Naoya Koizumi (Koundo Honten/Ashikaga City, Tochigi Prefecture):

Koundo Honten is a confectionery house boasting more than a century of history, with its store located in the historic city and region of Ashikaga. The company's most famous offering is the "Koin Monaka," a sandwich of smooth anko bean paste and crispy sweet rice crackers. It was first created in 1945 and has gained a large following of fans, both in the locality and around Japan. Mr. Koizumi is the heir to the family business and continues to work hard creating delicious sweets that maintain the age-old techniques and delicious flavor created by his forebears.

The trios have also appeared in the Hello on Two TV2 show on 15 February 2012. Participants that joined for the workshop, lecture and demonstration have experienced the sweetest memories making and learning about Wagashi from the three experts. Overall, the tasting plate prepared for participants was a nice end to the demonstration. Some of them even exchanged their name cards with the experts. After Malaysia, the three of them continued the tour to Manila, Philippines.



From (Left) Ms. Oshima Sachi-JFKL, Mr. Keisuke Yoshihashi, Mr. Naoya Koizumi and Mr. Noriyuki Myojin in Hello on Two (RTM).



These Dorayaki are ready to be eaten.



From (Left) Mr. Keisuke Yoshihashi, Mr. Naoya Koizumi and Mr. Noriyuki Myojin.



These Wagashi are prepared for participants.

unit asia SOUTHEAST ASIAN TOUR 2012

Pictures credit to AeonView.com



"unit asia" Jazz Concert at KL Live (Malaysia).

Despite of coming from different country, they still managed to moved together and bring fusion jazz to all Jazz Lovers!

"unit asia" was formed by five top musicians of Asia. The band called themselves "unit asia" made up of a group talented musician, a lead guitarist, a saxophonist, a pianist, a bassist and a drummer. After their debut in 2008, this Asian Jazz group with members from Japan, Thailand and Malaysia are back to propel Asian Jazz to new heights in their Southeast Asian Tour 2012.

The performance by this group is a hit! This group was in a tour called Southeast Asian Tour 2012. Before their stops in Malaysia, they are in a tour that started at Bangkok, Thailand on 28 January. They performed at Mahidol University, in Thailand International Jazz Conference which featured all top class international and local Jazz artist including Koh MR. Saxman with members of "unit asia". Next stop was in Hanoi, Vietnam. Here they performed at Youth Theater. The respond receive from the Youth Theater is overwhelming for all Jazz Lover in Hanoi. In addition to that, they also perform in Jazz concert at Ben Thanh Theater - Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.

After spreading their jazz fusion in Vietnam, they finally arrived in Malaysia organized by Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur, and Music City. It was collaboration with KL Live, Life Centre. Together they performed at KL Live Hall on 9 February 2012. The songs that were performed on that night were composed by the band members themselves.

In a nutshell, "unit asia" concert have enlightened audience at KL Live Hall that night. Also "unit asia" wowed the crowd with their intense performance before they finally bid farewell and continued their tour to Manila, Philippines. Overall, the fusion jazz satisfied and entertained everyone inside the hall. Undoubtedly, this concert is a one that should experienced in live especially for Jazz Lovers.

Below are the lists of the songs:

[1st Stage]

1. Prélude au Voyage (composed by Isao Miyoshi)
2. New Blues (composed by Isao Miyoshi)
3. The Art of the Wind-up Alarm Clock (composed by Tay Cher Siang)
4. The Sea Outside My Window (composed by Tay Cher Siang)
5. Adventure of the SANCHIKI (composed by Isao Miyoshi)

<Intermission>

[2nd Stage]

1. Galinha do Caril (composed by Tay Cher Siang)
2. Hot Curry, Summer Dish (composed by Isao Miyoshi)
3. A Day In Blue (composed by Hiroyuki Noritake)
4. Walkin' Around the "K" (composed by Isao Miyoshi)
5. Quiet Love (composed by Isao Miyoshi)
6. Song of unit asia (composed by Isao Miyoshi)



"unit asia" supporting each other during the performance. Their music evolved together as they move as a group. In addition to that, they have developed mutual understanding between each other.



Koh Mr. Saxman stunned the audiences with his saxophone.



Isao "Sankichi" Miyoshi with his energetic performance.



From (Left) Isao "Sankichi" Miyoshi (Guitarist), Tay Cher Siang (Pianist), Koh Mr. Saxman (Saxophonist), Shigeki Ippon (Bassist), and Hiroyuki Noritake (Drummer) after the concert's end.

H.A.N.A.M.A.S (We are HANAMAS!)

Pictures credit to AeonView.com



Audiences can't take off their eyes from the "Kawaii" duo.

Hanamas was brought by Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur in collaboration with Petronas Philharmonic Hall. For those who do not know, Hanamas was formed by **Chie Hanawa**, who plays the tsugaru-shamisen, and **Natsumi Okimasu**, a violinist, that joined together in 2009. These two young ladies are accompanied by musicians Shigehito Kawamura (percussion) and Taiichiro Shirahama (guitar). The concert was a blasted! Audiences were mesmerized by the energetic and great fusion of music performed by the duo. A day before the concert the Hanamas have a meet and greet session at 1 Utama Shopping Centre with public. There, visitors at 1 Utama were attracted by their pre performance.

The audiences were completely fall for the music played at that night. Over the last 70 minutes of concert, they have rendered a total of 10 songs including Tsugaru Jongara Bushi, Life, Yagi Bushi, Homura, Nikata Akita Bushi, Canon and district Tahoku song medley, accompanied by musicians Shigehito Kawamura (percussion) and Taiichiro Shirahama (guitar). They surprised the crowds especially when they played Mozart Tokotoko Koshinkyoku songs and medley of Christmas songs such as Christmas Song, White Christmas, Sleigh Ride, Winter Wonderland and Jingle Bell which was specially prepared for Christmas celebration. For the audiences, this is a special opportunity to see live the concert from the Hanamas duo. Just before the performance was about to end, audience was informed by the duo regarding the lecture and demonstration in the same venue on the other day. Overall, happy and satisfaction faces can be seen reflected on the audience faces as they leave the hall.

As for the lecture and demonstration, participants were given some explanations and demonstration on how to put tsugaru-shamisen pieces together. All questions asked by participants were answered by them without any difficulty with the help of Ms. Oshima Sachi as their translator. Participants not only enjoyed learning from the Hanamas duo but also get to see them closer. After that, they went to Penang to perform at Dewan Budaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia's (USM).



Chie Hanawa
Natsumi Okimasu
Natsumi Okimasu & Chie Hanawa (Hanamas)
Chie Hanawa watched as Natsumi played the Violin



Starting the performance.



Shigehito Kawamura the percussionist
Taiichiro Shirahama the guitarist



Picture of Hanamas and the participants.

JFKL Holiday Notice

Please be informed that JFKL will be closed on the following days:
 1 February (Wednesday) Federal Territory Days
 6 February (Monday) Birthday of P.Muhammad



JAPAN FOUNDATION 国際交流基金

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