

Saturday, 21 June 2003 – 4.30 p.m. – 'Give It All'
7.00 p.m. – 'First Love'

Give It All – Etsuko lives in Matsuyama city on Shikoku Island and goes to a high school where it used to be a boy's school. In a solution to all her recent frustrations with life, she tries to form a very first rowing team for girls at the school.

First Love – A high school girl Satoka discovers a letter her mother who is sick in hospital wrote to Shinichiro, her mother's first love. Satoka determines to fulfill her mother's wish to see him again.



Saturday, 5 July 2003 – 4.30 p.m. – 'Osaka Story'

Osaka Story – Cute Wakana, 14, is the daughter of a couple who have been in show business for 20 years as a standup comedy act without ever making the big time. One day, wakana's father falls in love with a younger woman and she becomes pregnant.

Saturday, 19 July 2003 – 4.30 p.m.

– 'NODO-JIMAN'
(Amateur Singing Contest)



NODO-JIMAN (Amateur Singing Contest) – That famous TV program "Nodo -Jiman" is coming to town!! In the very competitive audition, the applicants sing their favourite songs from the bottom of their hearts to make it to the final. Why singing attracts them so much? Why do they sing?

Opera 'Gouche the Cellist' by Opera Theatre Konnyakuza

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and The Actors Studio will be organizing The Opera 'Gouche the Cellist' by the Opera Theatre Konnyakuza.

Opera 'Gauche the Cellist' is based on a children's story by Kenji Miyazawa, a writer in modern Japan. The adaptation is unique in singing many lines straight from the original wording of his story to construct a great drama. Six performers play not only the six characters Gauche, Band Master, Cat, Cuckoo, Little Raccoon and Mother rat, but also storytellers and chorus.

The theatre was founded in Tokyo in 1971, with the aim of creating and promoting new operas sung in Japanese by former members of students club called Konnyakuza Exercise Club at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Currently, Konnyakuza carries on approximately 170 performances a year with Hikaru Hayashi as the artistic director and Kyoko Hagi as the music director. The singers are about twenty including the leading singer Keiko Takeda.

This story of personal growth of a young musician through his friendship and animals has an equal appeal to children and adults. Opera 'Gauche the Cellist'

has been performed over 750 times in Japan since its premier in Tokyo in 1986.

Venue : The Actors Studio Bangsar
Level 3, West wing
Bangsar Shopping Centre
285 Jalan Maarof, Kuala Lumpur

Dates: 22 & 23 July 2003

Time: 8.30 p.m.

The opera will be in Japanese with English subtitles.

Please contact JFKL or The Actors Studio at 03-2694500 / 03-20940400 for enquiries.

Tickets prices for Adult: RM35 and Student: RM15 can be booked at The Actors Studio. Call the foresaid numbers or e-mail at tickets@theactorsstudio.com.my.

*Win yourself an All-expenses paid
7-day Study Tour to Japan**

*Participate in
The 9th Annual Japanese Speech Contest*

*KL Preliminary
Sunday July 13, 2003*

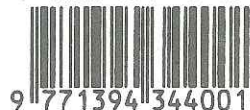
*Submit your manuscript (1,000 – 1,200 words) before
Wednesday June 18, 2003*

*Details and application form
Call 03-2161 2304
and ask for Mr Honjo or Mr Nobli*

** The top 2 winners at the National Final (held on July 27, 2003)
will win this grand prize to Japan.*



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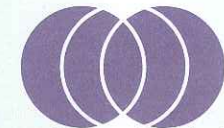
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TEMAN BARU



Malaysia-Japan Pop Music Concert
-see inside for details-



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ASEAN – Japan Exchange Year 2003

ASEAN – Japan Exchange Year 2003 was proposed by the Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and endorsed by the leaders of ASEAN countries, in the effort to stimulate exchanges activities between ASEAN and Japan in all areas at various levels.



Malaysia will be hosting the exchange year in the month of June 2003; Events to be organized by The Japan Foundation will be as follows:

Japanese Animated Film Festival – Masterpieces of the past 50 years

Japan is one of the leading countries in animation production, and it has produced a lot of great works and animators in the history. This festival is organized in order to introduce the changes and development of Japanese animation by screening some of the important works in the past 50 years.

Animated films to be screened are:

1. White Snake Enchantress (Taiji Yabushita, 1958, 79 min)
2. Little Norse Prince Valiant (Isao Takahata, 1959, 82 min)
3. Pictures at an Exhibition (Osamu Tezuka, 1966, 39 min)
4. Galaxy Express 999 (Taro Rin, 1979, 128 min)
5. The Dagger of Kamui (Taro Rin, 1985, 132 min)
6. Home of Acoms (Takashi Anno, 1997, 110 min)
7. Astro Boy (Osamu Tezuka, 1980, 24 min)



Venue : Auditorium, Muzium Negara
Jalan Damansara, Kuala Lumpur

Dates : 5 to 8 June 2003

Times : Please contact JFKL for details

Admission : Free

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and the Department of Museums and Antiquities organize this festival with the support of Embassy of Japan and in-cooperation with FINAS.

Japanese Kites and Tops Exhibition

Kites were first invented about 2,000 years ago, in China. They first appeared in Japan during the Heian period, they were known as 'paper hawks' the same name they were known in China.

Today, there are probably more types of kites in Japan than in anywhere else. They are flown at present mostly during festivals, since it is said to be an auspicious omen if one's kite flies high. One example takes place during Boys' Festival.

Tops were introduced into Japan from China and Korea about 1,200 years ago. Like many imports were first enjoyed by aristocrats, spreading to common people later. At present there are about 1,00 kind of tops in Japan. They range from simple 0.5 mm the smallest to about 90 cm for the largest.

In this exhibition about eighty beautiful kites in various sizes and colors, and seventy-five sets of tops. Please come and see for your self the real kites and tops at the exhibition, which will be held at the following place:



Venue : The Main Concourse
Sunway Pyramid, Bandar Sunway, Selangor

Dates : 17 to 25 June 2003

Admission : Free

A kite-making workshop will be held on Sunday, 22 June, 1.00 p.m and 4.00 p.m during the exhibition. It is free of charge and everyone can join.

This exhibition is co-organized by SUNWAY PYRAMID and supported by Embassy of Japan.

Please contact JFKL for details.

'Renga' Artwork Exhibition

As part of ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and National Art Gallery with the support of Embassy of Japan will organize 'Renga' Artwork Workshop and Exhibition at the National Art Gallery.

Artists from ASEAN countries and Japan will produce sometimes conflicting, sometimes harmonizing impression from each other. Japanese 'Renga', a poem consisting of linked haiku-like verses created by multiple poets, inspired the project. Each painter will require to work for two hours on their own canvas, then go round and spend 45 minutes on each other canvas, until they all the artists has been worked on. Then, the originator of each piece would have the option of rectifying unwelcome elements.

According to Mr. Nakayama, the Penang based Japanese artist and the curator of this exhibition, the workshop will be the first of its kind to be held in Malaysia, and the third in a series of jam sessions between visual artists that began in Bangkok in May 2002.

12 artists representing Malaysia and Japan and other ASEAN countries are expected to join.

The workshop and the exhibition will be as follows:

Date : 14 June – Workshop
16 to 27 June – Exhibition

Venue : National Art Gallery

Time : 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Please contact JFKL for details.

Malaysia-Japan Pop Music Concert

This concert is aimed at presenting a new vision of the synchronic lives of our times in the ASEAN nations and Japan, through collaborative production and presentation of popular music. The theme is the present and the future of the ASEAN nations and Japan.



Due to various threats we faced in the beginning of 21st century such as regional conflicts and terrorism, it is important that a shared sense of community and unity in order to achieve harmony and peace in the region.

On the other hand, a sense of community in Asia is already being formed, more intensely than we expect. This is due to the development of communication / information infrastructure such as the Internet and satellite broadcasting, nowadays among middle-class people in the major cities of the ASEAN nations and Japan so much information on popular culture, such as fashion and animation, is shared and there are no national borders in the true sense.

To highlight this sense of community, an image song 'TREASURE THE WORLD' was composed by a famous Japanese artist, Kazufumi Miyazawa (the leader of The Boom). 11 artists representing all Ten ASEAN countries and Japan will sing TREASURE THE WORLD. In this concert, Chika Yuri who sings Japanese version and Siti Nurhaliza with Malaysian version will join with other artists from both countries.

This concert is co-organized by The Japan Foundation and RTM, and supported by Malaysia Airlines.

The concert will be held as follows:

Venue : Auditorium Perdana
Angkasapuri Kuala Lumpur

Date : 25 June 2003

Time : 8.30 p.m.

Please contact JFKL for details.

The Weekend Japanese Film Shows

Four films are schedule for screening at MTC for the month of June and July. All films are with English subtitles and the shows will start at 4.30 p.m. Admission is free.

Film titles are subject to change without prior noticed. Dates and titles of films will be as follows: