

THE 8TH ASIAN CARTOON EXHIBITION

The theme of this year's exhibition is "The Meaning of Life". This exhibition proudly present 88 works freshly produced with wit and originality by 13 leading cartoonists from 11 countries, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Haji Zainal Buang Hussein, who is the former editorial and marketing director of the popular cartoon magazine 'Gila-Gila', and currently the president of Selangor and Wilayah Persekutuan Cartoonist Association (PEKARTUN), represents Malaysia.

The exhibition will be held at:

Terengganu State Museum
4 to 25 September 2004
From 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Closed on Friday)

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and Terengganu State Museum jointly organize this exhibition. For enquiries please call Terengganu State Museum at 09-622 1444.

MALAYSIAN VIDEO AWARD

The Malaysian Video award (MVA) was first held in 1995 to recognize skills and creativity of craftspeople in Film & Video Production industry. The MVA council welcomes entries for 28 categories including professional, experimental film, short film, TV and music video.

The Japan Foundation is taking part in the 9th annual film festival with presentation of a special feature on Japanese short animation films and a Lecture by Ms Sayoko Kinoshita, Director of Hiroshima International Animation Festival. 10 animated films created by 5 outstanding artists were selected from the Japan Foundation's Film Library Collection.

Venue: National Art Gallery
Date: 10 to 17 Sept. 2004
(16 Sept. Animation focus day)

The animated films to be screened are:

"Spider and Tulip"	-	Kenzo MASAOKA
"Japonesse"	-	Renzo KINOSHITA
"Made in Japan"		
"Broken Down Film"	-	Osamu TEZUKA
"Phenakistiscope"	-	Taku FURUKAWA
"Coffee Break"		
"Love"	-	Yoji KURI
"The Midnight Parasites"		
"The Bathroom"		
"The Room"		

Film titles and subject to change without prior notice.

Please call JFKL for further details.

WEEKEND JAPANESE MOVIE AT MTC

Saturday, 7th August 2004
starting 4:30pm

"Amateur Singing Contest (Nodojiman)"
Directed by Kazuyuki IZUTSU, 1999,
112min, Colour
(The 1st Place Winner of the popularity contest for films screened in 2003!) This film was supposed to be screened in June. But we had to change due to an avoidable reason. Instead it will be screened in August.



Synopsis: That famous TV program "Nodojiman" is coming to town! In the very competitive audition, the applicants sing their favorite songs from the bottom of their hearts to make it to the final. Why does singing attract them so much? Why do they sing?

Saturday, 4th September 2004 starting 4:30pm

"Suspicion (Giwaku)"
Directed by Yoshitaro NOMURA, 1982, 127min, Colour



Synopsis: One summer night, an accident occurs; a car with a couple falls into the ocean. A wealthy man, Fukutaro SHIRAKAWA, dies while his wife Kumako survives without getting much injured. It is well known that she has married him only for his money and she has insured him.

A lawyer Ritsuko SAHARA becomes a defense counsel of arrested Kumako.

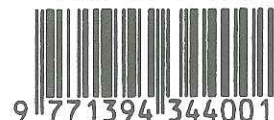
Saturday, 18th September 2004
starting 4:30pm

"The Tragedy of W ('W' no Higeki)"
Directed by Shinichiro SAWAI, 1984, 108min,
Colour

Synopsis: Shizuka MITA devotes herself to her dream of becoming an actress. After she fails the audition for the next performance, she happens to get involved in a scandal of the leading actress. She accepts to be a scapegoat in order to grab a chance for stardom.



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AUG - SEPT 2004

TEMAN BARU



A scene from Kyogen – performance



JAPAN FOUNDATION

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CHANGES AT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION

The Japan Foundation is pursuing a variety of reforms aimed at increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs and making the organization more open and responsive to people both in Japan and overseas. As part of the changes being initiated, a new organizational structure will be adopted from the beginning of May. The overall objectives of the changes are as follows:

1. **Structural clarity:** The program divisions will be reorganized into three large groups-Arts and Culture, Japanese-Language, and Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange-and a new Information and Resource Center will be established. Programs will be divided according to purpose under these three groups in order to enhance their strategies and better coordinate their activities as well as to enable the Foundation to respond more flexibly to needs both within Japan and overseas. The Information and Resource Center will provide information on international exchange, coordinate programs with the staff of other organizations, and promote links with other international exchange organizations.
2. **An open organization:** Activities will be aimed at making the Japan Foundation better known abroad as well as making its presence more familiar to people in Japan. Foundation officers will also be drawn from the private sector, and personnel exchange with other organizations will be encouraged. Active efforts will be made to introduce new programs, such as a system for organizing volunteers to assist with cultural exchange programs.
3. **Program efficiency and flexibility:** In order to conduct programs as effectively and efficiently as possible from the country/region perspective, responsibility for programs will be shifted to executive vice presidents at the country/regional level. Current programs will be reviewed and the overall number trimmed back, and the programs will be made more flexible and easy to understand.
4. **Management versatility:** Steps will be taken to reduce personnel and office rental costs and to expand earned income. Running costs will be streamlined by establishing closer links with other organizations and promoting co-sponsored and jointly funded programs.

Cultural affairs and modes of international exchange today are rapidly changing due to globalization and advances in technology. The Japan Foundation is exerting every effort in order to respond appropriately to these changes so that it might implement its programs more effectively. We believe that the changes described above will further enhance the role of the Foundation as an impartial public organization of general scope devoted to international cultural exchange as well as to local and international networkbuilding. We look forward to your continued support and goodwill.

Kazuo Ogoura
President
The Japan Foundation

THE 20TH JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST (OPEN CATEGORY)

Malaysian Japanese language learners stand a chance to **win an all expense paid 7-day study tour to Japan** at the 20th Annual Japanese Speech Contests (National Final). To enter this contest, they have to be Malaysian, over the age of 18 years old and have not stayed in Japan for more than a year. Interested contestants can choose to contest in any one of the 4 preliminaries held as follows:

Kuala Lumpur	-	August 15, 2004
Penang	-	August 14, 2004
Ipoh	-	August 7, 2004 and
Kota Kinabalu	-	August 15, 2004

The winners of the 4 preliminaries will meet in Kuala Lumpur at the National Final held at the Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur on Sunday August 29, 2004. In addition to the two prizes to Japan, contestants also stand a chance to win attractive prizes too. All contestants are also issued with a certificate of participation.

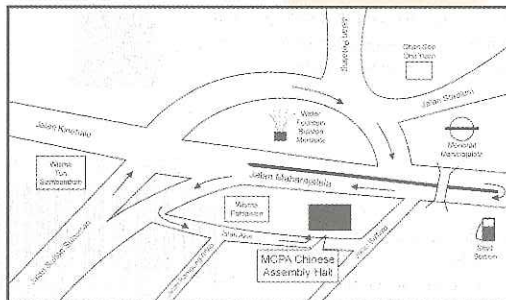
The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur, the Japanese Chamber of Trade and Industry, Malaysia and the Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur organize the contest, with cooperation from Japan Graduates' Association of Malaysia (JAGAM) and the Alumni Look-East Policy Society (ALEPS). Among the many prizes sponsors are Japan Overseas Enterprises Association, Japan Airlines International Co. Ltd., Panasonic (M) Sdn. Bhd., Kinokuniya Book Stores (M) Sdn. Bhd., and Kokuyo International (M) Sdn. Bhd.

Please call Japanese Language Department at 03-21612304 for details.

CONTEMPORARY DANCE PERFORMANCE - REFINED COLORS

The Contemporary Dance Performances - "Refined Colors" is organized by The Japan Foundation.

"Refined Colors" is an outstanding experimental dance performance of Japan that journeys into the nuances and impression of colors and lights as they vary from place to place; a reconfirmation and enrichment of the understanding of colors, light and body.



The performance is involving a small team of 6 (dancers and technician). It hope the project to have a great impact, showing how digital technology can be as an accessible personal creative tool readily adaptable to local creative needs. Kuala Lumpur is their third destination of their Asian Tours, after Bangkok and Singapore.

The performances will be held as follows:

Venue :	MCPA Theatre at Chinese Assembly Hall Jalan Maharajalela
Dates :	Saturday, 21 August 2004, 8.30 p.m. Sunday, 22 August 2004, 3.00 p.m.

Q and A session will be held after performance.

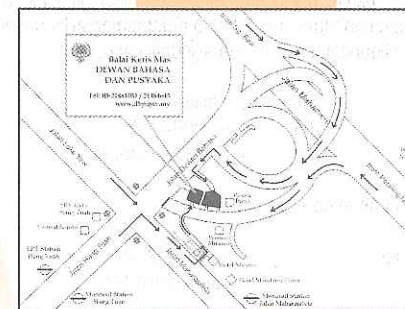
Ticket prize at: RM25 and RM15 (JFKL members and students)

Please call JFKL at 03-21612104 for details.

"KYOGEN" JAPANESE TRADITIONAL THEATRE LECTURE AND DEMONSTRATION

"Kyogen" is part of the Japanese Traditional Theatre in genre of the humorous short story, with its origins in the 14th Century, which has kept the same form since the early 16th Century.

Having the same history as Kyogen and played on the same stage as Noh is the musical drama with dancing like opera or musical, whereas Kyogen can be described as the prototype of modern plays. With no stage props, depends solely on action for all types of expression including changes of scenery and time, influencing modern drama despite its tradition of 600 years.



7 artists from Japan will be taking part in these demonstration. It will be held as follows:

1. Date:	1 September 2004
Venue:	Balai Budaya Tun Syed Nasir Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka
Time:	8.30 p.m. (open to public)

Please call JFKL at 03-21612104 for further details.