

"Kumamoto Artpolis: Architecture through Communication" Exhibition

In this July and August, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur together with Urban Design and Conservation Research Unit (UDCRU), Faculty of Built Environment Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) and Galeri Shah Alam is organising a new exhibition, entitled "Kumamoto Artpolis: Architecture through Communication". It showcases **69 photo panels of 67 unique and creative buildings** designed by different architects under the "Kumamoto Artpolis" program, which was initiated by local government. The architects were chosen by the commissioner of this program, including ISOZAKI Arata, Japan's leading architect. The exhibition is now showcased at the Gallerium, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia from 20 July to 3 August 2006, and the exhibition starts at Galeri Shah Alam on 11 August until 10 September 2006.

Kumamoto Prefecture

"Kumamoto Artpolis: Architecture through Communication" exhibition was launched as one of the traveling exhibition of the Japan Foundation in 2003. This exhibition set was made to introduce Japanese contemporary architecture through the buildings that are completed under this program as well as introducing the great concept and the big challenge of this program from the view point of regional planning and development.



Kumamoto Artpolis

The "Kumamoto Artpolis" program began in 1988 as an innovative attempt to develop new communities throughout Kumamoto prefecture, located on Kyushu island, southern-west part of Japan. ISOZAKI Arata, Japan's leading architect, was appointed as the first commissioner, and architects and designers recommended by the commissioner have worked with local residents to create various buildings such as public apartments, museums, community centers, bridges and so on. The goal is not simply to improve the quality of building design but to use architectural project to bring together architects and local residents so that they can consider how communities in which the project are to be built might be improved. Over 70 buildings were built under this program, and it is still on today.



Kumamoto Prefecture

Kumamoto Prefecture is located in the center of Kyushu, the southernmost of the four major Japanese islands. It is bordered by the Ariake inland sea and the Amakusa archipelago to the west, Fukuoka Prefecture and Oita Prefecture to the north, Miyazaki Prefecture to the east, and Kagoshima Prefecture to the south.



ADMISSION FREE

Johor

Duration : 20 July (Thu) - 3 August (Thu)
Venue : The Gallerium, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
Enquiry: JFKL 03-2161 2104
Time : 9am - 6pm

Shah Alam

Duration : 11 August (Fri) - 10 September (Sun)
Venue : Galeri Shah Alam
Tel: 03-5510 5344 / 6045
Time : Tue-Sun 10am - 6pm
Closed on Mondays

Kobudo Demonstration - Traditional Martial Arts of Japan

KOBUDO, which means old martial art in Japanese, is the most authentic and genuine source of traditional technique and inspiration of Japanese martial art from NINJA to contemporary JUDO.

Through this KOBUDO demonstration, we will introduce some of the most popular forms of KOBUDO by a group from Okayama, Japan. Okayama, located in the west part Honshu Island, is a very unique area where various forms of KOBUDO still remain. Its warm climate, the absence of natural disasters, and the rich fertile lands could allow people to have a good time for mastering martial arts.

The demonstration will be done by the most famous among the oldest schools of KOBUDO in Okayama, Takenouchi-ryu or Takenouchi School, which was created in 1532. Its main feature is attacking the opponent with the coordination of weapons such as sword, staff, rope and chain. It is very unique and can not be seen in modern Japanese martial arts like Karate, Judo or Kendo.

KOBUDO is not just as physical technique of self-defence or attacking. We can learn something more special from it such as wisdom, courage and spirit that have been in heritage through about 500 years. In this demonstration everybody from martial arts athletes to children who love Naruto can enjoy seeing incredible super technique of renowned KOBUDO masters and also a secret of KOBUDO spirit will be revealed.

Eight KOBUDO experts will be taking part in the demonstration that will be held in Kuala Lumpur and Malacca on the dates and venues stated below. Admission to both demonstrations is free.

This event is jointly organized by The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Okayama Prefecture, Ministry of Youth and Sport Malaysia, Olympic Council of Malaysia, The Malacca State Karate Association and Malaysia Shorin Kobudo Association, sponsored by Nature's Own and supported by Mahkota Parade.



Kuala Lumpur (Lucky Draw)

Date : 14 August (Mon)
Time : 3pm
Venue : Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) Hall

Melaka

Date : 15 August (Tue)
Time : 3pm
Venue : 2nd Floor, Mahkota Parade

Enquiry : Tel: 03-2161 2104 (Mr. Anuar)
Email: jpcc@jfkf.org.my

ADMISSION FREE

古武道



▶ Japanese Film Festival 2006 ~Something you want to protect~

The annual Japanese Film Festival is just around the corner! This year, we have a special guest from Japan and the screenings will be at 2 venues in Klang Valley!!!

Dates: **7 (Thu) - 11 September (Mon)**

Venue: GSC Mid Valley & GSC 1Utama

Screening titles:

- ▶ "Inochi" (SHINOHARA Tetsuo, 2003)
- ▶ "Heaven's Bookstore" (SHINOHARA Tetsuo, 2004)
- ▶ "Half a Confession" (SASABE Kiyoshi, 2004)
- ▶ "Kamikaze Girls" (NAKAJIMA Tetsuya, 2004)
- ▶ "ULTRAMAN: The Next" (KONAKA Kazuya, 2004)
- ▶ "The Prince of the Sun: Hols' Great Adventure" (TAKAHATA Isao, 1968)
- ▶ "Quill" (SAI Yoichi, 2004)
- ▶ "Fireflies: River of Light" (SUGAWARA Hiroshi, 2004)

Screening schedule: *to be confirmed

Ticket price: RM 5 per screening

Reservation: Call GSC at 03-83123456 or log on to www.gsc.com (reservation can be made 2 days before the screening)

*** Walk-in tickets are also available

This festival is also going to be held in Penang from 21 September (Thu) - 24 September (Sun) 2006 at GSC Gurney Plaza.

Half a Confession

Former police detective Soichiro turns himself in at his local police station and confesses to the murder of his wife at their home three days earlier. Under questioning by a detective Shigi, he explains that the shock of their son's death brought about the onset of Alzheimer's disease in his wife, which ultimately led her to ask Soichiro to end her suffering. However, despite rigorous interrogation, he steadfastly refuses to explain his movements in the two days between his wife's death and his surrender.

Fireflies: River of Light

After finally passing his teacher's exam on the third attempt, Miwa quickly learns that passing an exam does not make him a teacher. He struggles to get through to his students. But one day, on a field trip to the river, he makes an unconscious remark about fireflies, and suddenly all his students pay attention. He started a class project to clean up the river and raise fireflies to fly over it once again. The students become passionately involved in the project, but it brings Miwa into conflict with their parents, the school and even the city itself.

SYNOPSIS

Kamikaze Girls

Momoko lives in her father's hometown Shimotsuma, humdrum rural hometown. She has no friends and the only thing she is interested in is to swath herself from head to toe in doll-like "Lolita" garb. One day, she meets her diametrical opposite on the fashion scale, the surly black lipstick biker chic Ichiko, who takes a liking to Momoko's unexpectedly gutsy nature. First, Momoko feels annoyed by Ichiko, but the two gradually form an unlikely alliance.

Inochi

Miri is pregnant with the child of a man who already has a family. At first he wants her to have the child, but unable to forsake his present family, he remains indecisive. Looking for help, Miri visits the house of a playwright, Higashi Yutaka, who is her patron and also former lover, and she comes to know that Higashi is affected by incurable cancer. She makes up her mind to support him to fight with the illness and they promise to bring up the child together.

ULTRAMAN: The Next

Maritime Self-Defense Force captain Udo encounters a strange blue light that transforms him into a deranged monster called "The One". Meanwhile, F15 pilot Maki collides with the same phenomenon and miraculously survives, but is turned into a being called "The Next". Growing to gigantic proportions, The One attacks the Tokyo city center of Shinjuku and threatens the lives of millions. In order to protect his beloved family, Maki evolves from The Next into the heroic Ultraman, and goes to battle with the mutated Udo.

Quill

A puppy born with a distinctive marking on its belly is raised by a couple that names him "Quill". On his first birthday, the puppy begins training as a guide dog under the trainer Tawada and eventually becomes a partner to Watanabe, a visually impaired man who has trouble coming to terms with the dog's presence. Quill gradually grows into a dependable and trustworthy companion, Watanabe begins to form a loving bond with his new friend.

The Prince of the Sun: Hols' Great Adventure

Hols is a very strong boy skilled with axe. One day, Moog, a gigantic stone golem, saves him from an attack of a pack of demonic wolves. Hols helps Moog to pull an old sword out of the creature's shoulder, which Moog explains is the Sword of the Sun. Moog declares that if Hols can succeed in reforging the sword, which is useless now, he will honor Hols as the next prince of the Sun.



Half a Confession



Kamikaze Girls



Japanese Film Festival 2006
~Something you want to protect~

~Something you want to protect~

▶ The 22nd Japanese Speech Contest

This contest is to provide an opportunity for Japanese language learners to express their opinions and thoughts in Japanese as well as to show their skills in the language and to raise awareness and deepen understanding among Malaysian people on the importance of inter-cultural and cross-cultural communication.

For National Level

This event will be organized by The Japan Chamber of Trade & Industry, Malaysia (JACTIM), The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur (JCKL), The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL), Consulate General of Penang, Penang Japanese Language Society (PJLS), Perak Malaysian - Japanese Friendship Society (PMJFS), Malaysian Japanese Society (MJS) in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, Malaysia (EOJ), the Japan Graduates Association of Malaysia (JAGAM) and sponsored by Japan Overseas Enterprise Association, Japan Airline (JAL), Kokuyo International (M) Sdn Bhd, Kinokuniya and Panasonic.

Date: 3 September (Sun)

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Venue: The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur Hall (JCKL)

For Preparatory Level

This event is organized by The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur (JCKL), The Japanese Chamber Trade & Industry, Malaysia (JACTIM), The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, Malaysia (EOJ) and Alumni Look - East Policy Society (ALEPS) and sponsored by Kokuyo International (M) Sdn Bhd.

The closing date for application submissions is **8 September 2006**

Date: 17 September (Sun)

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Venue: The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur Hall (JCKL)

Enquiry on above events: Tel: 03 2161 2304 (Mr. Nobli / Mr. Honjo) Email: jplc@jfkf.org.my

▶ Application for 2006 Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

Application Period: 28 August - 15 September 2006

Closing Date: **15 September 2006**

Test fees: Level 1 (RM60), Level 2 (RM60), Level 3 (RM50), & Level 4: (RM50)

Application Form: RM5.00 per copy

Application forms are available from 1 August 2006 at any of the below mentioned test centres.

All completed applications must reach the respective test centre (where you wish to take the test) by 15 September 2006.

KUALA LUMPUR TEST CENTRE	PENANG TEST CENTRE	IPOH TEST CENTRE	KOTA KINABALU TEST CENTRE
The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia	Penang Japanese Language Society	Perak Malaysian-Japanese Friendship Society	Pusat Penataran Ilmu dan Bahasa Universiti Malaysia Sabah
42-2B, 2 nd Floor Jalan Sultan Ismail 50250 Kuala Lumpur Tel: (03) 2144 1180 / 2180 Fax: (03) 2144 7180	7-H-3, Jalan Gottlieb 10350 Pulau Pinang Tel/Fax: (04) 226 5908	164A & B, Jalan Bendahara 31650 Ipoh, Perak Tel: (05) 253 7530 Fax: (05) 254 5110	Locked Bag 2073 88999 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: (088) 320 000 (5034) Fax: (088) 435 708

▶ East Coast Southern Region JFKL Seminar Caravan

The Japanese Language Caravan Seminar is held to upgrade teaching methodology for Japanese language among its teachers across Malaysia and to improve their language proficiency.

The caravan seminars are conducted in 3 regions, namely Northern Malaysia, East Coastal - Southern Region and Borneo. The above seminar caravan is open for Japanese language teachers registered with JFKL's Japanese Language Department.

Theme: Bringing Outside Resources Into The Classroom

Date: 12 (Sat) & 13 August (Sun)

Venue: The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL)

Closing date: **2 August 2006**

Contact: Mr. Azizul at 03 21612304 or azizul@jfkf.org.my

▶ What's new in Library



Japanese Books



せいきょう しらいし
『生協の白石さん』

しらいしまさきのり のうこう
白石昌則、東京農工大学の学生の皆さん著 講談社 東京 2005年

Library call number: 049.1

しらいし のうこう せいきょう しよくいん せいきょう きょうどうくみあい りやく
白石さんは、東京農工大学の生協の職員です。(生協とは、生活協同組合の略で、ここでは大学の売店のようなものです。)

せいきょう ようぼう
生協では、学生たちが「ひとことカード」で、質問や要望をすることができます。どんな質問にも、白石さんは一生懸命に答えます。そんな白石さんの姿が共感を呼んで人気者になりました。白石さんと学生の楽しいやりとりが話題になり、本になりました。



『みみをすます』

たにがわしゅんたろう ちょうしんた
詩・谷川俊太郎 絵・長新太 響文社 札幌 2004年

Library call number: 895.6 TAN

Language: Japanese with English translations

この詩は、ひらがなばかりでできています。最初から声を出して読み、耳で聞くように、書かれた詩です。すべての人の心に入りこむ、和語のしなやかなリズムを読んで聞いてみてください。英語でも書かれていて、日本語版・英語版の朗読CDもついています。

English Books



One Hundred Million Hearts

[Kerri Sakamoto. A Harvest Book: Florida, 2003]

Library call number: 813.54 SAK (Fiction)

This book tells a story about a young girl, Miyo and her father, Masao who lives in a reclusive life in Toronto. When Masao dies, Miyo discovers that her late father harbored a secret life including a previous family of his back in Japan. She makes a few search and contact to find his late father's family in Japan and finally Miyo travels to Tokyo to meet Hana, her half-sister. In Tokyo Miyo learns through her father's past and his native land's present.



Advanced Origami: An Artist's Guide to Performances in Paper

[Michael G. LaFosse. Tuttle Publishing: Tokyo, 2005]

Library call number: 736.982 LAF (Origami)

'Advanced Origami' provides complete illustration & colored instructions in how to create advanced level paper folding projects. The origami designs are challenging and required considerable folding experience but the results are more art than craft and you'll create projects that you can display or give as a gift. The book also features information on paper selections and preparations, advance techniques such as "wet folding" and making your own paper.

Video



TV ドラマ

『愛していると言ってくれ』 Vol.1-Vol.4 (576 mins.)

(TBS 1995年放送)

Library call number: O01402-O01405

Language: Japanese

幼いとき耳が聞こえなくなり、音のない世界で生きてきた売れない画家、榊晃次と、女優をめざすみずのひろこ。水野紘子は、りんごの木の下で出逢い恋に落ちました。二人は手話で語り合うようになります。しかし、二人にいろいろな試練がおそいかかります。

二人のひと夏の恋をえがいたラブストーリーです。

このドラマをきっかけに、若い女性を中心に手話を習う人が増えるなどの社会的影響もありました。

DVD



Princess Mononoke

[Hayao Miyazaki. Buena Vista Home Entertainment, 1997]

Library call number: DVD 19

Language: Japanese (with English subtitles) 128 mins.

A prince is infected with incurable disease by a possessed boar-god. He is to die, unless he can find a cure to rid off the curse from his body. It seems that his only hope is to travel to the Far East. When he arrives to get help from the deer-god, he finds himself in the middle of a battle between the animal inhabitants of the forest and an iron-mining town, that is exploiting and killing the forest. Leading the forest animals in this battle is a human raised by wolves, Princess Mononoke. The prince is caught in the middle of the battle and must find ways to stop the war before they destroy each other.

Music CD



はまさき

浜崎あゆみ 『(miss) understood』 (2006) (avex)

Library call number: CP041

CD (66 min) + DVD (80 min)

Song Titles with DVD video clips:

1. Bold & Delictions	2. Step You
3. Ladies Night	4. Is this Love
5. (miss) understood	6. Alterna
7. In the Corner	8. Tasking
9. Criminal	10. Pride
11. Will	12. Heaven
13. Are you Wake up?	14. Fairland
15. Beautiful Day	16. Rainy Day

★ビデオ、DVD、CDのご利用は図書館内のみとさせていただきます。

★All audio-visual materials can be viewed and listened in the library only.

Library Holidays

Please note that the library will be closed on the following day:

31 August 2006 (Thu) - Malaysia National Day

▶ Weekend Japanese Film Show

Here are 3 titles to be screened in August and September.
The dates, times and titles are as follows:

admission is FREE!!!
with English subtitles
at Mini Auditorium,
Malaysia Tourism Centre (MTC)

"Beijing Watermelon"

Saturday, 5 August starting 4:30pm

Directed by OBAYASHI Yoshihiko, 1989, 135 min, Colour



This film is based on a true story on Shunzo, a popular greengrocer who lives in a city near Tokyo. His life, and that of his wife Michi and their two children, undergoes a dramatic change when he encounters Li, a poor college student from China.

Until Li came to his shop, he had no idea of the problems facing such students - from finding to understanding local customs. He soon finds himself involved in helping Chinese students in a myriad of ways; from giving them his son's bicycle to use, finding second-hand televisions, meeting new students at the airport and even becoming their legal guarantor.

"Summer Holiday Everyday"

Saturday, 19 August starting 4:30pm

Directed by KANEKO Shusuke, 1994, 94 min, Colour

This comedic critique of the Japanese common sense definition of success was adapted from a comic book written by one of Japan's best comic artists for girls, Oshima Yumiko. The Rinkaiji family, by all appearances, is a well-to-do Japanese family. The father, Nariyuki, works in an elite corporation, which gives his wife Yoshiko status in their suburban neighborhood. But the daughter Sugina, who herself has secretly stopped going to school because she is being bullied. One day, they discover that Nariyuki has quit his job. As Nariyuki decides to find a new job along with Sugina, Yoshiko, a firm believer in a life based on the company, soon finds her world falling apart.



"Tsuru"

Saturday, 2 September starting 4:30pm

Directed by ICHIKAWA Kon, 1988, 93 min, Colour



One snowy night a beautiful lady pays a surprise visit to the humble cottage of the peasant Taiju. There, Taiju leads a precarious but honest life with his old, bedridden mother. The lady tells Taiju that her name is Tsuru and she will be a hard-working and devoted wife to him.

▶ Reports

The World's MURAKAMI Haruki -- "Murakami Literature" Is Popular Worldwide



MURAKAMI Haruki, 57 years old, one of Japan's leading writers currently, made himself famous with his remarkable works such as "Norwegian Wood", "Kafka on the shore" and so on. His works have been translated into over 30 languages, and he is the most celebrated Japanese writer after NATSUME Soseki, KAWABATA Yasunari, MISHIMA Yukio and OOE Kensaburo.

On the 25 and 26 of March this year, an international workshop symposium named "A Wild Haruki Chase--How the World is Reading and Translating Murakami", organised by the Japan Foundation, was held in Tokyo. Translators, writers and critics from 16 countries were invited to this event to analyse and discuss the attraction in "Murakami Literature".

This workshop-symposium, which was held in Komaba Campus in the University of Tokyo, attracted about 600 "Murakami fans" who were selected randomly by the organiser, and was made a big news throughout Japan through the country's media. It can be said that the event was greatly successful.

Although English and Japanese were used during the symposium, all of us felt that our common language is "MURAKAMI Haruki".

As one of the translators for Murakami's works, I was invited to this symposium as well. The presence of so many Murakami fans impressed me the most. Nonetheless, I suppose the most loyal Murakami fans will be us - the translators from all four corners of the globe. For instance, Professor Jay Rubin from the United States of America claimed that when he was teaching in Harvard University, he could go on and on about Murakami's works till his students became tired of his stories. He feels that the talented Murakami is able to bring out the wonders hidden within our everyday life skilfully, and that it is his powerful writing ability which made his works so appealing to the readers.

Professor and Head of Research Center of Japanese Studies, Korea University, Kim Choon Mie from Korea, stated that Murakami's works provide pleasure and comfort to the readers at the same time. To her, Murakami Literature is a type of "healing literature", which gives people joy and solace. She also noted us that Korean readers do not have the "he is a Japanese" impression towards Murakami, instead, they accept his works as cultural exchange products.



There were two types of workshops during the event - the Translation Workshop and the Representation Workshop. I attended the former one.

While the Translation Workshop was held, we engaged in a discussion regarding technical problems faced when translating Murakami's works. The Japanese-Chinese translators racked their brains while trying to translate terms in katakana frequently found in the stories. On the other hand, the Japanese-English translators did not face any difficulty in similar problems at all.

Besides that, everyone agreed that the onomatopoeias found in the stories were not so easy to tackle. This is probably due to the fact that onomatopoeias are expressions typically found in languages like Japanese, and they are not so commonly found in other languages.

After the symposium, we lodged at Yamanakako for two days. We had a lot of interactions with people from the Japan Foundation at the breath-taking Yamanakako - we visited the MISHIMA Yukio Memorial Hall, and enjoyed watching "Tony Takitani", a movie based on one of Murakami's works. That was truly a successful "international bonding session" which will linger in our memories.

Also, MURAKAMI Haruki will be awarded the Frank Kafka Literature Award in Prague later this year. It is said that this award is a prelude to the upcoming Noble Prize which will be held at the end of this year, whose last two recipients both won the Noble Prize shortly afterward. Therefore some supposed that MURAKAMI is the

continue >>

winner of the Noble Prize in Literature this year.

Murakami fascinates the readers through a simple but fresh selection of words and his unique style of writing. He skillfully portrays the feeling of loss and loneliness within modern people, producing resonance among readers of different origins, languages and culture. He is, indeed, an outstanding promoter of urban literature.

The symposium was definitely benefiting. Thanks to this symposium, many international friendships bloomed. We, the translators, are planning to create a website named "The Haruki Chase Network". Through this website, we hope that we will be able to exchange views regarding translations, and have more interactions with the readers in the near future.

Ye Hui

Freelance writer of Nanyang Siang Pau newspaper and magazine / Translator

▶ The Japan Foundation Group Tours Program for Secondary School Educators



The 2006 Secondary School Educators Study Tour Program Group 1 was conducted at the Japan Foundation Tokyo from 22 June - 5 July 2006. This program invited teachers from all over the world engaged in education at secondary school level through their visit to schools and institutions and staying with foster parents program. 51 participants from 15 different countries were invited for this program, and 5 participants representing Malaysia.

Mr. Shimoyama Masaya, Mr. Shimada Seiya and Mr. Anuar from the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur gave the participants a special briefing on 21 June, prior to our departure for Japan on the same evening.

At the Japan Foundation, Tokyo, the participants were given briefing about the system of education in Japan. The inculcation educational system is effective with compulsory education in elementary and lower secondary school. The school system encourages the usage of the Japanese language in various aspects of communication.

The group visits Miyajima Island, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, temples and shrines, palace and castles. The building shows a splendid structural beauty that skillfully combines Japanese architectural styles. We can see a high moral society that respects and preserves culture and environment. The people in Japan are generous, helpful and kind to the visitors and foreigners, even though they seldom use English language. They are very advanced but still preserved their cultures and traditional way of life.

The participants are made to adapt themselves to the way of Japanese people due wearing Japanese traditional costume "yukata" and ate Japanese food in Japanese styles. It was a wonderful experience to the participants. The Japanese home stay enriches our experience. We enjoy Japanese way of life and bring back wonderful memories of our stay there.

Reported by participants of this program

▶ A Visit to SMK Tae in Sarawak

Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Tae, in the remote area of Serian, Sarawak had received a surprise visit by our Head of Cultural Affairs Department, Mr Shimada Seiya on 10 July. Most of the students who had never met foreigner in person, were so excited to meet and talk to him and learn some origami skills and knowledge. They successfully made "Kabuto", a Japanese soldier's helmet, and happily wore the hat.



The school principal Mr Philip Chan emphasises in developing the environment in order to give students more stimulating exposure. One of the things he had done since his transfer to SMK Tae last December was to expand the library capacity. JFKL has donated Origami books to be added to its growing collections for the use of students. Origami papers were also given to the Art teacher for the class future activities.

▶ Gagaku Music Performance in KL

The Gagaku Music Society of Tenri University is one of the most famous gagaku music performers in Japan. They performed gagaku music at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on 19 July 2006 during The 27th International Society for Music Education World Conference - ISME 2006. The conference, which was held from 16 to 21 July 2006 was the first to be held in Southeast Asia and only the third in Asia after its last sojourn to Korea in 1992. The Gagaku Music Society was sponsored by The Japan Foundation Head Quarters to join the conference, which celebrate the important role that music plays in human life as well as strengthen ties and share ideas among music and music educators throughout the world.

Gagaku, brought to its completion in Japan in the 11th century, comprises both native Japanese music and dance and various forms of foreign music and dance that were introduced from the Asian Continent and its vicinity beginning in the fifth century. In gagaku, there are three kinds of performance style: Utaimono (vocal music), K angen (purely instrumental music), and Bugaku (dances accompanied by gagaku music). The Gagaku Music Society, one of Tenri University's student clubs pursuing extracurricular activities, was founded in 1951 for the purposes of studying, learning to play, and serving to popularize gagaku, one of the finest examples of traditional Japanese performing arts. This society gives public performance at a number of locations in Japan, including its annual performances in Tenri, Tokyo and Osaka, and many countries all over the world.

Coming soon...

▶ The 10th Asian Cartoon Exhibition: - Asian Environment Issue

The Japan Foundation has been holding The Asian Cartoon Exhibition every year since 1995, employing a friendly medium of cartoons for introducing Asian societies, cultures, and peoples' ways of life from various perspectives.

For this exhibition, 10 leading cartoonists from 10 Asian nations namely Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, The Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam have produced a total of 77 new works depicting the environmental problem faced in the respective nations for promoting awareness about our shared responsibilities in this issue.

While producing works on the environmental problem characteristics of each nation, the various cartoonists flavoured them with unique senses of humour and satire.

Cartoonist Zuan, who is graduated from Kuala Lumpur College of Arts, represents Malaysia. After working as an illustrator at Union 45 and Batey Advertising, he became a cartoonist for *Gempak*, *Utopia*, and other comic magazines. Works published include *Mat Gempak* (2002), *Mat Gempak Redux* (2004) and others. His real name is John Pek Teck Leong.

This exhibition is co-organized with Sabah Art Gallery.

ADMISSION FREE

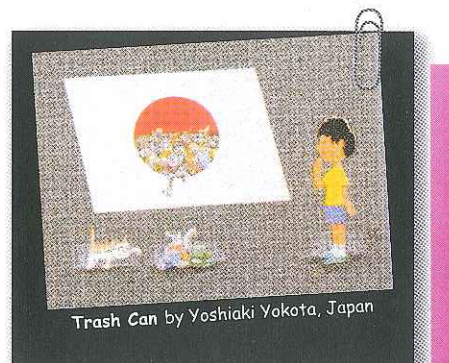
Sabah

Duration: 1 (Fri) - 30 September (Sat)

Venue: Wisma Budaya Art Gallery,
Kota Kinabalu



Medium or Well Done? by Zuan, Malaysia



Trash Can by Yoshiaki Yokota, Japan

Newspaper coverage



past events & features



JAPAN FOUNDATION

"TEMAN BARU" is distributed to JFKL members.
 JFKL membership is available upon application. Membership fee is RM10 per year.

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL)
 Suite 30.01, Level 30, Menara Citibank, 165, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur
 Tel: (03) 2161 2104 Fax: (03) 2161 2344
 Homepage: <http://www.jfkl.org.my> E-mail: jfcc@jfkl.org.my

