

Temam Baru

ISSUE **95** August - September 2017

JAPAN FOUNDATION KUALA LUMPUR
BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

WWW.JFKL.ORG.MY



JAPAN FOUNDATION
国際交流基金

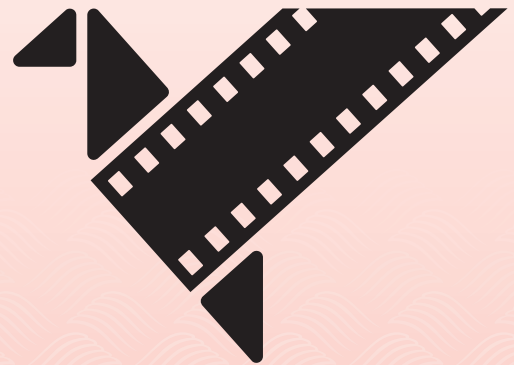
Upcoming Programmes

Japanese Film Festival 2017

Noh Performance 'Funa-Benkei'

"MARUGOTO Japanese Language and Culture: Starter A1 Activities/Comprehension"
(Malaysia Edition) Introductory Seminar

The Dolls of Japan: Shapes of Prayer, Embodiments of Love



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2017



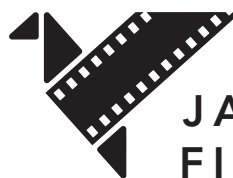
Now in its 14th year, Malaysia's largest showcase of new Japanese movies is back to serve up a diverse feast of offerings to sate every cinematic palate.

Boasting a programme encompassing box office favourites, award winners, illuminating documentaries, and manga adaptations, the Japanese Film Festival 2017 invites all Malaysian audiences to embark on a fantastic journey of discovery.

All films are presented in Japanese with English subtitles.

For showtimes and online booking, visit gsc.com.my

For general information, visit jfkf.org.my/events/jff-2017



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2017



The Long Excuse (永い言い訳 / Nagai Iiwake)
d. NISHIKAWA Miwa 西川美和 • 2016 • 124 min • Drama

Celebrated author Sachio shares a passionless marriage with the nonetheless supportive Natsuko. When she dies in a bus crash, he feels no sadness and is forced to play the part of a bereaving widower. His calculated displays of grief catch the eye of Yoichi, the genuinely devastated husband of another of the accident victims. For unfathomable reasons, Sachio volunteers to babysit Yoichi's children while their father works, setting in motion his own road to recovery.



The Projects (団地 / Danchi)
d. SAKAMOTO Junji 阪本順治 • 2016 • 104 min • Comedy

An old couple closes their herbal medicine shop and moves into a public housing complex, eager to quietly rebuild their lives following a tragic loss. This is easier said than done, thanks to the prying eyes and loose lips of their neighbours. The community is soon thrown into a wild frenzy of rumours after the sudden disappearance of the husband. As the story spins out of control, attracting police and media attention, the truth turns out to be even stranger than gossip.



Her Love Boils Bathwater (湯を沸かすほどの熱い愛 / Yu o Wakasu Hodo no Atsui Ai)
d. NAKANO Ryota 中野量太 • 2016 • 125 min • Drama

Futaba is a loving but strict single mother whose world is shaken when she discovers she has terminal cancer and has only a few months to live. Newly determined, she decides to use the brief amount of time she has left to bring back her husband, reopen their shut-down bathhouse, and set her teenage daughter on the path to independence. As she attempts to reconcile her splintered family before it is too late, long-repressed revelations rise to the surface.



Tora-san of Goto (五島のトラさん / Goto no Torasan)
d. OURA Masaru • 2016 • 114 min • Documentary

Filed over a period of 22 years, this intimate portrait of family follows the Inuzuka clan who reside in the Goto Islands of Nagasaki. Tora rules the roost, running an udon noodle-making business with the help of his wife and seven kids. As time passes, the household endures various events—from childbirth and upbringing to separation and reunion—providing a remarkably in-depth and heartwarming look into the unique bonds that prevail over generations.



Midnight Diner 2 (続・深夜食堂 / Zoku Shinya Shokudo)
d. MATSUOKA Joji 松岡錠司 • 2016 • 108 min • Drama

Every day from midnight till dawn, a Shinjuku alleyway restaurant becomes the watering hole for regulars from all walks of life. There is only one item on the menu, but as long as he can, the enigmatic proprietor known only as "Master" will make any request and provide a sympathetic ear and sage advice to all the night owls who come through his door in search of food and conversation. Everyone has a story, and all through the year they come to taste Master's down-home cooking and leave feeling refreshed.



Tsukiji Wonderland (築地ワンダーランド / Tsukiji Wandarando)
d. ENDO Shotaro 遠藤尚太郎 • 2016 • 110 min • Documentary

Tsukiji, known as the world's largest fish market, has been at the heart of Japanese cuisine since opening almost eighty years ago. Boasting over 600 wholesalers who have dedicated their lives to supplying only the very best produce, the incredible scale of trade at Tsukiji is a testament to their pride and determination. Shot at the onset of speculation about its relocation, this enduring snapshot of an iconic national institution is a sumptuous feast for sushi lovers everywhere and a rare glimpse of Japan's culinary legacy before it is altered forever.



Seto and Utsumi (セトウツミ / Setoutsumi)
d. OMORI Tatsushi 大森立嗣 • 2016 • 75 min • Youth Drama

Seto and Utsumi are two unlikely high school friends—an outgoing, sporty kid and an anti-social loner—who hang out by a river in the middle of the city and chat about anything that comes to mind: school, girls, potatoes, passers-by. Through their idle talk, the pair tries to come to grips with the world around them and their place in it, mulling over the myriad trials, puzzles, and odd facts of life.

KLANG VALLEY

Dates : 7–13 September
Venues: GSC Mid Valley, GSC 1 Utama, GSC Pavilion KL, GSC NU Sentral

PENANG

Dates : 14–17 September
Venue: GSC Gurney Plaza

KUCHING

Dates : 21–24 September
Venue: GSC CityONE Megamall

KOTA KINABALU

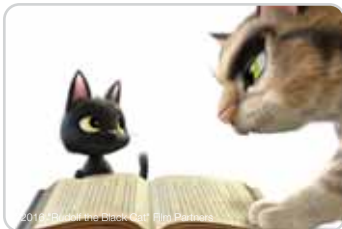
Dates : 28 September–1 October
Venue: GSC Suria Sabah

* Tickets for JFF '17 will be sold at RM8.00 (incl. of 6% GST) **except** for *Midnight Diner 2* and *Tsukiji Wonderland* which will be sold at prevailing ticket pricing.
** Tickets can be purchased from 31st August onwards via GSC box office, GSC e-payment at gsc.com.my or GSC mobile app.



Samurai Hustle Returns (超高速!参勤交代リターンズ / Cho kosoku!Sankin kotai ritanzu)
d. MOTOKI Katsuhide 本木克英 • 2016 • 119 min • Comedy, Action

In Edo-era Japan, feudal lords were required to perform expensive procession marches to pay respect to the shogun. Short on time and money, country simpleton Masaatsu Naito and his men barely managed to scrape by for their ritual visit. Before they can celebrate however, they receive news of a rebel uprising in their village instigated by rival samurai. Standing to lose more than just their land, the brotherhood must hike up their kimonos once more for another race against time fraught with danger and hilarity.



Rudolf the Black Cat (ルドルフとイッパイアッテナ / Rudorufu to Ippaiattena)
d. YUYAMA Kunihiro 湯山 邦彦, SAKAKIBARA Motonori 榊原 幹典 • 2016 • 89 min • Animation

Naive stay-at-home kitten Rudolf has always longed to roam the streets of his little neighbourhood. When his thirst for adventure inadvertently finds him lost in the big city, he meets Ippaiattena, a seasoned stray cat with the ability to read human language. The odd pair strike up an unlikely friendship, and Rudolf quickly discovers that he has a lot to learn about the world.



ReLIFE (リライフ / Riraifu)
d. Takeshi FURUSAWA 古澤健 • 2017 • 119 min • Youth Drama, Romance, Comedy

27-year-old Arata Kaizaki languishes in the depths of unemployment having quit his job of five months. He meets the mysterious Ryo Yoake, who urges him to participate in an experimental social reintegration program called "ReLIFE" that enables him to rejuvenate his appearance by a decade for a period of one year. Arata reenrolls in high school, where he gradually forges a tight-knit camaraderie with a group of classmates, all the while knowing that when the effects of the drug wear off, he will be erased from their memory.



Teiichi: Battle of Supreme High (帝一の國 / Teiichi no Kuni)
d. NAGAI Akira 永井聡 • 2017 • 118 min • Comedy

Teiichi Akaba has a singular dream: to crush the competition, become prime minister, and rule over his own empire. But first, his much-coveted reign of power must begin at his high school, an institute for the country's elite and a springboard to politics. Sabotage, bribery, double-crosses, ritual suicide, fisticuffs, and more than a few unspoken crushes charge the all-out warfare between Teiichi and his rivals as they battle for student council presidency.



blank 13
d. SAITOH Takumi 齊藤工 • 2017 • 70 min • Drama

Koji's absent father of 13 years is found with cancer and given three months to live. A heavy gambler, he saddled the family with debt. While his mother and brother feel only hatred, Koji harbours a degree of sympathy and clings on to the memory of their shared love for baseball. When the inevitable day of their father's funeral arrives, the siblings must confront the void left by his abandonment as well as a collection of odd acquaintances who have come to pay their last respects.



Survival Family (サバイバルファミリー / Sabaibaru Famiri)
d. YAGUCHI Shinobu 矢口史靖 • 2017 • 117 min • Comedy

A middle-aged salaryman and his stay-at-home wife live a humdrum life in a typical Tokyo flat with their smartphone-addicted daughter and their son who shield his emotions behind technological gadgets. Safe and spoiled in their comfort zone, they are shocked to one morning wake up to a complete global blackout. As the electrical outage continues and supplies run low, the family flees to the countryside in an epic road trip filled with laughs and harsh lessons.



Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2016: Reflections
(アジア三面鏡2016:リフレクションズ / Asia Sanmenkyo 2016: Rifurekushonzu)
d. Brillante Ma Mendoza, YUKISADA Isao 行定 勲, Sotho Kulikar • 2016 • 118 min • Anthology, Drama

Filmmakers Brillante Ma Mendoza, Isao Yukisada, and Sotho Kulikar present three stories of interconnectedness in the Asian region. In *SHINIUMA Dead Horse*, a Filipino illegal immigrant is deported and forced to begin life anew in a homeland he has not visited in decades. Set in Penang, *Pigeon* focuses on the warm kinship between a Malaysian care worker and an elderly Japanese man suffering from dementia. *Beyond The Bridge* chronicles the doomed romance of a Japanese-Cambodian couple amidst a backdrop of civil war and reconstruction.

Noh Performance 'Funa-Benkei'



Malaysians have the rare opportunity to experience the 650-year-old art of Noh, and the genius of classical Noh performer Soichiro Hayashi, at a special one-night-only performance at Dewan Filharmonik Petronas this September.

The world's oldest form of theatre, Noh was designated as a UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2008 in recognition of its intrinsic beauty and influence on various genres of the stage. Classically trained from childhood, Hayashi is the next and 14th-generation Noh master of the Hayashi family, one of only five extant traditional Kanze families in Kyoto.

The event is jointly organised by The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia in celebration of the 60th anniversary since the establishment of Malaysia-Japan diplomatic relations.

Date : Tuesday, 26 September, 2017
Time : 8.30 p.m. (approx. 1 hour 30 minutes)
Programme : Noh guidance and Noh performance 'Funa-Benkei'
Admission : Ticketing information will be available from late August onwards at jfkf.org.my
Venue : Dewan Filharmonik Petronas
 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur City Centre,
 50088 Kuala Lumpur

For more info, visit jfkf.org.my



What is Noh?

The foundation of Noh was established in the 14th century. Bearing both religious and entertainment elements, it was performed at such varied places as temples, castles, and riversides, attracting a great many spectators. Gradually, Noh became popular among politicians and the nobility in Kyoto, the capital city of the era, transforming into a performing art of exquisite elegance that has come to represent Japanese spirit and the aesthetic world. Most pieces are adapted from classic literature and revolve around the universal themes of gods and man, love and war, fate; thereby finding an audience of all ages even till today. The combination of well-trained movements, evocative music, ornamental masks, and refined costumes result in an immersive theatrical experience unlike any other.

Funa-Benkei (Benkei in a Boat)

In 12th century Japan, conflict erupted between the Heike and Minamoto clans. Although Minamoto no Yoshitsune contributed significantly to the annihilation of the Heike clan on behalf of his elder brother, Minamoto no Yoritomo, he was deposed for fear of vying for power. The play begins with Yoshitsune going into exile to the far west of Kyoto with his retainer, Benkei, and other followers. His mistress, Lady Shizuka, initially accompanied the group, but had to withdraw from the arduous journey. Full of sorrow, she performed a dance praying for Yoshitsune's safe return. Yoshitsune and company soon sailed out, but were struck by a violent storm and attacked by ghosts of the Heike clan who were killed in battle. Yoshitsune fought back valiantly while Benkei prayed, and eventually the deadly ghouls disappeared beneath the waves.



© HALCA

A mae-shite, the principal actor in the first half of the play



© HALCA

A nochi-shite, the principal actor in the second half of the play



© Atsushi Hitomi

Soichiro Hayashi

Shite (シテ方 / principal actor), Kanze School of Noh

Born in 1979, Soichiro is designated to become the next and 14th-generation Noh master of the Hayashi family, which belongs to Kyo Kanze Gokenya (The Five Kanze Families of Kyoto). He studied under his father, the 13th Noh master Kiemon Hayashi, and Kiyokazu Kanze, the 26th grandmaster of the Kanze School.

Making his stage debut at the age of three, he held his first independent showcase in 2012. In 2013, he founded Soichiro no Kai to produce his own performances. The next year saw him being selected for his hometown's special encouragement programme for arts and culture. In addition to serving as a local *omonetashi* (hospitality) ambassador, Soichiro also teaches Noh chanting and dance at studios in Kyoto, Tokyo, Okayama, and Tottori.



© HALCA



© HALCA



© HALCA



© HALCA

"MARUGOTO Japanese Language and Culture: Starter A1 Activities/Comprehension" (Malaysia Edition) Introductory Seminar

『まるごと 日本のことばと文化 入門A1 かつどう/りかい』マレーシア版紹介セミナー

This seminar is aimed at introducing Japanese language teachers across the country to the newly published Malaysian edition of The Japan Foundation's official course book, MARUGOTO Japanese Language and Culture: Starter A1 Activities/Comprehension.



In addition to being familiarised with its content and supporting website, participants will also be given some actual examples for how to use this teaching material. All participants will also receive a copy of the new edition.

Date	City	Venue
Sep 17 (Sun) Sep 18 (Mon)	Kuala Lumpur	Institut Pendidikan Guru, Kampus Bahasa Antarabangsa
Sep 30 (Sat)	Kuching	Fakulti Pengajian Bahasa dan Pengajian Komunikasi, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
Oct 1 (Sun)	Kota Kinabalu	Pusat Penataran Ilmu dan Bahasa, Universiti Malaysia Sabah
Oct 14 (Sat)	Kota Bharu	Pusat Pengajian Bahasa & Pembangunan Insaniah, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (Kampus Kota)
Oct 29 (Sun)	Ipoh	Perak Malaysian Japanese Friendship Society
Nov 4 (Sat)	Penang	Pusat Pengajian Bahasa, Literasi dan Terjemahan, Universiti Sains Malays
Nov 11 (Sat)	Johor Bharu	Akademi Bahasa, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
Time: 2 p.m.–5.00 p.m.		

Japanese Language General Course (October Intake)

Let's learn, practise and use Japanese at The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur!
JFKL's language course features:

• Communicative language teaching

We stress on a communicative approach in our language teaching that would help learners to develop their Japanese communication ability.

• Emphasis on intercultural understanding

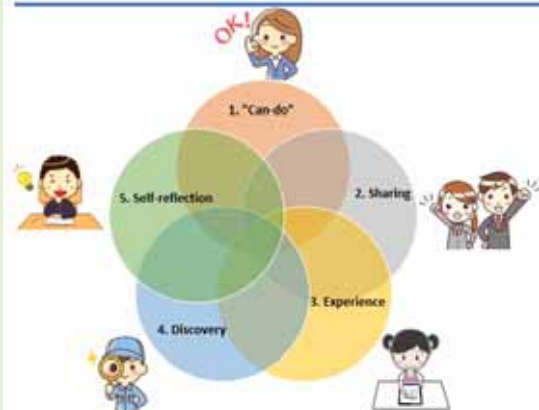
Our syllabus does not focus on language alone as we believe that cross-cultural understanding is another crucial factor for effective communication.

*Availability of class modules will depend on respective class capacity (TBA).

Stay tuned to our website for more updates:

<https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/learners/nihongo-kouza>

The JFKL Japanese Course aims to help the Japanese learners to enhance their Japanese conversational ability through implementation of communicative language activities in class.



THE DOLLS OF JAPAN

Shapes
of Prayer,
Embodiments
of Love

The Japan Foundation's travelling collection of representative dolls has entered into its last month of exhibition in Malaysia. Featuring some 70 figurines from bygone eras to the modern day, the showcase reflects the rich customs, aspirations, and craftsmanship of the Japanese people. Each miniature sculpture possesses unique regional attributes and individual functions, presenting audiences the opportunity to explore the social fabric that defines the country.

Date : Till 28 August, 2017
Time : 9 a.m.–5 p.m. daily
except for public holidays
Admission: Free
Venue : Penang State Museum
No. 57, Jalan Macalister
10400 George Town
For more info, visit jfkl.org.my



ICHIMATSU NINGYO
Ichimatsu Dolls

Torei Ningyo Utsushi Ichimatsu Ningyo



BUNRAKU NINGYO
Bunraku Dolls

Ninin-dachi, Osome Hisamatsu (Two Figures)



The 11th Annual Japanese Language Festival (JLfest 2017)

by Edward Lee (JFKL), photos courtesy of The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia
29–30 April, 2017 @ Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (Cina) Lai Meng, Kuala Lumpur

About 2,500 students, teachers, and parents from 58 schools and several institutions of higher learning attended this annual event organised by the Japanese Language Society of Malaysia, Embassy of Japan in Malaysia, and The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education Malaysia.

Held in commemoration of the 60th anniversary since the establishment of Malaysia-Japan diplomatic ties, the weekend festival featured 17 competitions and 49 workshops, in addition to the Japanese

Market and J-Fair, this year saw for the first time the inclusion of a Japanese language forum themed 'Shaping Japanese Language Education in Malaysia'.

A special award ceremony was also conducted for the winners of JFKL's 2016 Japanese Skit Contest for University and College Students. A team from Universiti Sains Malaysia clinched first prize with their entry, '里帰り いいなあ!'.
 里帰り いいなあ!



WHAT'S NEW: JAPANESE BOOKS



A



B



C



D

Japanese Language for Learners

- A 「THE GREAT JAPANESE 30の物語:人物で学ぶ日本語 中・上級」石川智【著】くろしお出版2016年Library Call No.817.5T
 「使う順と連想マップで学ぶ 漢字&語彙:日本語能力試験 N4,N5」飯島美和子【監修・著】国書刊行会2016年Library Call No.817.5T

Japanese Language for Teachers

- B 「伝わる日本語が身につく!にほんご話し方トレーニング:中・上級レベル C D付」中川千恵子ほか【著】アスク2015年Library Call No.811.1 T
 「会話教材を作る」関正昭ほか【編】スリーエーネットワーク2010年Library Call No.810.723
 「グローバルな時代を生きるための異文化理解入門」原沢伊都夫【著】研究社2013年Library Call No.361.45 E

Fiction

- 「琥珀のまたたき」小川洋子【著】講談社2015年Library Call No.913.6OGA
 「人魚の眠る家」東野圭吾【著】幻冬舎2015年Library Call No.913.6HIG
 「朝が来る」辻村深月【著】文藝春秋2016年Library Call No.913.6T

Non-Fiction

- 「花森さん、しずこさん、そして暮しの手帖編集部」小樽雅章【著】暮しの手帖社2016年Library Call No.590

Customs & Tradition

- 「大切にしたい、にっぽんの暮らし。」さとうひろみ【著】サンクチュアリ出版2013年Library Call No.386.1

Arts & Culture

- C 「映画を撮りながら考えたこと」是枝裕和【著】ミシマ社2016年Library Call No.788.21

Cookery

- D 「おにぎりレシピ101 EVERYDAY ONIGIRI」(ENG/JAP)山田玲子【著】ポット出版2014年Library Call No.596.3

< Recommended Books >

「THE GREAT JAPANESE 30の物語:人物で学ぶ日本語 中・上級」

中級から上級の日本語学習者対象。日本語能力試験N2レベルの読解力を身に付けることを目標としています。日本の著名人30人のストーリーを通して、単に日本語の言語能力を高めるだけでなく、日本人の価値観、考え方など異文化コミュニケーションに必要な日本についての様々な文化的知識、社会的知識も同時に学べるようになっています。

「伝わる日本語が身につく!にほんご話し方トレーニング」

聞き手に伝わりやすく、かつ話し手である自分にとっても言いやすい話し方を目指すための中・上級学習者向け発音トレーニング教材。日本語の特徴である「へ」の字型イントネーションで発音することを基本的目標とし、イントネーションやアクセントやリズムを視覚的なマークで表示し練習がしやすいよう工夫されています。

「映画を撮りながら考えたこと」

『誰も知らない』『そして父になる』『海街diary』・・・マレーシアでもJapanese film Festivalにておなじみの是枝裕和監督。デビュー作から『海よりもまだ深く』まで、全作品を振り返り、探った、監督自身によるルポルタージュです。

WHAT'S NEW: ENGLISH BOOKS



A Hundred Years of Japanese Film: A Concise History, with a Selective Guide to DVDs and Videos

by Donald Richie

Film | Library Call No. 91.430951 RIC

Called the “dean of Japan’s art critics” by Time magazine, Richie takes readers from the inception of Japanese cinema at the end of the nineteenth century, through the achievements of Kurosawa, Mizoguchi, and Ozu, then on to the notable works of contemporary filmmakers. This revised edition includes analyses of the latest industry trends, such as the revival of the horror genre, and introduces today’s up-and-coming directors and their oeuvre.



Something Like An Autobiography

by Akira Kurosawa, translated by Audie E. Bock

Film, Autobiography | Library Call No. 791.4302 KUR

The distinguished filmmaker chronicles his life from his birth in 1910 to the worldwide success in 1951 of *Rashomon*, providing along the way a provocative account of the Japanese movie industry. Eschewing the trivia of opening nights or the demands of leading ladies, he instead focuses on subjects close to his heart, from the role of a director and the use of multiple cameras in a single shot to the process of editing and importance of immersing oneself in good literature.

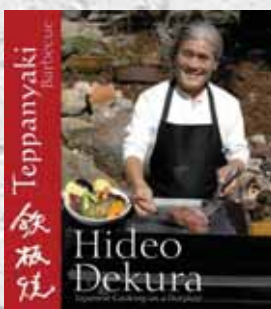


Kon Ichikawa (Cinematheque Ontario Monographs)

by James Quandt

Film, History | Library Call No. 791.430233092 KON

A tribute to one of the giants of Japanese cinema, this anthology packs over two dozen articles, including critical essays, interviews with the man himself, and personal accounts by him and his collaborators. Critic Mark Schilling, novelist Yukio Mishima, and filmmaker Yasuzo Masumura are but a few of the respected personalities who contribute in painting the portrait of a director prized for his elegant compositional style, venomous wit, and unerring humanism.



Teppanyaki Barbecue: Japanese Cooking on a Hotplate

by Hideo Dekura

Japanese Cuisine | Library Call No. 641.59 DEK

The first English language book devoted to teppanyaki, a traditional Japanese method of cooking on a hotplate. The modern iteration of the style evolved in post-World War Two Kyoto where people in the bombed-out areas collected scrap metal from the debris to be used as a cooking surface over open fires. Teppanyaki lends itself well to the concept of western barbecue, and Dekura presents a range of exciting recipes to tempt anyone’s palate.



My Name Is Sei Shonagon

by Jan Blensdorf

Fiction | Library Call No. 823.92 BLE

Above an incense shop in Tokyo, in a room furnished with nothing but a simple paper screen, guests come to speak with the woman known as ‘Sei Shonagon’, hoping to find answers to the mysteries of their own bizarre lives. ‘Sei Shonagon’ seeks out beauty where she can find it—whether in her memories, or in traditional Japanese culture. As she grows older, the need to understand what she sees around her becomes a personal odyssey that affects the lives of everyone she encounters.

Library

Kindly be informed that the library will be closed on:

- 31 August for National Day
- 1 September for Hari Raya Haji
- 9 September for Y.D.P Agong’s Birthday
- 16 September for Malaysia Day
- 22 September for Awal Muharram

Members who wish to return borrowed materials on these days may do so via the library dropbox in front of the JFKL entrance. For further enquiries and assistance, please call the JFKL library at 03 2284 6228 (ext. 401/402/403).

ESCAPE from the SEA

24 February–23 April, 2017 @ National Art Gallery and Art Printing Works Sdn Bhd.



'ChronoLOGiCal' by Ise (Roslisham Ismail). 2015. Mixed media installation with objects and video.

ESCAPE from the SEA brought together contemporary artists from Malaysia, Japan, and Southeast Asia to explore issues of identity, belongingness, and history through the politics of borders in this region and beyond. The collaborative exhibition was one of four held this year as part of curatorial development programme, Condition Report; with the others being in Jakarta, Manila, and Bangkok.



'Cargo Cult' by yang02 + Ishige Kenta. 2017. Installation with stand fans, ceiling fan, blanket dryer, hair dryer, robot cleaner, drills, dolls, toys, oil colour, acrylic colour, crayon, graphite, and canvas.



'Great Round Table in Malaysia – The Weight Between You and Me' by Han Ishu. 2017. Mixed media installation with kitchen scales, chopsticks, and bowls.



'tori' by Shitamichi Motoyuki. 2006–2012. 6 C-prints.



'Kris Project 1: The Never Ending Tales of Maria, Tin Mine, Spices and the Harimau' by Au Sow-Yee. 2016. Mixed media installation with lightbox, single-channel video, index card box, objects, and documents.



'News From Nowhere' by Aoyama Satoru. 2016–2017. Mixed media installation with embroidery on vintage prints, duplicated 35mm slides, and photographs.



'Pulau Seribu Duyung (A Thousand Duyungs Island)' by Ismal Muntaha. 2017. Mixed media installation with objects, and video.



'Hold Mirrors' by Han Ishu. 2017. Mixed media installation with 32 hand mirrors, wood, tin can, and video.



'Phoenix' by Zai Kuning. 2017. Rattan and wax sculpture.



'Story and exchanging water' by Shitamichi Motoyuki. 2017. Mixed media installation with newspaper, map, water, text, and sound.



'1001st Island — The Most Sustainable Island in the Archipelago' by Tita Salina. 2015. Single-channel video.



'Studies on the Movement of Water' by Catalina Africa Espinosa. 2017. Mixed media installation with video, printed tarpaulin, mirrors, desk lamp, felt, and rock.



'The Complete Futures of Malaysia, Chapter 1' by Ali Alasri, Faiq Syazwan Kuhiri, Mark Teh, and Wong Tay Sy. Resource centre, time capsule, evolving archive with wooden shelves, tables, and neon lights.



'Riau' by Zai Kuning. 2003. Single-channel video.



'Of Native Shores: A Digest of 20th Century Philippine Poetry in English, Volume One — 1914 to 1940' by Adam David. Hardbound book with sandpaper cover and javascript programme.



'Attachment' by Jeffrey Lim. 2017. Abaca (Manila hemp) rope. Artist walks to and fro the two exhibition venues, connecting them with a single length of rope each time, doing so three times throughout the exhibition period.

Malaysia-Japan Traditional Music Exchange Project

by Dr. Pravina Manoharan | Penang (9–11 May, 2017) and Kuala Lumpur (12–13 May, 2017)



On the 5th and 6th of December last year, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) and School of the Arts at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) joined hands to establish the Malaysia-Japan Traditional Music Exchange Project. The event was a pioneering collaborative programme that featured three prominent music exponents from Japan and Malaysia; namely Hiromu Motonaga on the shakuhachi (a traditional Japanese wind instrument) as well as Che Mat Jusoh and Mohd Jufry Yusoff on the Malay percussion instruments *rebab* and *gendang* respectively.

These musicians conducted a full two-day creative exchange session that functioned as an initial and essential platform for them to look at innovative ways to fuse the traditional music of the shakuhachi with those of the rebab and gendang. In the wake of the workshop, an additional instrument was introduced to the ensemble. The koto, a traditional Japanese stringed instrument, as played by Azumi Yamano brought a fresh sound to an already exciting and harmonious partnership.

As a follow-up, JFKL put together a weeklong visit to Tokyo for the two Malaysian musicians, who were accompanied by representatives from both USM and JFKL. The main aim of the trip was to provide them with a deeper understanding and first-hand experience of the cultural and music of Japan, in order for them to better appreciate the traditional music of the shakuhachi and koto. Their sojourn there was also intended to offer Che Mat and Jufry with the opportunity to rehearse and work on further collaborations with Motonaga and Yamano. Conversely, the Japanese musicians were able to share their own musical heritage with their Malaysian peers.

All seven days were very well-planned with stopovers at various traditional and cultural events. The team were taken to a *Gagaku* performance at the National Theatre, an extremely exciting and informative experience as none of the Malaysians had witnessed one live before. It equipped the musicians with an integral glimpse at the culture and history of the Japanese theatrical art form, which directly influenced the country's traditional music. The Drum Museum was on the agenda too, much to the delight of Jufry who is an avid percussionist. Prior to the trip, Che Mat, being an instrument maker himself, requested for the possibility of meeting a Japanese counterpart. The organisers were kind enough to make this happen, as the group toured the Kaneko Japanese Musical Instrument Shop to see how a *shamisen* is made. Other activities included the Traditional Craft Museum in addition to a Noh and *Kyogen* show at the National Noh Theatre. On the final night before their departure, Motonaga invited everybody to watch his band, Pro Musica Nipponia, in concert. This was rather unique as it revealed a slightly more contemporary side to Japanese music.

The entire project culminated on 9th May 2017 at Dewan Budaya, USM during a celebration marking the 60th anniversary of Malaysia-Japan diplomatic relations. The quartet also performed at a number of venues throughout Penang and Kuala Lumpur to promote the rich traditional music legacy of our two nations.

The chairperson of the music department at Universiti Sains Malaysia's School of the Arts, Dr. Manoharan contributed to the coordination of the Malaysia-Japan Traditional Music Exchange Project.

JFKL Holiday Notice

Office

31 August 2017 | National Day
1 September 2017 | Hari Raya Haji
22 September 2017 | Awal Muharram

Library

31 August 2017 | National Day
1 September 2017 | Hari Raya Haji
9 September 2017 | Y.D.P. Agong's Birthday

16 September 2017 | Malaysia Day
22 September 2017 | Awal Muharram



JAPAN FOUNDATION 国際交流基金



find us on



www.facebook.com/theJapanFoundationKL

"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)

18th Floor, Northpoint, Block B, Mid-Valley City, No. 1, Medan Syed Putra, 59200 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: (03) 2284 6228 Fax: (03) 2287 5859
Homepage: <http://www.jfkl.org.my> E-mail: jpcc@jfkl.org.my

