

ISSUE NO. 53 August - September 2010
The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur



JAPAN FOUNDATION 國際交流基金

Temam Baru



nyobakan
international
BUTO
Fest.
2010
5-15 august

舞壽
踏板
祭

Nyoba Kan International BUTO Festival 2010

Following its success in August 2009, Nyoba-Kan is organizing the festival again this year, sponsored by the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur and JT International Berhad. This year's Nyoba Kan Buto Festival kicks off with a special exhibition entitled "Lurking" which features selected photographic works by the late photographer, designer and principal dancer with Nyoba Kan, Caecar Chong, curated by Caecar's close friend and director of Nyoba Kan, Mr. Lee Swee Keong.

In this event, there will also be an appearance by Mr. Yukio Waguri, a prominent Japanese *Buto* artist who is famous among the *Buto* practitioners, and has been performing and conducting workshops on *Buto* all over the world for more than 30 years. He will collaborate with the local artists for two performances for the public on the 6 & 7 August 2010. He will also conduct a workshop on the 8 August 2010.

Check out this date and feel the spirit of *Buto* art in KL. Don't miss it!!

Opening Ceremony 5 August 2010 (Thursday) 8pm, The Annexe Gallery, Central Market KL	
Caecar Chong Charity Photography Exhibition 5 - 15 August 2010 11am-8pm The Annexe Gallery, Central Market KL	Buto Jam 8 Aug 2010 (Sunday) 8.30pm The Annexe Gallery, Central Market KL RM20

Performances

The Lost Testimony of Roshomon (Japan & Malaysia) 6-7 August 2010 (Friday-Saturday) 8.30pm, The Actor Studio Theater @ Lot 10, rooftop level 8, KL RM40 & RM30 RM20 (students, elderly & disabled)	Triple Bill (Brazil, Hong Kong & Malaysia) 13-14 Aug 2010 (Friday-Saturday) 8.30pm, PJLA Theater, Jaya 1, Jalan University, PJ RM40 RM20 (students, elderly & disabled)
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Workshop

Buto workshop with Yukio Waguri (Japan) 8 Aug 2010 (Sunday) 9.30am-12.30pm KLPac Studio 5, Jalan Strachan, Sentul West, KL RM60 (*limited to 25 participants only)	Buto workshop with Joao Roberto De Souza (Brazil) 15 Aug 2010 (Sunday) 9.30am-12.30pm KLPac Studio 5, Jalan Strachan, Sentul West, KL RM60
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For workshop's reservation & enquiries, please call Lai Chee 016 3248497 or Kuan Nam 012 6560812 or log on to www.nyobakan.blogspot.com

The Weekend Japanese Film Show

"The Man Who Raised A Storm" (1957, 100 min)
Saturday, 7 August 2010
starting 3pm

Director: INOUE Umetsugu
Starring: ISHIHARA Yujiro, AOYAMA Kyoji, SAYO Fukuko, KATAHARA Mie

In the Ginza area of Tokyo during the 1950's Eiji approaches the owner of a jazz club, Miyako to ask her to promote his older brother, Shoichi. Shoichi has recently come out of jail and has aspirations to become a musician. Eiji is a student of a famous music academy. At first Miyako is reluctant to help him. But then events unfold between Miyako and the drummer, Charlie, from the band she is promoting. Charlie and Miyako were once seeing each other but he is now seeing one of the club's dancers, Mary. Under Mary's influence he decides to go solo and leaves Miyako's band without a drummer.

With the support of dirty hooligans Charlie begins to make his solo career. Shoichi joins the band to replace Charlie. Miyako realizes that Shoichi is a very talented drummer and could be the best in Japan. Under her relentless training Shoichi blossoms and begins to get noticed. Miyako and Shoichi slowly become involved with each other.

However, even though Shoichi is beginning to make something of himself, his mother refuses to acknowledge him and treats him coldly. Shoichi reacts with anger, the only emotion he is able to show when things don't go his way.

Due to discontinuation of production of 16mm film projectors in Japan, replacements of such damaged prints are difficult. Your kind understanding would be very much appreciated.

During the Ramadan month, there will be no Weekend Film Show for September 2010

With English subtitles
at Pawagam Mini P.Ramlee
FINAS
Admission is FREE!!!
*Titles are subject to
change without prior notice

The New Japanese Language Proficiency Test

The JLPT has over 20 years of history. Over the years, number of people studying Japanese has increased and their reasons for learning and using the language have also changed. In order to accommodate these changes, the test has been revised. The new test incorporates improvements while building on the old test.

Key points of the new test!

1. Increased focus on communicative competence

The new test places importance not only on a learner's (1) **knowledge of the Japanese language including vocabulary and grammar but also on their (2) competence at using the knowledge in practical communication.** The test measures (1) through a section called "Language Knowledge (Vocabulary/Grammar)" and (2) through two sections called "Reading" and "Listening". By using these sections in combination, the new test comprehensively measures Japanese communicative competence.

2. The number of levels is increased to 5; examinees can select a more suitable level

The old test had four levels (Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4). The new test has five levels (N1, N2, N3, N4 and N5); the N3 level is newly established (Table A). It is comparable to a level between Level 2 and Level 3 in the old test. Increasing the number of levels allows examinees to select a suitable test level.

Table A (A Summary of Linguistic Competence Required for Each Level & Corresponding Levels of New and Old Tests)

Level	A Summary of Linguistic Competence Required for Each Level	Corresponding Levels of New and Old Tests
N1	The ability to understand Japanese used in a variety of circumstances	Approximately the same level as the old Level 1 test, but designed to measure slightly more advanced abilities
N2	The ability to understand Japanese used in everyday situations, and in a variety of circumstances to a certain degree	Approximately the same level as the old Level 2 test
N3	The ability to understand Japanese used in everyday situations to a certain degree	Positioned at a level bridging the old Level 2 and Level 3 tests [Newly established]
N4	The ability to understand basic Japanese	Approximately the same level as the old Level 3 test
N5	The ability to understand some basic Japanese	Approximately the same level as the old Level 4 test

3. The scoring method was revised to ensure a more accurate measurement of Japanese-language proficiency

Scores from the old test were "raw scores" calculated by the number of correctly answered questions. The new test uses "scaled scores", where the same competency gains the same score in any session by adopting an equating method. With scaled scores, the same scale is always used to calculate scores for the same-level test. This scoring method can show you the degree of improvement in competency compared to previous test results. It also facilitates setting goals for the next test.

4. What you can do in Japanese is easily visualized

We will conduct a survey on Japanese-language activities (reading, speaking, listening and writing) that successful examinees of individual levels THINK they can do. The survey results will be published as the "Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Can-do List" (tentative). The list will help successful examinees and others around them to have a better idea of "what can be done in academics, life and work situations with skills of a particular level".

Please access the Official Worldwide JLPT Website <http://www.jlpt.jp/> for more information. The New Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Guidebook as well as Samples Questions (with audio) is also available for download.

The JLPT is co-organized by the Japan Foundation and Japan Educational Exchanges and Services.

The 26th Japanese Speech Contest with Furoshiki Workshop



The Embassy of Japan in Malaysia, the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL), the Japanese Chamber of Trade & Industry, Malaysia (JACTIM) and the Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur (JCKL) in cooperation with the Japan Graduates' Association of Malaysia, will be organizing the 26th Japanese Language Speech Contest for open category.

The objective of this contest is to provide opportunity for Japanese language learners to express their opinions and thoughts in Japanese as well as to show their skills in the language, to raise awareness and to deepen understanding among Malaysian people on the importance of intercultural and cross-cultural communication. Top 2 winners will be invited for a 8-Day Study Tour to Japan.

There would also be a Furoshiki Workshop held on the same day. "Furoshiki" is a type of Japanese traditional cloth. Using various knotting, folding, and twisting techniques "Furoshiki" could be ideally used to carry things. It can also serve as a unique gift-wrap. Participation is free. To join this event, you need to register at the Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur at the 8 August 2010, 12.30pm. No reservation is required. First-come, first-served.

Date & Time : Sunday, 8 August 2010 (from 1:00pm)
Venue : The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur,
Main Hall, No.2 Jalan 1/86, Off Jalan Taman Seputeh, 58000 Kuala Lumpur.
Enquiry : 03 2284-7228





Japanese Books



Fiction

『1Q84 book1 book2』 村上春樹 新潮社 2009年 Library call no. 913.6

『新参者』 東野圭吾 講談社 2009年 Library call no. 913.6

『鷺と雪』 北村薫 文藝春秋 2009年 Library call no. 913.6

『まほろ駅前番外地』 三浦しをん 文藝春秋 2009年 Library call no. 913.6

『終の住処』 磯崎憲一郎 新潮社 2009年 Library call no. 913.6

Japanese language

『日本人の知らない日本語』 蛇蔵&海野瓜子 メディアファクトリー 2009年 Library call no. 810.4

『ドラえもののどこでも日本語』 藤子・F・不二雄(原作) 他 小学館 2009年 Library call no. 810.783

『マンガで学ぶ日本語表現と日本文化』 創作集団にほんご編 アルク2009年 Library call no. 302.1T

Japanese language text book

初級

『日本語初級1、2大地：メインテキスト』 山崎佳子 他 スリーエーネットワーク 2009年 Library call no. 810.78

『日本語初級1大地：文型説明と翻訳 英語版 中国語版』 山崎佳子 他 スリーエーネットワーク 2009年 Library call no. 810.78

『学ぼう！にほんご初級2』 日本語教育教材開発委員会 専門教育出版 2009年 Library call no. 810.781

『初級 ひらけ日本語 新装版 上下』 拓殖大学留学生別科・日本語教育研究所 凡人社 2008年 Library call no. 810.781

中級

『中級を学ぼう：日本語の文型と表現82』 平井悦子 三輪さち子 スリーエーネットワーク 2009年 Library call no. 810.781

『学ぼう！にほんご中級』 日本語教育教材開発委員会 専門教育出版 2009年 Library call no. 810.781

『新装版 日本語集中トレーニング』 星野恵子 遠藤藍子 アルク 2010年 Library call no. 810.781

『みんなの日本語中級?：翻訳・文法解説(英語版、中国語版)』 スリーエーネットワーク編 スリーエーネットワーク2009年 Library call no. 810.78

Comics

『星守る犬』 村上たかし 双葉社 2009年 Library call no. 726.1

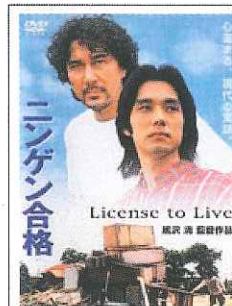


Library New DVD's



TITLE : PANDA! GO PANDA!

The plot follows Mimiko, a bright little girl left alone when her grandmother leaves on a trip. She comes home to her house in a bamboo grove to find a baby panda. His father soon comes to visit and they decide to become a family.



TITLE : LICENSE TO LIVE

Yutaka was fourteen years old when he was run over by a car and fell into a coma. Now, ten years later, he wakes up and realizes that his family is not intact anymore: father, mother and sister live at different places. Yutaka decides to re-open the pony farm that his family once ran.



TITLE : PORCO ROSSO

In Early 1930's era Italy, air pirates, bounty hunters and high flyers of all sorts rule the skies. The most cunning and skilled of these pilots is Porco Rosso, a man cursed with the head of a pig after watching the spirits of the pilots killed in the last air battle he fought in rise to the heavens. He now makes a living taking jobs, such as rescuing those kidnapped by air pirates.



TITLE : LETTER FROM IWO JIMA

The island of Iwo Jima stands between the American military force and the home islands of Japan. Therefore the Imperial Japanese Army is desperate to prevent it from falling into American hands and providing a launching point for an invasion of Japan. General Tadamichi Kuribayashi is given command of the forces on the island and sets out to prepare for the imminent



TITLE : OWL'S CASTLE(FUKURO NO SHIRO)

Based on Ryotaro Shiba's novel. As the great military commander Hideyoshi was consolidating his power across Japan, one of his actions was to wipe out a clan of assassins, killing every man, woman and child he found in the village. Years later, one of the survivors has hired a young but skilled assassin to avenge the deaths of his friends and family.

Japanese Film Festival 2010



(From Left) President of the Japan Club Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Junichi Iseda; MyFM DJs, Mr. Royce Tan & Ms. Wan Wai Fun; GSC CEO, Ms Koh Mei Lee; and Director of JFKL, Mr. Toyoda Shoichi

The Japanese Film Festival 2010 was held in Kuala Lumpur on 17 – 21 June 2010 and Penang on 25 – 27 June 2010. Eight (8) new titles were selected for this year's festival which included "Dear Doctor", "THE SUMMIT: A Chronicle of Stones", "Feel the Wind", "NORIBEN~The Recipe of Fortune", "One Million Yen Girl", "YAMAZAKURA - The Cherry Tree in the Hills", "Dog in a Sidecar" and "5 Centimeters per Second", four of which were brand new titles produced in 2009.

"Dear Doctor" by a very talented young female director, NISHIKAWA Miwa had been selected as the opening film this year. This film had won more than 30 awards in Japan including Best Film at the 31st Yokohama Film Festival, Best Director at the 34th Hochi Film Award and Best Actor for SHOFUKUTEI Tsurube at the 22nd Nikkan Sports Film Awards. It was also crowned as the most popular film in 2009 by Kinema Junpo, the most popular and established movie magazine in Japan.

The Japanese Film Festival 2010 was organized by the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Golden Screen Cinemas and GSC International Screens. At the opening ceremony of the Japanese Film Festival at GSC Mid Valley on 15 June 2010, Ms. Koh Mei Lee, Chief Executive Officer of GSC delivered a welcome speech on stage followed by a speech by Mr. Toyoda Shoichi prior to the screening of "Dear Doctor". This was the 7th year the Japanese Film Festival was held in Malaysia. Started in 2004, the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur has been working closely with Golden Screen Cinemas aiming to give more opportunities to cinema viewers to watch great Japanese films.

The Japanese Film Festival 2010 was a great success. Many of the Japanese movie fans visited the festival and many had watched more than one film per day. Thank you very much for all your support! We hope all of you enjoyed the films and hope to see you again next year!



Speech given by GSC CEO, Ms. Koh Mei Lee



(From left) Head of Japanese Language Dept of JFKL, Mr. Isogaya Hiroyuki; Director of Alliance Francaise de Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Bruno Plasse; Head of Cultural Affairs Dept of JFKL, Ms. Oshima Sachi



Invited guests who had attended the opening ceremony of the Japanese Film Festival



(From left) GSC CEO, Ms Koh Mei Lee & Director of JFKL, Mr Toyoda Shoichi

"All Together Now: Conversations without End"

Exhibition by Sharon Chin

One of Malaysia's most engaging and thoughtful young artists, Sharon Chin is known for creating interactive works that encourage audience participation and dialogue. The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and Bangsar Village recently presented her latest solo exhibition: "ALL TOGETHER NOW: Conversations Without End" on 14 – 30 May 2010, at the concourse of Bangsar Village II showcasing the results of a community project completed during her 2-month art residency in Sapporo, Japan, last year.

During Sharon's residency in Sapporo, the capital of Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, she noticed that people had scrawled graffiti and messages all along the bridge that she would cross to get from her apartment to the studio. The bridge became a metaphor for communication. "ALL TOGETHER NOW" explored the art of communication and the idea of conversation as an imperfect tool. It was also an attempt to bring art out of the gallery and into more public spaces.

At the opening of the exhibition on 14 May 2010, Sharon encouraged visitor participation in a game through which she managed to have brief, but meaningful moments of connection with many people in Sapporo. Each participant would write a message with their finger on the back of another person who would then try to write what the person had written on the image of the bridge they had chosen. Through this 'game', remembered from childhood, Sharon managed to demonstrate another interesting form of communication.



Rainforest World Music Festival 2010 in Kuching, Sarawak



The Rainforest World Music Festival is a unique festival that brings together on the same stage renowned world musicians from all continents and indigenous musicians from the interiors of the mythical island of Borneo. The 13th year of the Rainforest World Music Festival was held from 9-11 July 2010 at the Sarawak Cultural Village, a valley one hour west of the city of Kuching, Borneo.

The festival, organized by the Sarawak Tourism Board, Ministry of Tourism Malaysia and Ministry of Tourism & Heritage Malaysia, partially supported by the Japan Foundation, had featured 20 performers including Japan, Kimura-Ono Duo. Its formula of afternoon informative workshops, ethno-musical lectures, jamming sessions and mini concerts, followed by evening performances on the main stage had proven to be a hit to the audience, who came from near and far.

Two powerful innovators of the Tsugaru Shamisen, **Shunsuke Kimura** and **Etsuro Ono** had took part in two different workshops, *Fluent Flute-Flutes of the World* and *Sticking Their Necks Out-Lutes of All Shapes and Sizes* on the first day at Iban Longhouse. The workshops were great and awesome, with almost 200 attending the two workshops that allowed them to see the informal way of performance and also to gain knowledge about different instruments.

Heavy rain struck on the first and third night at the main stage but the weather was amazingly great on the second night. More than 5,000 people enjoyed the evening performances on the second night as Kimura & Ono had done their best performance in front of the crowd at Stage 2.

On Sunday afternoon, Etsuro Ono took part in the *Mondial Blues-The World has the Blues* workshop at the Theater. The workshop also managed to get the audience grooving with the rhythms. This 3-day festival was successfully organized and contributed to building platform of cultural exchange and network of performing artists.



YAMATO

JAPANESE DRUM CONCERT



© Chong Yuk Jye, PSPJ photography society



© Chong Yuk Jye, PSPJ photography society



© The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur

"YAMATO" Japanese Drum Concert was recently held in Kuala Lumpur, organized by the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur. The Artist Director of YAMATO, Masa Ogawa brought with him six Japanese Taiko drummers and 2 technical staffs for the performances at the Ground Floor Highstreet (Rainforest) at 1 Utama Shopping Centre on 12 July, and at the DBKL Auditorium on 13 July 2010. There was overwhelming response from the public, with approximately 2800 attending the two performances.

The concert was full of joy. The beat of Wakaïdo drum resonated with the heart beat of everyone and the interaction between the performers and the audience was great when the YAMATO group made jokes and asked the audience to work together with sound and hand movements. Time passed by too quickly, 90 minute performance didn't seem enough for the audience. At the second performance at the DBKL Auditorium, the YAMATO group even added an encore session for another 10 minutes as requested by the audience.

"YAMATO" Japanese Drum Concert in Kuala Lumpur was organized by the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL), co-organized by the Embassy of Japan and One Utama Shopping Centre, and supported by Cebu Pacific Air. The 2-day heart-pounding performance was really a great experience for the audience.



© Garry Loke Hon Weng



© Garry Loke Hon Weng



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Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri

JFKL Holiday Notices

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

31 Aug (Tue)

10 Sep (Fri) – 11 Sep (Sat)

16 Sep (Thu)

20 Sep (Mon)

Malaysia National Day

Hari Raya Puasa

Malaysia Day

Respect for the Aged Day (Japanese Holiday)



JAPAN FOUNDATION 國際交流基金

"TEMAN BARU" is distributed to JFKL members.

JFKL membership is available upon application. Membership fee is RM10 per year.

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