

THE APPA Newsletter  
Feb. 2, 2010

Setsubun

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Setsubun>

<http://www.topics-mag.com/internatl/holidays/japan/setsubun-bean-throwing.htm>

See This Weekend

MISSION STATEMENT:

Promote full utilization of the capabilities of the Enterprise's employees and champion the betterment of the company and community. Promote interest in Asian Pacific issues and culture and act as a bridge to all groups within our community. (substitute in your Enterprise and company, etc...)

-----  
ed. by Douglas Ikemi  
([dkikemi@pacbell.net](mailto:dkikemi@pacbell.net))

-----  
Back issues of the newsletter for all of 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009 are available at

<http://www.ikemi.info/APPA/newsletters>.

if you want to look up some past event.

This newsletter was originally published under the auspices of the Hughes Asian Pacific Professional Association (no longer extant). It currently has no affiliation and is available to anyone who is interested in downloading it.

-----  
Please send in information on cultural events and news items to [dkikemi@pacbell.net](mailto:dkikemi@pacbell.net). The mac.com address will be shut down soon. Thanks to those who have.

Long range calendar items:

Chinatown Farmers Market EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2-6PM, the Chinatown Farmers' Market takes place at Hill & Alpine bringing fresh fruits and produce by California Farmers to the Chinatown Community. FRIED BANANA, FRIED YAM, HAWAIIAN CHICKEN. We invite you to come and experience the Chinatown Farmers' Market. Free parking with purchase.

The Downtown Arts District/Little Tokyo Farmers' Market  
Weller Court 2nd & San Pedro in Little Tokyo Summer Hours 10-3pm  
Features fresh produce, Hawaiian Chicken, more food gifts...and live jazz band.  
Tuesdays from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

The weekly market is held every Tuesday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m year round, rain or shine. Sponsored by LARABA the market will include farm-fresh produce, Asian produce, organic produce, eggs, seafood, cheese, olives, olive oils, flowers, plants, bread and pre-

pared foods and more. Hawaiian Chicken, Roasted corn on the cobb Local businesses interested in having a prepared food booth at the market or individuals interested in volunteering at this non-profit event, please contact Susan Hutchinson at 323-660-8660 for more information

Los Angeles Public Library Celebrates our DiverseCity

<http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

Jan 22 - Feb 13 A Play "Kataki" (The Enemy), War from the Pacific Brought to the Hollywood Stage

War is coming. Starting Jan. 22, thru Feb. 13, Hollywood will be taken back into the pacific front of World War II when Kataki opens at the McCadden Theatre located at 1157 N McCadden Pl. in Hollywood's Theatre Row every Friday and Saturday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm and Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

One American soldier and one Japanese soldier will be stranded together on an island in the Pacific with nothing but a solitary battle knife separating them.

The Los Angeles stage will for the first time witness the English and Japanese languages sharing the same stage when Shimon Wincelberg's Kataki is remade since its original 1959 Broadway debut.

Kataki tells the story of an American soldier, who regains consciousness after crash landing on a deserted island somewhere in the Pacific Ocean during the war. He awakens to find himself in the hands of a Japanese Imperial soldier, his enemy combatant.

With their respective languages of little use and one bayonet between them serving as judge, jury, and executioner, two soldiers must find ways communicate and coexist. The only possible alternative would be the extermination of either one of them.

This incredibly unique production brings together the creative team comprised of Director Peter Haskell and the Prince Livingston Players which includes Stars/Producers Fernando Aldaz and Yas Takahashi all of which come from a strong foundation and belief in truthful and riveting acting that captures the real essence of human nature.

A graduate from Harvard University, Haskell's directorial approach is heavily influenced by his long time mentor Peter Kass, who was a member of the Original Group Theatre, founded on the revolutionary acting approach that gradually swept the United States in the 30s and 40s that eventually came to be known as 'Method' acting.

Haskell also brings to the table his United States armed forces expertise having served in the 11th Airborne Division from May 1954 thru April 1956. Haskell's creative approach to Kataki is also influenced by his experience of three uncles who served the armed forces during the Second World War.

Aldaz, who plays Alvin, brings to the table his extensive training having studied at the Circle in the Square Theatre School on Broadway and the Stella Adler Academy of Acting in Los Angeles.

Takahashi who plays Kimura, completes this versed creative triad, having been born in Osaka, Japan and a member of Los Angeles's only Japanese theatre company, "Arigato-Kai," Takahashi also received his acting foundation from the Stella Adler Academy of Acting of Los Angeles.

Audiences will get an authentic taste of the war's pacific front conflict when this creative teams' vision hits the stage at the end of January. Tickets can be bought online at the Kataki official webpage, [www.kataki2010.com](http://www.kataki2010.com) or at the door of the McCadden before show times. Additional information is available at Kataki's official [Facebook page](#).

Your individual reservation number is: (323) 960-7721.

[from Cultural News, <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs026/1102629591878/archive/1102918859079.html>]

#### 2009-2010 International Human Rights Film Series

The UCLA International Institute is proud to present the second annual Human Rights Film Series, featuring monthly presentations of recent documentaries and feature films, on human rights issues that receive little attention in the United States. These films stand out for their depiction of issues on terms dictated from within the countries and cultures that they examine. Featuring commentary from filmmakers and scholars, each screening will also be an opportunity for public discussion about the issues.

All films screened at James Bridges Theater, 1409 Melnitz, UCLA

Sponsored by the International Institute, African Studies Center, Asia Institute, Center for European and Eurasian Studies, Latin American Institute, Center for Near Eastern Studies, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and the UCLA School of Law International Human Rights Program, and Human Rights Watch

The Bitter Taste of Tea: A Journey into the World of Fair Trade

Wednesday, January 20, 2010, 6:30 pm

A film by Tom Heinemann and Erling Borgen, Denmark, 2008.

Reception at 6:00. Screening followed by a forum on tea and fair trade.

Co-sponsored by the Asia Institute

Burma VJ: Reporting from a Closed Country

Friday, November 20, 7:00 pm

A film by Anders Østergaard, Norway/Sweden/Denmark/UK, 2008.

Reception at 6:30

Co-sponsored by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Asia Institute, and Human Rights Watch

The Reckoning: The Epic Story of the Battle for the International Criminal Court

Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 pm

A film by Paco de Onís, Peter Kinoy, and Pamela Yates, USA, 2009.

Wednesday, February 24: (Film TBA)

Co-sponsored by the Center for European and Eurasian Studies

Wednesday, March 31: (Film TBA)

Co-sponsored by the Latin American Institute

Reception at 6:00 pm. Screening at 6:30 pm followed by a discussion with Maximo Langer, UCLA School of Law, and

Cesare Romano, Loyola Law School.

Co-sponsored by the UCLA School of Law International Human Rights Program and Human Rights Watch.

For more info visit [www.international.ucla.edu/humanrights](http://www.international.ucla.edu/humanrights)

Hollywood Chinese: The Arthur Dong Collection Exhibition / October 23, 2009 – May 31, 2010

Hollywood Chinese: The Arthur Dong Documentary Collection presents selections from over 800 pieces of movie memorabilia that was collected during the ten-year research for Arthur Dong's groundbreaking film, Hollywood Chinese. Through posters, lobby cards, film stills, and scripts and documents dating from 1912, visitors journey into a vivid and graphic study of how Chinese have been imagined in the movies, reflecting the social and cultural history of the Chinese in America during the last century.

In addition to iconic depictions evidenced by material from films such as The Good Earth, The Vengeance of Fu Manchu, Charlie Chan in Honolulu, and Flower Drum Song, highlights of the collection include the surviving archive of pioneer Chinese American filmmaker James B. Leong, who produced the 1921 film, Lotus Blossom, in Los Angeles.

Filmmaker Arthur Dong is the Guest Curator for this exhibition.

The Chinese American Museum

425 N. Los Angeles Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(The cross street is Arcadia)

camla.org

Jan 3 - Feb 28, 2010 12th Annual Shikishi Exhibition

Japanese American Cultural and  
Community Center

Doizaki Gallery

244 South San Pedro Street

(between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

Los Angeles (Little Tokyo), CA 90012

(213) 628-2725

LITTLE TOKYO KOREA JAPAN FESTIVAL

Event Details

Date: February 6, 2010

Time: 11am Rough Cut 1pm New Beginnings: Cultural Harmony in Little Tokyo  
(documentary) 1:30pm Live performance and Lunch 3pm Sanjuro

Location: Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC) 244 S. San  
Pedro Street , Los Angeles , 90012 Cross Streets: San Pedro Street / 2nd Street

Phone: (213) 680-3700

Link: <http://www.jaccc.org>

Adult Price: \$20 General Admission, \$15 JACCC Members/Seniors/Students/Groups  
10+

Event Description

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center with the Korean Cultural Center  
Los Angeles, The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles and the Japan Korea Society present  
the Little Tokyo Korea Japan Festival, a day-long celebration of cultural exchange  
between neighboring communities.

The closely shared similarities and differences between the cultures of Japan and Korea are explored in Tina Yanagimotos "New Beginnings: Cultural Harmony in Little Tokyo." This documentary chronicles the history of Little Tokyo and how Japanese and Korean residents are building bridges of friendship and harmony. Featured films include the Korean award-winning 2008 Yeong-hwa-neun yeong-hwa-da (Rough Cut) followed by the 2007 remake of Akira Kurosawas Tsubaki Sanjuro (1962). This unique program is hosted by Heroes actors James Kayson Lee and Eriko Tamura. Ticket includes two films, a box lunch and outdoor performances.

Feb 7 Lunar New Year Street Festival - 10 am - 5:30 pm

On Valley Blvd. Between Garfield & Almansor

The Festival will be held in the heart of one of the largest Chinese / American commercial districts in the southland. The one-day festivities attract about 50,000 people and consist of more than 250 booths. There are many theme-oriented venues giving attendees a taste of the Chinese culture. The food court is an ideal place to sample dishes from different regions. Admission is free.

The festival will include an Entertainment Stage that features a variety of programs including the JC Penney Fashion Show. The Cultural Pavilion will be presenting several exhibits offering a glimpse into Chinese culture and tradition, including the giveaway of one thousand red envelopes. For children, several special areas will be provided for hands-on arts and crafts. Attendees can enter the karaoke singing contest to display their talent for a chance to win prizes.

Feb 6 Undiscovered Chinatown Walking Tour

10:30AM-1PM

\$20

Call 213-680-0243 for reservations

Feb 6, 7

Sogetsu Ikebana Exhibition at Thousand Oaks Public Library,

The Sogetsu San Fernando Valley Branch will present Balance in Nature, an exhibit of Japanese flower arranging on Saturday, February 6 and Sunday, February 7, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Thousand Oaks Public Library.

The exhibit will showcase Sogetsu Ikebana as a contemporary, formative art form, infinite in its possibilities. Arrangements will range from minimal, graceful floral arrangements to large, living sculptures which use plant materials in dazzling and powerful ways. The results can be as extreme as nature itself, peaceful and calm or wild and spectacular.

The Japanese Art of Ikebana is a highly refined and respected art form with over five centuries of history and development. The Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Japan's most progressive avant-garde school, embraces today's modern aesthetic while at the same time respecting and reflecting the Japanese heightened sensitivity to the beauty of nature.

Formal training in Ikebana consists of successfully mastering certain basic arrangements and moving onto what are called free-style arrangements. Becoming a

teacher can take as long as ten years. Students in the LA area today may take classes that are offered at local colleges or community centers.

The sixty members of the Sogetsu San Fernando Branch, representing both students and teachers, are honored to share this exciting art form in Southern California. The Branch, under the direction of Camille Van Ast of Newbury Park, is associated with the Sogetsu Teachers Association of Japan.

The Thousand Oaks Public Library is located at 1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. For additional information, contact Branch Director, Camille Van Ast, 805-498-7421.

[from Cultural News]

February 10, 2010 Ningbo Xiao Baihua Yue Opera Troupe

Performance by Ningbo Xiao Baihua Yue Opera Troupe

Wednesday,

8:00 PM - 10:30 PM

UCLA Freud Playhouse

Los Angeles, CA 90095

In their only West Coast performance, the renowned Xiao Baihua Yue Opera Troupe from Ningbo, China will launch the Year of the Tiger with an evening of Chinese music, dance and theater. With roots in the folk music traditions of the Yangtze River Valley region of central eastern China, Yue Opera (yueju) is known for its gentle melodies, stunning visual performance style, and cross-gender casting. Yue opera performances reflect both the traditional and cosmopolitan sensibilities of the Shanghai region. Its featured repertoire of romantic plays is popular among audiences of all ages and from all parts of the globe.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors/children.

All seats are general admission and available for purchase online and at the Central Ticket Office on campus.

UCLA campus parking is available for \$10 in Lot 3.

Please click here for a campus map

This event is sponsored by the UCLA Confucius Institute in partnership with the Confucius Institute at the University of Rhode Island and Zhejiang University.

Sponsor(s): Confucius Institute, UCLA Confucius Institute

History: Groundbreaking of Manzanar barracks set for Feb 13

INDEPENDENCE, California - The National Park Service, Friends of Manzanar, and Manzanar History Association invite the public to attend a barracks groundbreaking event at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, February 13, 2010.

According to Superintendent Les Inafuku, "All Americans had to adapt during World War II, including Japanese Americans confined at Manzanar. Future visitors to Block 14 can learn how Japanese Americans lived at Manzanar, and improved their living situations. Our elders can still inspire us to improve our lives and help shape our great nation."

In operation from 1942-45, Manzanar War Relocation Center confined more than

10,000 Japanese Americans in 36 blocks. Each block included 14 barracks buildings, a mess hall, a recreation building, latrines, and laundry and ironing rooms.

After the war, the buildings were sold for scrap lumber or relocated.

In 1997, in consultation with the Manzanar Advisory Commission, former internees, historians, and others, the National Park Service approved the development of Block 14 as a "demonstration block" to interpret daily life in the camp.

In fiscal years 2009-10, Congress approved funding, proposed by California Senator Diane Feinstein, for reconstructing Barracks 1 and 8 on Block 14.

Barracks 1 will appear as it would have when Japanese Americans first arrived at Manzanar in 1942.

Barracks 8 will be reconstructed to represent barracks life in 1945.

A restored World War II mess hall moved to the site from Bishop Airport in 2002 will be open to visitors later this year.

Erick Ammon, Inc., of Anderson, California, will reconstruct the barracks.

Friends of Manzanar, a non-profit partner of the National Park Service, continues to raise funds to support the development and interpretation of Block 14.

The groundbreaking event begins at 1:00 p.m.

Afterwards, Manzanar History Association will provide light refreshments in the mess hall.

Later that day, the National Park Service invites former internees to gather informally with visitors in the Interpretive Center to share their memories and experiences.

The events are free and open to the public.

Manzanar National Historic Site is located along U.S. Highway 395, six miles south of Independence, California and nine miles north of Lone Pine.

For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/manz](http://www.nps.gov/manz) or call (760) 878-2194.  
[from Cultural News]

#### Chinese New Year Festival

Saturday, February 20, 2010 to Sunday, February 21, 2010

[Central Plaza Entertainment Stage](#)

Central Plaza

943-951 N. Broadway

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Entertainment Schedule (tentative)

Saturday, February 20, 2010 (12pm-8pm)

Sunday, February 21, 2010 (12pm-5pm)

Golden Dragon Parade

Saturday, February 20, 2010

And Festival

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Five Star Parking Lot

Broadway and Cesar Chavez

Saturday and Sunday, February

20 and 21, 2010

Feb 20 Day of Remembrance

Legacy of Korematsu

2-4PM at JANM

Community Day of Remembrance

\*SPECIAL: Pay what you can!

The Day of Remembrance marks President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, which authorized the unconstitutional forced removal of 120,000 Japanese Americans from the West Coast and Hawai'i during World War II. Keep checking back for more information and an updated program schedule.

Presented in collaboration with the Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress, the Japanese American Citizen's League–Pacific Southwest, and the National Museum.

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: (213) 625-0414

janm.org

Saturday, Feb 20, 2010 Six Taste's Little Tokyo Food Tour

Little Tokyo is home to several restaurants, bakeries, and other historical eating establishments. Its 100-plus years of history provide some fascinating stories. Six Taste's Little Tokyo Tour will take you throughout Little Tokyo, from Fugetsu-Do, a confectionary shop and the oldest building in Little Tokyo to Chado Tea Room, where you'll get to taste some authentic Japanese tea, to several other restaurants and other eateries.

Six Taste's food tours are more than just walking and eating. They hope to provide you with an entertaining, educational, and exciting experience. You'll learn about Japanese culture, the history of Little Tokyo, the art and science of tasting, and have great conversations over great food.

The "Gastronaut Tour" includes a balance of history, culture, and delicious food. You'll stop at some of the most fascinating historical locations in Little Tokyo, meet owners of some of the longest running stores in Little Tokyo, try amazing food at seven different locations, and learn about Japanese culture and culinary customs. This tour is perfect for tourists or LA natives that have never ventured into Little Tokyo before.

\$50 members; \$55 non-members, includes Museum admission. Comfortable walking shoes and warm clothes recommended. Weather permitting.

For more information about Six Taste, go to [www.sixtaste.com](http://www.sixtaste.com).

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: (213) 625-0414

janm.org

Asia America Symphony's 2010 season brings world renowned musicians to Los Angeles



The Asia America Symphony Association (AASA) led by Music Director & Conductor, David Benoit announces its 2010 Concert Season, featuring a line-up of world renowned and celebrated artists.

Heading up the concert series on Saturday, February 20 is the nation's most sought after cellist, Ben Hong presenting a diverse program of "Classical and Jazz" with the David Benoit Trio and musicians of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra followed by one of the major voices in today's chamber jazz scene, Er-hu and premier violinist, Meg Okura, performing for the first time with the David Benoit Trio on March 20.

Two other outstanding performances include the Asia America Youth Orchestra in concert on April 18, premiering David Benoit's new composition, "Native California", and the finale concert featuring platinum selling artist and six-time Grammy nominee, saxophonist, Dave Koz performing with the Asia America Symphony Orchestra under Music Director and Conductor, David Benoit on June 5.

Mr. Benoit also announced AASA's Annual International Composition for Orchestra Competition open to all young composers up to 25 years of age.

Monetary prizes are awarded to winners in two youth divisions.

CONCERT I: Saturday, February 20, 2010 - 8pm / Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, Rolling Hills Estates

Evening with BEN HONG, the David Benoit Trio and members of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra

Called a "Ninja Cellist" by Soloist film actor, Jamie Foxx, Ben Hong is anything but your typical cellist. In addition to being the youngest cellist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Assistant Principal Cellist, Ben's desire to grow musically has resulted in a number of diverse performance opportunities.

Most recently, Ben was hired by Dreamworks to train several cast members of the movie, "The Soloist", including Academy Award winner, Jamie Foxx and Tom Hollander. He also served as an on-set technical advisor. The movie is based on Steve Lopez's columns in the Los Angeles Times about Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, a former Juilliard student who ended up on the streets of Los Angeles, homeless and schizophrenic, yet held tight to his music.

Ben's playing is featured on the film's soundtrack. He will be performing with the David Benoit Trio and members of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra: concertmaster, Yun Tang and principal clarinetist, Darryl Tanikawa in a program of classical and jazz.

Ticket Prices: \$50 Preferred, \$35 General Seating; Harlyne J. Norris

Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

CONCERT II: Saturday, March 20, 2010 - 8pm / Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, Rolling Hills Estates

Electric Violin & Er-hu Virtuoso, MEG OKURA with the David Benoit Trio

A native of Japan, composer, Er-hu player and premier jazz violinist, Meg Okura has appeared in over fifty albums, movie soundtracks, television programs and music videos.

Juilliard trained, Ms. Okura has performed with musical icons such as David Bowie, Mary J. Blige, Michael Brecker, Philip Glass, Ziggy Marley, Lee Konitz, Lenny Kravitz, and Kanye West.

Directing the Pan Asian Chamber Jazz Ensemble, Meg is inventing and defining "world chamber jazz" today.

Performing together for the first time with the David Benoit Trio, this concert will invigorate your musical senses and is not to be missed.

Ticket Prices: \$50 Preferred, \$35 General Seating; Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

CONCERT III: Sunday, April 18, 2010 - 7pm / James Armstrong Theatre, Torrance  
ASIA AMERICA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Music Without Borders

The Asia America Youth Orchestra (AAYO) will debut the world premiere performance of David Benoit's new composition, composed specially for AAYO, "Native California", spotlighting many members of its orchestra in a variety of musical styles.

Also featured will be AAYO violin virtuosos, Eleanor Dunbar and Jessie Chen performing Bach's Double Violin Concerto.

The Asia America Youth Orchestra was founded in 2001 by Music Director and Conductor, David Benoit, to provide opportunities for young musicians from all cultures, races and backgrounds to play in a professional-level ensemble.

Ticket Prices: \$40 Preferred Seating, \$25 General Seating; James R. Armstrong Theatre, 3330 N. Civic Center Drive, Torrance, CA 90503.

CONCERT IV: Saturday, June 5, 2010 - 8pm / Aratani Japan America Theatre, JACCC, Los Angeles

ASIA AMERICA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

David Benoit, Music Director and Conductor  
with special guest, saxophonist DAVE KOZ

A Night at the Movies

Platinum selling artist, humanitarian, radio host and six-time Grammy nominee, saxophonist Dave Koz will join Music Director & Conductor David Benoit and the Asia America Symphony Orchestra performing music from his "At The Movies" CD.

A 2009 recipient of a "star" on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Dave Koz has played with musical luminaries such as Burt Bacharach, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Celine Dion, Kenny Loggins, U2, Barry Manilow, and Rod Stewart.

Also featured in this concert will be the fantastic music of John Williams.

Ticket Prices: \$100 VIP Seating with post-concert reception, \$75 Premier Seating, \$50 General Seating; Aratani Japan America Theatre, 244 South San Pedro St. Los Angeles, CA 90012.

[from Cultural News]

Feb 27 Koto musician Yukiko Matsuyama to present new CD concert,

Yukiko Matsuyama & The Koto Yuki Band

Saturday, Feb 27, at 8:00PM

Remo Recreational Music Center

7308 Coldwater Canyon, North Hollywood, CA 91605

Tickets are \$15 in advance sale, \$18 at doors

Ticket info: (760) 576-KOTO (5686)

[www.KotoYuki.com](http://www.KotoYuki.com)

To celebrate the release of a new CD "Creme Brulee," koto musician Yukiko Matsuyama and the Koto Yuki Band will perform at Remo Recreational Music Center in North Hollywood on Saturday, Feb 27 at 8:00 p.m.

It's a joyful blend of Smooth Jazz, New Age & World Music that will excite and delight the audiences.

A native of Osaka, Japan, Yukiko is blending the traditional sound of the koto with western music. "It's definitely not what comes to mind when one imagines traditional Koto music." says one critic.

The band features Diana Dentino on keys, Vince VanTrigt on bass, Voyce McGinley III - drums & percussion with Special Guests: Remo Signature artist Leon Mobley - percussion, & Greg Vail - sax & flute. Tom Kurai of the Taiko Center of Los Angeles will be opening the show.

Yukiko Matsuyama bridges eras and cultures. Her compositions for koto and western instruments delve into a joyous and celebrative blend of world and pop music.

She delivers the sounds of the ancient 7th century instrument with authority and grace while managing to infuse elements of jazz, pop, new age, and world music into her mesmerizing compositions.

Born in Osaka, Japan, Matsuyama was classically trained at the Ikuta School of Koto from age 9. She received her professional certification and teaching credential in 1986. In 1993 Matsuyama came to Los Angeles and began composing original music, blending the traditional sound of the koto with western music. She has released three original recordings, Kazaguruma, Tsubomi, and Koto and has just finished her fourth CD Creme Brulee.

Matsuyama has performed with a diverse array of artists including the Paul Winter, John York (The Byrds), Rei Aoo Dance Planet, Hirokazu Kosaka, Billy Mitchell, Tadashi Namba, Akihiro Ito, Hirotaka Ogawa, Diana Dentino (Kitaro & Peabo Bryson), Koji Nakamura, Dave Iwataki (Hiroshima), Mike Bennett (Hilary Duff), & Dr. Reed Gratz (Buddy DeFranco).

She's performed at the Japan America Theatre, the John Anson Ford Theatre, the Grand Canyon National Park, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Huntington Library, and many music festivals, cultural and community events, universities and schools. Matsuyama also performs several times a year in Japan.

A 13-string zither or harp, the Koto is Japan's national instrument.

[www.KotoYuki.com](http://www.KotoYuki.com)

[from Cultural News]

The Grateful Crane Ensemble Presents The Betrayed

Saturday, February 27 \* 11 AM & 3 PM

Sunday, February 28 \* 2 PM

\$23.00 members; \$25.00 non-members. To purchase tickets, please call (323)

769-5503

A Play by Hiroshi Kashiwagi Directed by Darrell Kunitomi Southern California Premiere Award-winning Nisei playwright, actor, poet, and author Hiroshi Kashiwagi's Southern

California premiere of his new two-act play about a young Nisei couple torn apart over the infamous loyalty questions #27 & #28. Forty years later, we meet Tak and Grace again, and learn how these questions and the decisions they made back then affected them for the rest of their lives.

APANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: (213) 625-0414

February 28, 2010 "The Harimaya Bridge" Film Screening

Date: Sunday,

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Aratani Japan America Theatre in Little Tokyo

244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Aurora Foundation is proud to present "THE HARIMAYA BRIDGE" Film Screening.

Q&A with Director Aaron Woolfolk(2002 Aurora Challenge Grant Winner) & Special

Guest right after the screening

The screening will be presented at the Aratani Japan America Theatre in downtown Los Angeles.

Tickets \$12 + \$2 handling fee + \$1 shipping fee(optional)

<http://www.auroraevent.org/JLSF/index.php/AURORA-EVENTS/qthe-harimaya-bridgeq-2010-film-screening.html>

Feb 27-28 Chinatown Firecracker 5/10K Feb 28

The 10K course is a challenging run through the hills of Elysian Park. From N. Broadway, the course winds up into the park to its highest elevation (see elevation map). The course winds through tree-lined rolling hills with the summit of Angels Point providing spectacular 180 degrees of the city.

The early morning vistas of downtown Los Angeles to the south and neighborhoods to the north from the various vantage points in Elysian Park are quite breathtaking and not commonly seen, even by longtime Angelenos.

Whatever your competitive level, enjoy the scenery and the camaraderie of fellow runners.

There is no vehicular traffic to contend with. Mile markers indicate where you are. Split times are called out by supportive course workers.

5K and 10K Starting times will stagger to accommodate all entrants.

Entry fee includes a complimentary "Carbo-Load" meal on Saturday.

Note: Course descriptions and images may change without notice due to construction, accessibility and other factors beyond our control.

The 5K run/walk is an up and back loop that takes participants to Dodger Stadium. The course begins on North Broadway for approximately 1/3 mile, then turns left onto Bishops Road. An immediate right turn at Stadium Way takes you over the 110 freeway toward Dodger Stadium for about a 1 mile uphill climb. This distance includes a right at Lookout Dr., then onto Lilac Terrace which leads again onto Stadium Way. A U-turn a

little past Elysian Park Ave. returns you to Stadium Way directly to Bishops Road, then onto North Broadway toward the finish line. There is one water station on the course. 5K and 10K Starting times will stagger to accommodate all entrants.

Entry fee includes a complimentary "Carbo-Load" meal on Saturday.

Feb 27

20+ Mile Ride

Similar to the route from the 2009 inaugural event, this is a loop from Chinatown to Griffith Park and back. This year, a portion of this ride uses the L.A. River bike path. Fully supported with a refreshment stop near half distance in Griffith Park. Since this ride is mainly on city streets, young riders are not encouraged to participate. Return to Chinatown for post-event refreshments, a Carbo-Load meal and Nite n' Day entertainment. This ride is suggested for beginner to intermediate riders. Mostly flat with a few rolling hills.

42+ Mile Ride

A ride to provide separation between you and other riders. This ride has a mixture of flats and challenging hills with an emphasis on the latter. After a relatively sedate ride into Griffith Park, you'll encounter the first climb in the hills toward Travel Town. After a brief stop for refreshments in the park, it's onto a rather flat ride through Glendale (Glenoaks Blvd.) to Chevy Chase Dr. Then prepare for a 4 mile climb to the top of Linda Vista for another rest area. Another short climb on Figueroa St. leads you downward toward the Rose Bowl in Pasadena via the lush neighborhoods near Descanso Gardens. A final rest stop at the Rose Bowl begins the mostly downhill finish through the streets of South Pasadena and neighborhoods north of Chinatown via the Arroyo Seco Bike Path. Be prepared for cool weather, quiet streets, scenic vistas and out of the seat climbing. Ride level: Intermediate to advanced. Refer to the enclosed map and elevation chart. If this were a spicy barbecued chicken dish, it would be an 8 on a scale of 1-10. The Los Angeles Firecracker Run Committee, Inc. (LACFRC, Inc.) is a community based-based, 501.3(c)(3) non-profit organization with a non-salaried group of volunteers who donate their time and energies to organize and stage an annual run/walk event and to promote activities beneficial to the Los Angeles Chinatown community. The "Firecracker Run" is recognized as one of the best organized events in the running community. For 31 years, the event remains participant-oriented; to make his/her participation as memorable and enjoyable as possible.

<http://firecracker10k.org/>

Mar 11-13 Wakayagi school dancers to perform for "Memoirs of a Geisha" music at Pacific Symphony concert,

Dancers of Wakahisa-Kai, a Wakayagi School group in Orange County will perform for "Sayuri's Theme from Memoirs of a Geisha" in "A Salute to John Williams" concert by Pacific Symphony at Orange County Performing Arts Center Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall from Mar 11-13 at 8:00 p.m.

Having a long-standing collaborative relationship with Steven Spielberg, John Williams has composed numerous original music for hit movies as Jaws, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Star Wars, E.T., The Extra-Terrestrial, Hook and Jurassic Park. Williams also composed music for Memoirs of a Geisha (2005) because Spielberg was a producer for the film.

Wakahisa-Kai lead by Mme Hisame Wakayagi (photo) of Cypress performed at the similar concert for "Sayuri's Theme" with Pacific Symphony in August 2007. Two of Wakahisa-Kai members danced in the movie Memoirs of a Geisha. Dancers who are dubbed as Group Yume (Dream), are Kiyoka Wakayagi, Ayaka Wakayagi, Shiho Wakayagi, Hisaki Wakayagi, and Sophia Jeon. The choreographer of the stage is Mme. Hisame Wakayagi. Shuho Wakayagi helps the stage. Mme. Hisame Wakayagi has taught Japanese classical dance in Orange County for near 15 years. Her studios are located at Cypress, Costa Mesa, Culver City and Sawtell in West Los Angeles. She is also the president of the Asian Traditional Dance and Music Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization to spread Asian dance in Orange County. Music in "A Salute to John Williams" includes Superman, ET, Harry Potter, Jurassic Park, Star Wars, Jaws, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Memoirs of a Geisha. Orange County Performing Arts Center is located at 615 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Tickets are \$185 - \$25. To buy tickets, visit [www.ocpac.org](http://www.ocpac.org). [from Cultural News]

March 31 Jero in Concert 8PM Aratani Theatre  
[www.jaccc.org](http://www.jaccc.org)

April 24 Hidden Legacy, A Tribute to Teachers of Japanese Traditional Arts in the WRA (War Relocation Authority) Camps

For one performance only actual artists who taught and learned Japanese Traditional arts during the camp period will be presented in performance and discussion.

Koyasan Buddhist Temple  
342 E. 1st St., Los Angeles

Suggested donation:

\$20 General Admission, \$15 Seniors with ID

Call 213-628-2725, x133, [kelly@jaccc.org](mailto:kelly@jaccc.org)

<http://www.jaccc.org/events.htm>

See LA Library DiverseCity events at <http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

---

This Weekend (and earlier/later)

Feb 9, Nibei Foundation's Japan Study Club  
Tuesday, dinner at 6:30 p.m. lecture at 7:30 p.m.

\$10 including dinner

"Contemporary Japanese Cinema in the World"

Akira Mizuta Lippit, University of Southern California

This presentation looks at the revitalization and reorganization of Japanese cinema since 2000. Beginning in the Heisei 1990s, Japanese cinema underwent a dramatic change in the ways that films were produced and consumed.

No longer following the vertical models of large film studios and apprenticed directors, a new generation of younger filmmakers came to make films from other points of

departure, including television, music, and straight-to-video markets, known in Japan as V-cinema.

As a result, Japanese film culture saw a dramatic increase in the number and quality of films spread across a wide range of genres, including drama, melodrama, art cinemas, horror, comedy, and animation.

These films began to be recognized at a rapid pace internationally, most notably at prestigious film festivals such as Venice and Cannes, but also in new markets, including Northeast and Southeast Asia. Contemporary Japanese cinema has forged a new relationship with the world, and in turn reflects in novel ways an awareness of the world in Japan and its cinema.

"Contemporary Japanese Cinema in the World" looks at some of the key developments in recent Japanese cinema, focusing on work by Kore-eda Hirokazu, Iwai Shunji, and Aoyama Shinji, among others. It also looks at the role that trans-Asian film cultures play in Japanese film culture, the presence of Asian films in Japan, and the increasing awareness of Asia in Japan's cinema.

Akira Mizuta Lippit is Professor and Chair of Critical Studies in the School of Cinematic Arts at the University of Southern California, where he is also Professor of Comparative Literature and East Asian Languages and Cultures. He is the author of two books, *Atomic Light (Shadow Optics)* (2005) and *Electric Animal: Toward a Rhetoric of Wildlife* (2000). He is presently completing books on spectrality and avant-garde cinema, on contemporary Japanese cinema in the world, and on David Lynch's anagrams.

Nibe Foundation's Japan Study Club

Tuesday, Feb 9, dinner at 6:30 p.m. lecture at 7:30 p.m.

\$10 including dinner

"Contemporary Japanese Cinema in the World"

Akira Mizuta Lippit, University of Southern California

Terasaki Foundation Laboratory Building, 11570 Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

## LITTLE TOKYO KOREA JAPAN FESTIVAL

### Event Details

Date: February 6, 2010

Time: 11am Rough Cut 1pm New Beginnings: Cultural Harmony in Little Tokyo

(documentary) 1:30pm Live performance and Lunch 3pm Sanjuro

Location: Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC) 244 S. San

Pedro Street, Los Angeles, 90012 Cross Streets: San Pedro Street / 2nd Street

Phone: (213) 680-3700

Link: <http://www.jaccc.org>

Adult Price: \$20 General Admission, \$15 JACCC Members/Seniors/Students/Groups  
10+

### Event Description

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center with the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles and the Japan Korea Society present the Little Tokyo Korea Japan Festival, a day-long celebration of cultural exchange between neighboring communities.

The closely shared similarities and differences between the cultures of Japan and Korea are explored in Tina Yanagimotos "New Beginnings: Cultural Harmony in Little Tokyo." This documentary chronicles the history of Little Tokyo and how Japanese and Korean residents are building bridges of friendship and harmony. Featured films include the Korean award-winning 2008 Yeong-hwa-neun yeong-hwa-da (Rough Cut) followed by the 2007 remake of Akira Kurosawas Tsubaki Sanjuro (1962). This unique program is hosted by Heroes actors James Kayson Lee and Eriko Tamura. Ticket includes two films, a box lunch and outdoor performances.

Feb 7 Lunar New Year Street Festival - 10 am - 5:30 pm

On Valley Blvd. Between Garfield & Almansor

The Festival will be held in the heart of one of the largest Chinese / American commercial districts in the southland. The one-day festivities attract about 50,000 people and consist of more than 250 booths. There are many theme-oriented venues giving attendees a taste of the Chinese culture. The food court is an ideal place to sample dishes from different regions. Admission is free.

The festival will include an Entertainment Stage that features a variety of programs including the JC Penney Fashion Show. The Cultural Pavilion will be presenting several exhibits offering a glimpse into Chinese culture and tradition, including the giveaway of one thousand red envelopes. For children, several special areas will be provided for hands-on arts and crafts. Attendees can enter the karaoke singing contest to display their talent for a chance to win prizes.

Feb 6 Undiscovered Chinatown Walking Tour

10:30AM-1PM

\$20

Call 213-680-0243 for reservations

Feb 6, 7

Sogetsu Ikebana Exhibition at Thousand Oaks Public Library,

The Sogetsu San Fernando Valley Branch will present Balance in Nature, an exhibit of Japanese flower arranging on Saturday, February 6 and Sunday, February 7, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Thousand Oaks Public Library.

The exhibit will showcase Sogetsu Ikebana as a contemporary, formative art form, infinite in its possibilities. Arrangements will range from minimal, graceful floral arrangements to large, living sculptures which use plant materials in dazzling and powerful ways. The results can be as extreme as nature itself, peaceful and calm or wild and spectacular.

The Japanese Art of Ikebana is a highly refined and respected art form with over five centuries of history and development. The Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Japan's most progressive avant-garde school, embraces today's modern aesthetic while at the same time respecting and reflecting the Japanese heightened sensitivity to the beauty of nature.

Formal training in Ikebana consists of successfully mastering certain basic arrangements and moving onto what are called free-style arrangements. Becoming a



teacher can take as long as ten years. Students in the LA area today may take classes that are offered at local colleges or community centers.

The sixty members of the Sogetsu San Fernando Branch, representing both students and teachers, are honored to share this exciting art form in Southern California. The Branch, under the direction of Camille Van Ast of Newbury Park, is associated with the Sogetsu Teachers Association of Japan.

The Thousand Oaks Public Library is located at 1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. For additional information, contact Branch Director, Camille Van Ast, 805-498-7421.

[from Cultural News]

---

Where I went last weekend (or the weekend before):

See [dkikemi.blogspot.com](http://dkikemi.blogspot.com)

---

Resources:

LACMA calendar:

<http://www.lacma.org/events/Calendar.aspx>

UCLA Asia Institute calendar:

<http://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/events/index.asp?action=monthview>

Japanese American National Museum

<http://www.janm.org/events/>

Chinese American Museum

<http://camla.org/events/calendar.htm>

Korean Cultural Center

<http://www.kccla.org/>

Japanese American Community Cultural Center

<http://jaccc.org/>

Pacifica Asian Museum

<http://www.pacificasiamuseum.org/calendar/whatsnew.htm>

---

Links to selected articles from the LA Times and other papers. To actually access the articles, you may have to sign up for a free account.

For Chinese Koreans, life is hard but still better in South Korea

The migrants are limited to jobs in restaurants, factories, construction fields or as domestic workers, but they are glad to be there. 'There is nothing' in China, one says.

By Lina Yoon

February 1, 2010

[http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-korea-labor1-2010feb01\\_0\\_6753760.story](http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-korea-labor1-2010feb01_0_6753760.story)

U.S. could lose foreign visitors because of registration rule, groups fear

Tourism promoters worry that not enough travelers from countries where U.S. visas are waived are aware that they have to register on a federal website before entering the country.

By Hugo Martín

February 3, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-travel3-2010feb03.0.3726227.story>

Grotesque business as usual: In Taiji, Japan, fishermen in the Cove are still killing dolphins

January 28, 2010 | 5:41 pm

Ric O'Barry

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/unleashed/2010/01/grotesque-business-as-usual-in-taiji-japan-fishermen-in-the-cove-are-still-killing-dolphins.html>

Child custody issues in Japan

Nations urge Tokyo to resolve cases involving foreign parents.

Associated Press

January 31, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-japan-custody31-2010jan31.0.530167.story>

In rural Mississippi, dreams of a green car fleet

A hybrid and electric auto plant was promised in Tunica County last year -- welcome news as the recession takes a toll on the vital casino industry here. But the automotive developer has been quiet.

By Richard Fausset

February 1, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-na-tunica1-2010feb01.0.126539.story>

Researcher gave the Chumash a gift: their heritage

John Peabody Harrington relentlessly studied Indian families for decades. Today, a 71-year-old woman who considered him a pest is grateful for his intense scholarship.

By Steve Chawkins

January 31, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-ernestine31-2010jan31.0.4949712.story>

A lonely road for a political novice

Rep. Anh 'Joseph' Cao, a Republican whose district is mostly Democratic, says his goal is to serve rather than to play politics. But can that win him reelection in November?

By Mark Z. Barabak

February 2, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-na-cao2-2010feb02.0.2368562.story>

Latinos seek more support for immigration reform

Illinois congressman tells L.A. protesters that he needs more votes for a reform bill.

By Teresa Watanabe

February 1, 2010 11:06 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-immig-reform2-2010feb02.0.1407366.story>

Bayard F. Berman dies at 88; attorney won desegregation case against L.A. Unified  
A judge ruled in 1970 that the district deliberately perpetuated segregation. Years of mandatory busing and the phenomenon of 'white flight' from public education followed.

By Elaine Woo

January 31, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/obituaries/la-me-bayard-berman31-2010jan31.0.808364.story>