



## ARIGATO FROM JAPAN

# PAST EVENT: OVERCOMING THE DISASTER ARIGATO FROM JAPAN

### EVENT REPORT:

On Friday, March 2nd, 2012, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles, in cooperation with the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, organized the event "Arigato from Japan: Overcoming the Disaster" at the Music Theatre's Ahmanson Theatre in downtown Los Angeles. This is one of the largest events organized by our office with a group of over 40 performers and supporting cast members and an audience of over 1400 guests. The evening kicked off with a moment of silence for the victims of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami led by Director Misako Ito of the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles, who was also the MC for the event. This was followed by speeches by several guest speakers including Consul General Nimi of the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, Mayor Ronald Loveridge of the city of Riverside, and Deputy Chief Terry Hara who presented Consul General Nimi with a Certificate of Recognition, from the City of Los Angeles, for the event. There was an eight minute video, after the speeches, showing the people of Japan expressing their thanks to the US military and other emergency response teams from all over the world who flew in to help with the recovery efforts immediately following the March 11 disaster. The performance started after Kagura, a folk dance from Tohoku, with Ondekoza taiko and Bamboo Orchestra. This event was a huge success with all the available tickets given out a week before the event and all the attendees gave excellent reviews of the concert and were all very grateful for the opportunity. We hope to have more events in the future so please check back frequently to view our events calendar.

### WHAT:

On March 11, 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami inspired shock and horror among all who saw the unbelievable footage of the disaster. But people all over the world sprung into action immediately, establishing emergency funds, sending relief supplies, and even going to Japan themselves to lend a hand wherever it was needed. The gratitude of the Japanese people for these acts of kindness is immense. With this concert tour, featuring some of Japan's top performers in several musical genres, the people of Japan hope to be able to express some of their appreciation for the care and assistance of so many people around the globe, to show that the nation is recovering, and that the affected region is rediscovering joy after so much destruction. The tour will take the performers to Los Angeles, New York, Paris, Beijing, Shanghai, Chongchin, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong and features some of the best musical artists from the region most greatly impacted by the disaster.

### WHEN & WHERE:

6:30pm, Friday, March 2, 2012  
**Music Center's Ahmanson Theatre**  
135 North Grand Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### This Event Has Passed

WHO:

Tohoku Folk Performance Group

Wakumizu Kagura

Taiko

Ondekoza (Japanese taiko drums)

Musicians

Bamboo Orchestra (musical instruments made from bamboo)

Kazutoki Umezu Orchestra (saxophones, trombone and tuba)

Ochi Brothers (percussion)

Sizzle Ohtaka (vocal)

Several others



Performers include Ondekoza, Japan's master players of the *taiko*, which are enormous drums. Playing them is as much dance as it is drumming, and the bone-rattling sounds produced must be heard live to truly experience. Also on hand will be a Bamboo Orchestra performing with traditional Japanese instruments. The day before the concert, they will offer a workshop to teach children how to make their own traditional Japanese instruments out of bamboo. The Kazutoki Umezu Orchestra, with sax, percussion, horn, and synthesizer, represents the best of Japan's more contemporary music. The Ochi Brothers will be performing percussion, and Sizzle Ohtaka will be providing vocals. A folk performing arts troupe will also be on hand to show the audience the beauty of eastern Japan's traditional musical arts.

JAPANEMA = Japanese Cinema

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Rental Exhibitions

Past Events: Lecture Series



Past Events: Exhibitions



Past Events: Others



Lights, Camera, Japanese! Become a Voice Over Star

Japanese Workshop: Samurai Acting

Workshop: Create Your Own Kanji & Calligraphy

Butoh Workshop by Dance Maestro Mushimaru Fujieda

An Evening with Kabuki Actor Kyozo Nakamura

Lecture & Demonstration: Samurai Spirit Alive

Words Can't Go There: John Kaizan Neptune Shakuhachi Live in Los Angeles

Workshop: Action in Japanese

Evening Time Wellness Wednesday (Yoga & Meditation)

Change the World with Onigiri 2018

Lecture & Demonstration: Noh Masks

Ask Marty

TATAKE TAKE: Let's Play Bamboo Beat!

Hands on with Japanese Handmade Paper

Bamboo Music

Japan Korea Miso

Rakugo Sankyo

Takahashi Hiroko

New Year's Cuisine

One Piece Kabuki

Time After Time

Takeo Kawaguchi - SLOW BODY

Street-style Kendama

Perspectives on Risque Cinema

Cinema Kabuki

Cinema Kabuki

R&R Library Lounge

Java and Jazz Library Lounge

Change the World With Onigiri

Japanese Design Today

Kyogen Performance/Workshop

Daidengaku Dance Workshop

Mashi Murakami Meet & Greet

Daughters of the Samurai

One-Man Kabuki Storyteller

Zen Calligraphy Workshop

Rakugo

The Great Passage

Ai Kuwabara Trio Project

Japanese Kites

Hachi - A Dog's Tale

Japan Film Festival

Director's Talk

Nikkatsu at 100

Cast Me If You Can

Abeya Tsugaru-Shamisen

Arigato From Japan

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