Welcome to the September 2016 edition of Friends of Japan
Featured in this edition

Nationwide
Japanese Film Festival 2016

Canberra
Canberra Nara Candle Festival

Sydney
EXHIBITION: Somé: Dyeing the Australian environment -Melinda Heal
Nihongo Tadoku - Reading Nights at the Library
Japanese Language and Culture Workshop: The Voice of Buddhism
EXHIBITION: Perseverance: Japanese Tattoo Tradition in a Modern World
Japan now: Inspired by tradition - Full series
Kousyu Maki: Japanese Ceramics
A conversation with Adam Liaw, Masterchef winner and food presenter
Matsuri in Willoughby 2016
Goto Aiko’s Violin Recital with Ian Munro on Piano

NSW
Cowra Sakura Matsuri (Cherry blossom Festival)

Melbourne
Madman Anime Festival 2016

Brisbane
50th Anniversary of Japanese Celebration
Hanako – Brisbane Powerhouse performance
Ikebana Demonstration

Adelaide
Neko Nation Adelaide

Perth
Sake Master Class
Nationwide

Japanese Film Festival 2016


The Japanese Film Festival (JFF) is presented by The Japan Foundation, Sydney. The JFF started in 1997 with three free film screenings by former Festival Director Masafumi Konomi, and is now the largest Japanese film festival in the world. Last year, the Festival celebrated its 19th year with an audience of approximately 26,300 Australia-wide. The Festival has enjoyed great success over the years, with the opportunity to showcase a vast variety of cinematic delights from classics to newly released films currently screening in Japan. The JFF brings out special guests from Japan for Q&A evenings and film screenings.

Check out the first release of film titles for JFF 2016 on the Main Program page.

Canberra

Canberra Nara Candle Festival

Date: 29 October 2016
Venue: Canberra Nara Peace Park & Lennox Gardens

Enjoy the spectacular visual of 2,000 shimmering candles at the 13th annual Canberra Nara Candle Festival on Saturday 29 October, as we celebrate the 22nd year of the Sister City relationship shared between Canberra and Nara, Japan. Visitors will be mesmerised by the sounds of Japanese music and enchanting lighting that highlights the features of the beautiful Peace Park. The festival brings a wide variety of Japanese and Australian culture with arts and crafts such as calligraphy, lantern making, origami, ikebana and kite flying. The festival features Japanese cuisine, markets and stalls with visitors able to take part in various activities. Not to be missed are the martial arts demonstrations and mochi pounding - a demonstration of traditional rice-cake making by the Embassy of Japan. At the Embassy tent you can also play traditional Japanese games.

Please visit Canberra Nara Candle Festival website for more information.

Sydney

EXHIBITION: Somé: Dyeing the Australian environment -Melinda Heal

Dates: August 13 to September 17, 2016
Venue: The Japan Foundation Gallery (Level 4, Central Park 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW)

Gallery hours: Monday – Thursday: 10am – 8pm
Friday: 10am – 6pm
Select Saturday (17 Sep): 10am – 3pm
Closed Sundays and Public Holidays

Admission: Free

Somé: Dyeing the Australian environment adds a uniquely Australian twist to the quintessentially Japanese textile practice of katazome and yuzen.
Textile artist Melinda Heal reflects the beauty of the Australian environment through the Japanese dyeing traditions of katazome and yuzen. Somé depicts Japanese sensibilities in capturing the gentle and rustic beauty of nature, with a hint of playfulness in its unlikely subjects—cockatoos, gumtrees, eucalypts and other native Australian species. Heal hand-dyes detailed designs on silk, cotton, linen and hemp textiles, capturing the strength and fragility of the bush.

Katazome and yuzen are centuries-old resist-dye techniques for both fabric and paper which originated in Japan. They are often used to produce exquisite patterns found on kimono and yukata (summer kimono).

Please visit Japan Foundation website for more information.

**Nihongo Tadoku – Reading Nights at the Library**
*Dates:* 1, 5, and 27 September  
*Venue:* The Japan Foundation Sydney Level 4 (Central Park 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW)  
*Fee / RSVP:* Admission is free. RSVP is essential.

Want to read Japanese books besides your textbook? Having trouble finding something entertaining that is also at your current reading skill? Our reading nights are just the starting point you need. Enjoy fun, engaging material for quiet, self-reading. All books are graded for difficulty. At the conclusion, there is also a short period for discussion with peers.

Please visit Japan Foundation website for more information.

**Japanese Language and Culture Workshop: The Voice of Buddhism**
*Date:* Saturday 24 September 2016  
*Time:* 3:00 pm – 5:00pm  
*Venue:* The Japan Foundation Sydney Level 4 (Central Park, 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW)  
*Fee:* General: $30.00 / JPF Member: $25.00

Have you ever visited a Buddhist temple in Japan? Buddhism has strong connections to various aspects of Japanese customs. Many common Japanese words and phrases which originated from Buddhism continue to be used in modern culture and daily life.

See and hear Buddhism in action in this interactive workshop. It can bring more meaning to your next visit to a Japanese temple.

Please visit Japan Foundation website for more information.
**EXHIBITION: Perseverance: Japanese Tattoo Tradition in a Modern World**

**Dates:** September 28 – November 12, 2016  
**Venue:** The Japan Foundation Gallery Level 4 (Central Park 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW)

See the artistry of traditional Japanese tattoo up close and personal in this stunning photographic exhibition, from the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. Perseverance features the work of seven internationally acclaimed tattoo artists—Ryudaibori (formerly Horitaka), Horitomo, Horishiki, Miyazo, Shige, Junii and Yokohama Horiken—along with tattoo works by selected others. Includes life-sized photographs of full body tattoos.

Designed and photographed by Kip Fulbeck  
Curated by Takahiro (Ryudaibori) Kitamura  
Presented by The Japan Foundation, Sydney

Please visit the [Japan Foundation website](#) for more information.

**Japan now: Inspired by tradition - Full series**

**Dates:** 3, 10 and 17 September 2016  
**Venue:** Domain Theatre, Art Gallery of NSW

**Saturday 3 September - Buildings and bamboo**  
Professor Julian Worrall – Still lives in mobile homes; Contemporary fluidity of existence in Japan  
Wayne Crothers – Natural Forms: Traditional to contemporary

**Saturday 10 September – Cool Japan**  
Adam Wojcinski – Tea now  
Byron Kehoe – Minna no Iie: Everybody’s House  
Lesley Kehoe – Are ‘Traditional’ and ‘contemporary’ incompatible?

**Saturday 17 September – Media now**  
Judy Annear – Provoke: Japanese photography 1960's until now  
Philip Brophy – Meta-Cinema & Japanese Comedy

Includes short coffee break between lectures, and glass of wine after the talks.

An exciting three part series on contemporary Japanese culture, presenting aspects of urban Japan. Drawing on the experience of acclaimed scholars, curators, and designers we follow the transition from traditional to contemporary. This series will take you on a journey to explore the many and varied aspects that make up Japan now.

Please visit the [Art Gallery Society NSW website](#) for more information.
Kousyu Maki: Japanese Ceramics  
Dates: 10 September – 2 October  
Venue: mu studio gallery, 8 Read Place (cnr best ave) Mosman NSW 2088

Kousyu Maki is one of Japan’s master potters. He has been exhibiting since 1992 and has engaged in many exhibitions in Japan, Germany and now at Mu Studio Gallery, Australia. His work is held in hundreds of private collections in Japan and throughout the world. This exhibition includes two types of pottery. Firstly, Joseon porcelain style (dating from the Joseon Dynasty of Korea) characterized by white, hakeme and Mishima-slip techniques. Secondly, pottery created through natural anagama wood carbonization firing.

Please visit mu studio gallery website for more information.

A conversation with Adam Liaw, Masterchef winner and food presenter  
Dates: 13 September 2016  
Venue: TressCox, 16F MLC Centre, Sydney

Adam Liaw, one of Australia’s favourite cooks, authors, presenters and social media influencers, gives an insight into his connection with Japan and his career since he gave up his job as a corporate lawyer to enter (and eventually win!) MasterChef 2010. Since then he has published four best-selling cookbooks, with a fifth - The Zen Kitchen - out in October. He has presented three countries - including Japan – in his SBS series, Destination Flavour, and developed a career as a food writer and commentator. As well as Japan, influences on Adam’s cooking are from his family background - English-Singaporean and Hainanese Chinese - and his experience cooking for his family since the age of eight! Born in Malaysia and raised in Adelaide, Adam holds university degrees in science and law and practiced law for 11 years, most recently as the Head of Legal and Business Affairs for Disney Interactive, Asia Pacific, based in Tokyo. His love affair with food and cooking blossomed during this time. In July 2010 over 5 million people tuned in to watch him win the second series MasterChef.

Registrations are now open. Signup and pay online or download our form and pay offline. Please visit Australia Japan Society of NSW website for more information.

Matsuri in Willoughby 2016  
Date: 17 September 2016, 11:00-18:00  
Venue: Chatswood Mall, Sydney

The Matsuri in Willoughby 2016 is a Japanese festival to celebrate Japanese culture and cross cultural friendship within multicultural society. This event is for everyone who loves Japan as much as we do. You will find many Japanese festival attractions at the Matsuri in Willoughby, including Japanese food stalls, traditional arts and crafts workshops and stage performances.

Please see a flyer for more information.
Goto Aiko’s Violin Recital with Ian Munro on Piano

**Date:** 24 September 2016, 14:00

**Venue:** The Independent, North Sydney, NSW

Mozart : Sonata for Piano and Violin No.8 in C major, K296
Bach : Sonata for Violin Solo No.2 in a minor, BWV1003
15-minute interval
Takemitsu : Distance De Fee
Schumann : Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2 in d minor, Op121

Please visit the Independent website for more information.

NSW

Cowra

**Cowra Sakura Matsuri (Cherry blossom Festival)**

**Date:** 24 September

**Venue:** Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre

Sakura Matsuri is a major event on Cowra’s tourism calendar, celebrating the birth of spring. It attracts performers from across Australia and around the world. Locals, Australian and International visitors alike have the opportunity to experience traditional elements of Japanese culture. Sakura at the Cowra Japanese Garden is celebrated annually in September when the cherry blossoms are at their peak. The cherry blossoms usually continue to flower up until mid-October.

This year’s festivities include displays and performances by Taiko Drummers, karate, sumo, aikido, Torsion Youth Choreographic Ensemble, origami, kite making, jumping castle, kids corner, tea ceremony, bonsai, calligraphy, food stalls and much more!

Melbourne

**Madman Anime Festival 2016**

**Dates:** 3-4 September 2016

**Venue:** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Madman Anime Festival. Brought to you by Australia’s biggest name in anime, Madman Entertainment, together with Australia’s #1 anime streaming service AnimeLab.

Please visit Madman Anime Festival website for more information.
Brisbane

**UQ 50th Anniversary of Japanese Celebration**

**Date:** 29 September 2016, 17:30-20:30  
**Venue:** Innes Room and Terrace, Union College (St Lucia)

Join us for an evening to celebrate the rich history of Japanese studies at the University of Queensland, and take this opportunity to connect and reconnect with alumni, past and present teaching staff, Japanese and local industry representatives and current students of Japanese. Musical performances by 'Don Kon Ten Shan' and 'UQ TAIKO', along with Japanese inspired catering will complement the celebrations.

**Registration**

Please register online by Wednesday 21 September. Please note capacity at the event is limited. Please visit UQ website for more information.

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**Hanako – Brisbane Powerhouse performance**

**Dates:** 13-17 September 2016  
**Venue:** Visy Theatre, Brisbane

Desire & Other Secret Weapons By Katherine Lyall-Watson & Caroline Dunphy. Come on an electric, cross-cultural experience with the award-winning theatre-makers behind Motherland. Sparked by a classic Japanese tale of dominance and desire, HANAKO is a dynamic new performance that explores a girl’s battle to escape into the future while warring adults try to contain her in the past. A talented international cast lead the way into a neon-lit, east-west future world where fact and fiction collide in a mash-up of theatre, martial arts and urban fashion. Belloo’s contemporary production explodes out of the shadows of the classic world and into a new reality.

Please visit Brisbane Powerhouse website for more information.

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**Ikebana Demonstration**

**Date:** 14 September  
**Venue:** Galley of Modern Art, Stanley Place, Cultural Precinct, South Bank, Brisbane

Originating in Japan more than 600 years ago, Ikebana is the art of arranging flowers and other natural materials in accordance with particular aesthetic principles. Founded in 1927 by Ikebana master Sofu Teshigahara, the Sogetsu School of Ikebana, encourages modern and free-form arrangements while maintaining links to traditions. During 'Time of others', an exhibition of contemporary art from the
Asia Pacific region that encourages reflection on social and cultural relations, join members of the Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Brisbane, for a demonstration and talk on this beautiful art form.

Please visit GOMA website for more information.

Adelaide

Neko Nation Adelaide

Date: 17 September, 20:00 - Late
Venue: Crown and Sceptre, 308 King William Street Adelaide

Welcome to Neko Nation a party inspired by the anime nightclubs of Akihabara. Welcome to our world awesome K-Pop, Japanese, gaming, anime songs and remixes delivered by our awesome Neko Nation DJ’s delivered across two levels. Not sure if you have the energy to dance all night? We’ve taken inspiration from the maid cafes of Japan as we allow you to taste and devour delicious free sushi from our cute, sexy catgirls and catboys. Dance the night away, chill out with other awesome anime fans, dress up and get your photo taken in the photobooth, play Cards Against Humanity, drink delicious anime cocktails and enjoy all the fun that is the world of Neko Nation!

Please visit Neko Nation website for more information.

Perth

Sake Master Class

Date: 14 September 2016
Venue: Tsunami Restaurant (18 Glyde St, Mosman Park)

Learn about the subtle tastes and aromas of the different sake styles. Enjoy four sake tastings and one umeshu! Pair with two finger food items prepared by the chef and try it with cheese!

Book before September 7 to be in the draw for a bottle of sake generously donated by SuperSake

Just enjoy the class or make a group and stay on for a meal.

Please visit AJS WA website for more information.

For more information on Japan, please visit our Embassy Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/JAPANinAUS