



# The Embassy of Japan in Jordan

in collaboration with JT International (Jordan) Limited  
and the Japanese Community Association in Amman

**Proudly Presents**



## *Hanatemari*

Al Hussein Cultural Center/ Small auditorium

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 7:00pm

# Welcome message from Ambassador

Excellencies, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Evening.

I would like to welcome you all here tonight to this special performance by Hanatemari, an ensemble of young, talented and internationally renowned duo sisters, Nao and Miki Goto in which they will play a traditional Japanese instrument, the Koto (Japanese Harp) which resembles Qanoun in the Arab world, and contemporary Western flute, created out of joining East and West.

I am extremely happy to welcome Hanatemari all the way from Japan to their first concert in Jordan. I, myself, have been looking forward to this evening for quite some time. We will have an opportunity to listen to the excellent combination of traditional Japanese and western music, as well as their own compositions.

Hanatemari will play very famous Japanese music which will make you feel a sense of Japan. For example, Cherry Blossoms (Sakura in Japanese) is a traditional Japanese song depicting spring, the season of cherry blossom which is now in Japan. I hope this piece can take you there and you will be able to share this time of the season with us.

Let me express my sincere appreciation to our partners and supporters who have helped us to make this concert possible. Special thanks to JT International (Jordan) Limited, NYK Cruise, the Japanese Community Association in Amman, Hanatemari Musical Event Committee and Al Hussein Cultural Center.

To follow international musical etiquette, do not take photos and kindly switch off mobile phones during the performance.

Thank you for joining us tonight. I wish tonight's performance a great success and hope you will have a wonderful time!!

**Tetsuo Shioguchi**

Ambassador of Japan to Jordan

# كلمة السفير الترحيبية

اصحاب المعالي والسادة،

الحضور الكرام،

مساء الخير،

أود ان أرحب بكم هنا الليلة في هذه الامسية الموسيقية المميزة لفرقة هانا تَمَري المكونة من الثنائي الموهوب والمشهور ليس فقط في اليابان وانما عالميا، العازفتان الشقيقتان ناوو وميكي غوتو.

فأنا سعيد جدا في الترحيب بهما في أول زيارة لهما الى الأردن. كما أنني متشوق جداً لسماعهم.

ستقوم العازفتان بتقديم فقرات يابانية تقليدية وغربية بالاضافة الى موسيقى من تأليفهم الخاص وذلك عن طريق العزف على آلة «الكوتو» وهي آلة موسيقية يابانية تشبه الى حد قريب آلة القانون، والفلوت الغربي.

كما وستعزف الفرقة قطعة موسيقية مشهورة جدا في اليابان تحمل عنوان «شجر الكرز المزهر» وتصور فصل الربيع الذي تزهر فيه هذه الشجرة. أمل ان تعيشوا معنا هذا الإحساس

أود ان اعبر عن خالص شكري وامتناني لكل من دعمنا لإقامة هذا الحفل. شكر عظيم لشركة JTI (فرع الاردن) لدعمهم السخي، ولشركة Asuka Cruise اليابانية وللجالية اليابانية هنا في عمان بالاضافة الي اللجنة الموسيقية المشرفة على هانا تَمَري ومركز الحسين الثقافي.

أرجو منكم التكرم بمراعاة الأصول الموسيقية العالمية والالتزام بالهدوء مع الامتناع عن التقاط الصور الفوتوغرافية واغلاق الاجهزة الخلوية.

دعونا الآن نستمتع بالعزف وشكرا لكم على حضوركم.

السفير الياباني لدى الاردن

تيتسو شيو غوتشي

## Hanatemari

Ensemble Hanatemari was created out of the joining of East and West.

In uniting the styles of the traditional Japanese Koto [harp] and the Western flute, the group takes a new look at the appeal of both old and new Japanese music.

Hanatemari is putting all its energy into weaving together traditional Japanese and Western instruments.

They hope that their creations will bloom into a new kind of music which will be the cultural inheritance of the next generation.

## Goto Nao/ Flute

Goto Naoko began studying piano with her mother, and at the age of 7 she began studying the Flute.

She attended the Tokyo College of Music high school and graduated from its flute department. She participated in the off-campus graduation recital.

Her teachers included: Imai Hiroyuki, Uemura Yasukazu, Koizumi Hirochi, Nakano Mari and Leom Bysi. While a student, she received scholarships to attend flute seminars at Indiana University and Boston University.

At the age of 21, she gave her first solo recital.

In 1998 she passed the NHK Western Music Audition, and participated in the NHK broadcast «FM Recital». (NHK is the national broadcasting corporation in Japan).



## Goto Miki/ Koto

Goto Mikiko began studying piano with her mother, and at the age of 9 she began studying the Koto. She studied Koto and shamisen (a three-stringed musical instrument somehow similar to a banjo) in the traditional Japanese music department at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music.

At graduation she participated in a concert for the Emperor at the Imperial Palace. Empress Michiko attended the first concert of group Aya (composed of member of the class of 1995 Ikuta-ryu Koto department), in which she participated.

She also performs each year on May 5 at Meiji Shrine. In 1996 she participated in the Russian Folk Music Chatkhan international music Symposium held in the Khakass Republic. She also participated in a tour to Germany and performed at the Berlin «Schöneberger Rathaus» and the East Asia Arts Building.

# Program\*

The duo will explain each piece in more detail

## **The Sea in Spring**

By Michio Miyago

## **Variation of “Evening Primrose”**

## **3 traditional Japanese folk songs**

Cherry Blossoms

Red Dragonfly

Home Sweet Home

## **Ichikotsu**

(In D note, D minor, 1963)

By Hozan Yamamoto

Intermission - 5 minutes

## **Kaguyahime (Princess From the Moon)**

An old and famous folk tale from Japan

## **Czardas (Hungarian Folk Dances)**

Written by an Italian composer-violinist Vittorio Monti (1868-1923).

Also a famous Mandolin player, Monti composed this song for Mandolin.

Hanatemari will perform the score on 17-stringed koto and flute.

## **Akane-Gumo (The Sunset Clouds)**

By Hanatemari

## **Nihiki no, Sakana no, You ni (Just like two fish)**

By Hanatemari

## **Fine Harvest**

By Hanatemari

*\*The program may change without prior notice.*

# What is a Koto?

A koto is a Japanese stringed instrument which is a common feature in traditional Japanese music. The distinctive twang of the koto may be familiar to you, if you have heard any performances of Japanese music, especially traditional and folk music. Like many instruments, the koto may be played alone, or as part of an ensemble, and there are a number of different styles of koto and schools of koto playing, making this a very diverse instrument.



Historical evidence suggests that the koto is probably descended from the Chinese instrument known as a guqin, which was first brought to Japan in the 8th century CE. Through the 17th century, kotos were primarily heard in court performances, often by solo players; after this point, people began to adapt the koto for traditional folk music as well, and people of all classes and levels of ability played the koto in a wide variety of settings.

The instrument takes the form of a long oblong box, with two fixed bridges on either side, to which are attached anywhere between one and 17 silk strings, although 13 is the most common number. A series of movable wooden or ivory bridges can be adjusted for tuning, allowing musicians to create a specifically desired sound, and the instrument is played with picks which are worn on the fingers of one hand.

Traditionally, koto is played in a seated position on the floor. Modern musicians have attempted to adapt the koto to make it usable in a range of modern compositions, many of which are radically different from traditional Japanese music.

# Advertisement



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## **Embassy of Japan in Jordan**

Tel: (06) 5932005, Fax: (06) 5931006, e-mail: [Japaneseembassy@batelco.jo](mailto:Japaneseembassy@batelco.jo)

[www.jordan.emb-japan.go.jp](http://www.jordan.emb-japan.go.jp)