

### ● ● ● Visual Arts

#### Twelfth Bangladesh Biennale

An international exhibition of modern art focusing on Asian countries that has been held in Dhaka since 1981. A total of 348 artists from 33 countries participated in the twelfth biennale. Fuji Hiroshi and Teruya Yuken participated from Japan under commissions from Arts Initiative Tokyo (AIT). Fuji, along with Iranian and Bangladeshi artists, won Awards for Excellence.



#### Overseas and domestic exhibitions

A total of seven exhibitions were presented in cooperation with overseas museums: “Visions of the Body” (Korea), “Cubism in Asia” (Korea, Singapore), “CHIKAKU: Time and Memory in Japan” (Austria, Spain), “YOKAI: Bestiary of the Japanese Fantastic” (France), “JIKI: Japanese Porcelains 1610–1760” (Italy, France, Belgium), and “Sakamoto Kazunari, Houses: Poetics in the Ordinary” (Czech Republic, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Norway). Two jointly hosted exhibitions were held in Japan and 11 others received financial assistance.

#### Information exchange in visual arts

A total of 17 visual art specialists were invited from Australia, Eastern Europe, and Asia to collect and provide information in Japan, and one Japanese researcher on Islamic art was dispatched to an institute in Hawaii. Conferences for networking among young art curators from five Asian countries were held in Tokyo and Osaka.

### ● ● ● Performing Arts

#### Overseas tours of Japanese performing artists

The Japan foundation arranged overseas tours for a total of 29 groups encompassing every genre from traditional Japanese music and theater to drama, jazz, and pop in 46 countries.

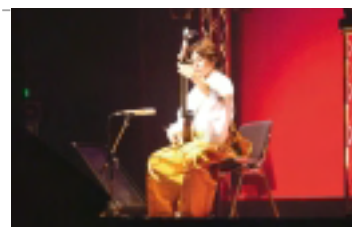


#### Tokyo International Arts Festival

The festival was held from February 10 to March 27, 2006. The Japan Foundation participated by hosting such artists as Yasmeen Godder, a spirited choreographer from Israel, and Sulayman Al-Bassam, who stands at the forefront of Arab theater, from Kuwait. They were respectively represented by “Strawberry Cream and Gunpowder,” a controversial work that was received with shock and admiration in Israel, and “Kalila wa Dimna,” also titled “The Mirror for Princes,” a new coproduction between Kuwait, Japan, and Britain.

#### Support program for the performing arts Japan (United States and Canada)

The Japan Foundation provided assistance to 10 events organized by U.S. non-profits to introduce Japanese performing arts in the United States and Canada. In addition, we supported 154 Japanese groups in sending representatives overseas.



### Performing Arts Network Japan: Website specializing in performing arts

The site provides information on Japanese contemporary performing arts, overseas festivals and art shows, performing arts presenters, and so forth in both English and Japanese with the goal of galvanizing international exchanges related to the performing arts. <http://www.performingarts.jp/>

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### ● ● ● Audio–visual, Publications, and Public Exchange

#### Arab film festival

The first festival of Arab films in Japan was held at the Japan Foundation Forum from April 15 to 24, 2005. The festival consisted of two parts: “Iraqi Film Retrospective” showed films that ranged from the oldest existing films to the most recent, and “New Arab Cinema” introduced blockbuster hits from Arab countries including Egypt, Tunisia, and Syria. Most of the 17 films were shown for the first time in Japan.

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#### Translation and publication support program

The Japan Foundation cooperated in translating notable books written in Japanese and in publishing books written in other languages in the fields of humanities, social science, and the arts (29 countries, 57 projects).

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### ● ● ● Community Leaders and Youth Exchange

#### Community leaders and youth exchange at the grass-roots level

The Foundation implemented seven projects under the Community Leaders and Youth Exchange program, including the dispatch of a team of specialists in community revitalization to Bhutan and India and sending Japanese participants to a symposium on youth development in Britain. Assistance was also provided to 83 people-to-people exchange projects.

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#### The Tenth Asian Cartoon Exhibition

This exhibition has been held every year since 1995 to offer a multifaceted insight into Asian society, culture, and life. Under this year’s theme, “Asian Environmental Issues,” 77 new works by 10 cartoonists from 10 Asian nations—Cambodia, India, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam—were exhibited at the Japan Foundation Forum. A discussion on Asian environmental issues was also held on the opening day.

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#### Lectures for introducing foreign cultures to Japanese people

Seventeen public lectures to introduce foreign cultures to Japanese people were held, and 16 courses on Asia, Oceania, Central America, and the Middle East.

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#### Kaiko Takeshi Memorial Asian Writer’s Lecture Series

These annual lectures invite Asian writers through an endowment from the family of the late Kaiko Takeshi. In 2005, Imdadul Haq Milon, a novelist from Bangladesh, gave lectures at four locations in Japan.

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