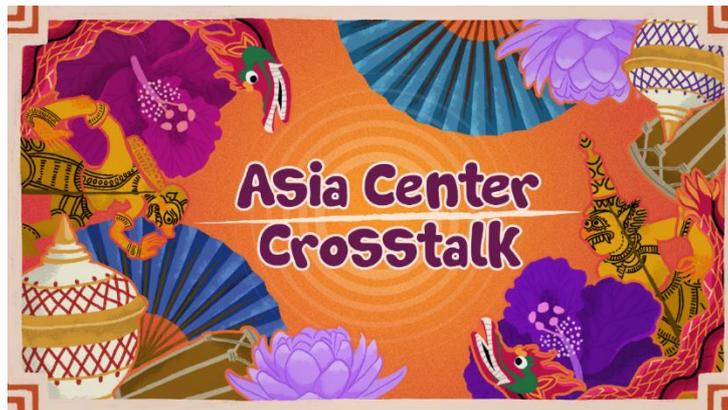


“Asia Center Crosstalk”

A Series of Online Dialogues between
Artists and Cultural Specialists from Japan and Southeast Asia



The Japan Foundation (JF) will present a series of online dialogues between artists and cultural specialists from Japan and Southeast Asia titled “Asia Center Crosstalk: Cultural Journeys toward Post-COVID-19.” The dialogues will be available for free viewing on the JF’s official YouTube channel. While cross-border exchange remains restricted due to Covid-19, the series invites individuals active in various cultural fields, ranging from the traditional arts to contemporary art, to meet and talk online.

Covid-19 has impacted the arts and culture of every country differently, and artists and cultural experts are working under these new conditions, each with their own creative methods. The ten dialogues in this series all intriguingly detail how their creative endeavors shape the world beyond the pandemic. Participants discuss a broad range of topics, including the challenges of carrying out projects and creating a legacy of arts and culture. They also touch on how they re-examine their works and society and share new ideas and goals. Each dialogue is prefaced with an introduction to the participants’ works and interviews filmed in their respective countries, making it an engaging and learning experience for viewers regardless of their familiarity with the participants.

[Project title]	Asia Center Crosstalk: Cultural Journeys toward Post-COVID-19
[Organizer]	The Japan Foundation Asia Center
[Schedule]	Videos will be distributed online from Thursday, March 10
[Streaming URL]	https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLR82S6MFHeImFtHyer3qxcR-L-bj3X0uZ
[Number of videos]	10 videos (approximately 30 min. long each)
[Fields of topic]	Performance, Contemporary Dance, Sustainable Design, Crafts, Contemporary Art, Traditional Performing Arts, Festival and Community, Orchestra, Architecture
[Subtitles]	Japanese, English (the language of the relevant Southeast Asian country is available in some videos)
[Video production]	Ennet, Inc.

Press inquiries :

Kumakura (Ms.), Harada (Ms.), Communication Center, The Japan Foundation
Tel: +81-(0)3-5369-6075 / Fax: +81-(0)3-5369-6044 E-mail: press@jpf.go.jp

Contents and guests for the dialogues:

■ Performance <Laos and Japan>

We invite performing artists from Japan and Laos who seek expression in dance and in object theater respectively. The two artists, both engaged in the theme of “object and body,” discuss their viewpoints and the meaning of their works in the larger context of performing arts.



Lattanakone Insisiengmay
Director / Actor



SHIRAGA Momoko
Choreographer / Director /
Dancer



Moderator: SENTOKU Miho
Coordinator for cultural events

■ Contemporary Dance <Malaysia and Japan>

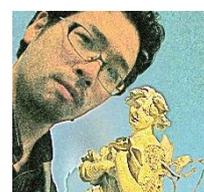
Contemporary dancers from Malaysia and Japan will exchange views on issues pertaining to dance in their own countries and abroad, as well as differences between the countries. They will also discuss the future of dance.



Marion D'Cruz
Dancer / Choreographer /
Producer / Educator



MORIYAMA Kaiji
Dancer / Choreographer /
Director



Moderator: NORIKOSHI Takao
Novelist / Dance critic

■ Sustainable Design <Indonesia and Japan>

To address today's challenge of mass production and consumption, we invite specialists who are researching and developing reusable textile material in the fashion industry to explore new ideas of sustainable design.



Annisa Wibi
Co-Founder and COO, MYCL
(Mycotech Lab)



MIZUNO Daijiro
Design researcher



Moderator: YAMAZAKI Ryo
Community designer

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■ Crafts (Thailand and Japan)

From the Japan Folk Crafts Museum and TCDC (Thailand Creative and Design Centre), which feature industrial design, we invite specialists who study and promote crafts and folk art from their country. Together we will explore the historical backgrounds, today's challenges, and the ideals of crafts in each country.



Chutayaves Sinthuphan
Director,
Creative Economy Agency Khon Kaen



FURUYA Mayumi
Curator, The Japan Folk
Crafts Museum



Moderator: USHIROSHOJI Masahiro
Art historian / Director, Kitakyushu Municipal
Museum of Art

■ Contemporary Art (Singapore, Philippines and Japan)

We invite artists who use their own bodies as a medium, such as in lectures and dances, and choose community groups as a means of artistic expression. They will share their thoughts on the unique physicality of their works, differences in expressions in video works, and projects that focus on a country or region.



Ho Rui An
Artist / Writer



Eisa Jocson
Artist / Choreographer / Dancer



KATO Tsubasa
Artist



Moderator: HASHIMOTO Azusa
Curator, The National Museum of Art,
Osaka

■ Traditional Performing Arts: 1 (Vietnam, Malaysia and Japan)

A three-way conversation between performers of Vietnamese water puppetry, Malaysian wayang kulit, and Japanese bunraku. They discuss what it means to choose a traditional art as one's vocation and to pass down a culture rich in history to the next generation, introducing their art along the way.



Tran Quy Quoc
Thang Long Water Puppet
Theatre Puppeteer



Kamrul Hussin
Wayang Kulit Puppeteer /
Musician



YOSHIDA Minoshiro
Bunraku Puppeteer



Moderator: TABATA Noriko
CEO, Adventure Japan Co., Ltd.

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■ Traditional Performing Arts: 2 〈Cambodia and Japan〉

From the heart of the ancient Angkor civilization in Cambodia and a mountain village at the foot of the sacred peak of Mt. Hakusan in Japan, we invite bearers of traditional arts rich in individuality. They talk frankly about topics such as the surprisingly similar traits found in the footwork of their performances and the difficulties of keeping a tradition alive.



Chien Sophan
Sbek Thom Ty Chean's Troupe
Director



YAMAGUCHI Hisahito **DOISHITA Satoshi**
Junior Puppeteer Puppeteer
Higashi Futakuchi Puppet Theater



Moderator: TSUKADA Chiemi
Chair,
Foundation Modern Puppet Center /
Puppet theater producer

■ Festival and Community 〈Cambodia and Japan〉

Traditional and modern festivals have been threatened by Covid-19. This dialogue investigates the essence of "festivals," at the heart of which is the coming together of people, with reference to community and cultural identity.



Rithy Lomorpich
Film Director / Festival
Producer



NEGI Ryuichi
microAction Representative /
SOUL BEAT ASIA Organizer /
STONE'S co.,ltd Director



Moderator: OISHI Hajime
Writer / Music selector

■ Orchestra 〈Thailand, Vietnam and Japan〉

How will the culture of symphonic orchestras, which was imported from the West, take root and develop in Asia? Discussants talk about the current state and prospects in Thailand, Vietnam, and Japan, including the possibility of a new culture emerging from Asia.



Wanchai Yan-Ubol
RBSO General
Manager



Nguyen Manh Duy Linh
Composer & Head of
Performing Arts Department of
HBSO



ISOBE Syuhei
Clarinetist /
Specially Appointed
Professor of Toho
College of Music



Moderator: KAKITSUKA Takuma
KOBE Cultural Foundation
Manager

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■ **Architecture 〈Indonesia and Vietnam/Japan〉**

A dialogue between a prominent architect in Indonesia and a Japanese architect living in Vietnam. The architects share their thoughts on contemporary architectural design featuring the climate and culture of different parts of Asia and exchange their opinions on the future of architecture.



Andra Matin
Architect



NISHIZAWA Shunri
Architect



Moderator: IGARASHI Taro
Architecture critic / Architectural
historian

Recommended features:

1. **Opening Animation**

The animated images at the beginning of each video were created by the Indonesian animation artist Clara Christine Wijaya. Wijaya, who has travelled in Japan, added symbolic items with reference to each dialogue in the images. The exotic, striking color schemes and patterns make an attractive opening to the series.

2. **Theme of “Journey” and video structure**

The series has a common theme of “Journey.” In addition to the dialogues, the videos include footage from Japan and Southeast Asia introducing the presenters’ works.

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