

Announcement

Bakurocho Band, Billyrrom, and showmore to Perform at “Czech Music Crossroads” in Ostrava — Presented through the music showcase platform CUEW —

The Japan Foundation (JF), in collaboration with the music showcase platform CUEW[※], will present three Japanese artists who are attracting attention in Japan’s music scene—Bakurocho Band, showmore, and Billyrrom—at Czech Music Crossroads, an international music showcase and conference festival held in Ostrava, Czech Republic.



Bakurocho Band



Billyrrom



Showmore

The Japan Foundation (JF) is Japan’s only Institution that promotes “cultural and arts exchange,” “Japanese-language education,” and “Japanese studies and international dialogue,” under the mission of “cultivating friendship and strengthening bonds between Japan and the world.”

In the field of performing arts, the JF implements the music showcase platform CUEW under the concept of “creating new opportunities between Japan and the world.” CUEW promotes the talents of artists from Japan, across Asia, and around the world to global audiences, while at the same time creating a space for exchange where music professionals from Japan and overseas gather, learn, and connect.

CUEW was held in August 2025 and April 2026, and has facilitated overseas performances for nine artists to date. The next occurrence of CUEW is scheduled for April 9, 2027.

Czech Music Crossroads is an international event that brings together numerous music professionals—including festival organizers, promoters, labels, and media—primarily from Central and Eastern Europe. This participation was made possible through research conducted in Japan by the curator of Czech Music Crossroads, who was invited by the Japan Foundation and joined the CUEW held in August 2025.

Through this showcase, the JF aims to widely promote the appeal of Japanese music while building networks that may lead to future overseas performances and international co-

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Announcement

productions.

In addition, during the festival period, CUEW (SHIN Inc.), a co-organizing partner, will give a presentation on the Japanese music scene, introducing the diverse appeal of Japanese music.

Through music, the initiative aims to deepen mutual understanding between Japan, the Czech Republic, and the Central and Eastern European region, and to further develop cultural exchange.

*CUEW is a music showcase and conference platform and also the name of the organizing committee that operates it.

Performance (Regarding the Japanese artists)

Date	Saturday, June 27, 2026 (CEST)
Venue	ALŠÁK STAGE at Czech Music Crossroads
Artists	Bakurocho Band, Billyrrom, showmore, and others
Details	Czech Music Crossroads Showcase festival Ostrava, Czechia
Organizer	Czech Music Crossroads
Co-organizers	The Japan Foundation (JF), CUEW (SHIN Inc.)

CUEW Presentation at the Conference

Date	Friday, June 26, 2026 (CEST)
Venue	Hotel Sareza Conference Room
Speakers	Yuta Nomura / Koki Takahashi (CUEW)
Details	https://www.crossroadsmusic.cz/en
Organizer	Czech Music Crossroads
Co-organizers	The Japan Foundation (JF), CUEW (SHIN Inc.)

■ Artist Profiles

[Bakurocho Band]

Bakurocho band was formed by Take and Oda on the concept of "Neo folk music from scratch". While constantly composing / performing music for TV and the stage with the great help of unique musician friends, Take and Oda also create videos and animations from their research, from drawing to directing by themselves.



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【Billyrrom】

Billyrrom is a six-piece band from Machida in Tokyo. Rooted in disco, soul, and funk, they create a sound all their own. The band's name reflects their admiration for Bill Evans' unwavering commitment to his beliefs, as well as their desire to embrace the Romani people's fluidity in sharing music across different places. Their true power comes alive on stage. Their headline shows sell out every year, and they have performed at major Japanese festivals including Fuji Rock Festival and Summer Sonic. Beyond Japan, they have appeared at festivals and events in Taipei, Taichung, South Korea, Xiamen, Shanghai, Indonesia, and Thailand, steadily expanding their global presence. In 2026, they will embark on their first Asian headline tour, covering Osaka, Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, and Taipei. In addition, they announced a global partnership with the Universal Music Group in the same year, taking their global expansion to the next level. They have earned significant recognition both in Japan and internationally. Highlights include being selected as one of 25 artists worldwide for "Fender NEXT" from over 1,000 acts, as well as honors such as NetEase Cloud Music's "New Voice of the Year" in China, Spotify's "RADAR: Early Noise 2025," and the "Tokyo Alter Music Award 25" for the Best Alternative Artist. Nine of their music videos have surpassed one million views, while on Spotify they have reached the Viral Top 10 in Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Vietnam, and have been featured on major playlists across nine Asian countries and regions. Continuing to expand their reach, Billyrrom stands at the forefront of a new era. Their evolution is only just beginning.



【showmore】

"showmore" is an alternative pop unit from Tokyo, formed by vocalist Manami Nezu and keyboardist/producer Atsushi Inoue. Although this duo has remained independent and unsigned since its formation in 2015, the music video for their signature song "circus" has been viewed 8.5 million times on YouTube, and their total streaming plays exceed 47 million. With emotional vocal and a unique pop sensibility that blends jazz, R&B, dance music, and a wide range of musical influences, they have established a distinctive presence in the music scene.



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■ International Performances Realized Through CUEW

October 2025	Egypt "She Arts Festival"	Sakura Fujiwara
January 2026	Côte d'Ivoire "Anime Ivoire 2026"	EYRIE
February 2026	Hong Kong & Taiwan solo tour -	Soraya
May 2026	Indonesia "Java Jazz Festival"	NIKO NIKO TAN TAN
June 2026	Australia "Rising"	NIKO NIKO TAN TAN, HUGEN
June 2026	Czech Republic "Czech Music Crossroads"	Bakurocho Band, Billyrrom, showmore
June 2026	The Japan Cultural Institute in Paris (The Japan Foundation)	Kan Sano
July 2026	Czech Republic "Colours of Ostrava"	NIKO NIKO TAN TAN

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