

Release Date: December 9, 2011

## National Gallery of Art Cherry Blossom Music Festival Celebrates Cherry Blossom Centennial and Landmark Exhibition of Japanese Bird-and-Flower Paintings by Itō Jakuchū



Yoko Owada performs music by Takemitsu and other Japanese composers for flute, piano, and percussion on Friday, April 13, at the National Gallery of Art in honor of *Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird-And-Flower Paintings by Itō Jakuchū (1716–1800)*.

This spring, the National Gallery of Art Cherry Blossom Music Festival celebrates the exhibition ***Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird-And-Flower Paintings by Itō Jakuchū (1716–1800)***, on view from March 30 through April 29, 2012, as well as the National Cherry Blossom Festival, which runs from March 20 through April 27, 2012. This year marks the centennial of Japan's gift of 3,000 cherry trees to the nation's capital.

All programs are presented free of charge. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **National Gallery of Art Cherry Blossom Music Festival**

Saturday, March 31, 4:00 p.m.

### **Taikoza**

Taikoza was formed in New York City by members of Ondekoza, a performance group that began the renaissance of Taiko in Japan during the 1960s

West Building Mall entrance

Sunday, April 1, 6:30 p.m.

### **Anraku-Miyata Duo**

**Mariko Anraku, principal harpist of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra**

**Mayumi Miyata, shō player**

Music to include *Utsuroi* for harp and shō by Hosokawa

West Garden Court

Special family-friendly performance at 11:30 a.m., West Garden Court East Building Auditorium

Wednesday, April 4, 12:10 p.m.

### **Ayano Ninomiya, violinist**

Winner of Astral Artistic Services' 2003 National Auditions

Music by Takemitsu and other composers

West Building Lecture Hall

Wednesday, April 11, 12:10 p.m.

### **Jack String Quartet**

*Blossoming* by Toshio Hosokawa and *String Quartet* by Charles Ives

East Building Auditorium

Friday, April 13, 12:10 p.m.

### **Yoko Owada, flutist**

Music by Takemitsu and other Japanese composers for flute, piano, and percussion

West Building Lecture Hall

This concert is made possible by Toshiba

Sunday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.

## **Billy Fox and the Kitsune Ensemble**

Music to include Fox's *Anagowa*, a piece for Japanese flute and percussion

East Building Auditorium

Special family-friendly performance at 11:30 a.m., East Building Auditorium

Friday, April 20, 12:10 p.m.

## **Claire Huangci, pianist**

Winner of the grand prize at the 1999 World Piano Competition and the 2006

Hamamatsu International Piano Competition

Music by Chopin, Tchaikovsky, and other composers

West Building Lecture Hall

Sunday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.

## **National Gallery Orchestra**

**Chosei Komatsu, guest conductor**

**Charles Wetherbee, violinist**

Music by Hisaishi, Noadira, and other composers

West Garden Court

Wednesday, April 25, 12:10 p.m.

## **Piano Recital: Yoshikazu Nagai and Robert Henry**

Yoshikazu Nagai and Robert Henry shared first prize at the Washington International

Piano Competition in 2002

Music by Haydn, Scarlatti, Schubert, and other composers

West Building Lecture Hall

Sunday, April 29, 6:30 p.m.

**Kioi Sinfonietta Tokyo with Yu Kosuge, pianist**

**Thierry Fischer, conductor**

Music by Mozart and Beethoven

West Garden Court

This concert is made possible in part by Nippon Steel Corporation

## **About the Exhibition**

One of Japan's most renowned cultural treasures will come to Washington, DC, in honor of the centennial of Japan's gift of 3,000 cherry trees to the nation's capital. Entitled *Colorful Realm of Living Beings* (J. Dōshoku sai-e; c. 1757–1766), this 30-scroll set of bird-and-flower paintings on silk is the centerpiece of the landmark exhibition ***Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird-and-Flower Paintings by Itō Jakuchū (1716–1800)***, on view at the National Gallery of Art's West Building from March 30 through April 29, 2012. Exhibited for four weeks only (owing to their fragility), these works will be in Washington during the National Cherry Blossom Festival, which runs from March 20 through April 27, 2012.

Never before shown in its entirety outside of Japan, *Colorful Realm of Living Beings* provides a panoramic pictorial survey of flora and fauna, both mythical and actual, reflecting the highest standards of artistic and technical accomplishment in Japanese painting. To evoke the work's original religious context, the Gallery will install it with Jakuchū's *Śākyamuni Triptych* (*The Buddha Śākyamuni, Bodhisattva Mañjuśrī, and Bodhisattva Samantabhadra*), which belongs to the Jōtenkaku Museum, Shōkokuji Monastery, Kyoto. In 1765 Jakuchū—who was active in Kyoto during the mid-Edo period—had donated *Colorful Realm* (then comprising 24 scrolls) and the triptych to Shōkokuji, where they were displayed in a large temple room during Buddhist rituals. *Colorful Realm* was donated to the Imperial Household in 1889; since then, it has been shown together with the triptych only once, in 2007 at the Jōtenkaku Museum, Shōkokuji.

### **Exhibition Organization and Support**

The exhibition is organized by the National Gallery of Art, The Imperial Household Agency, and Nikkei Inc., in association with the Embassy of Japan. It has been made possible through the generous support of Toyota, Nikkei Inc., Airbus, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, and The Exhibition Circle of the National Gallery of Art. Additional sponsorship from Japan has been provided by Daikin Industries, Ltd., Ito En, Ltd., Mitsubishi Corporation, and Panasonic Corporation.

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## General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets along Constitution Avenue NW and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. With the exception of the atrium and library, the galleries in the East Building will be closing gradually beginning in July 2013 and will remain closed for approximately three years for Master Facilities Plan and renovations. For specific updates on gallery closings, visit [www.nga.gov/renovation](http://www.nga.gov/renovation) (<http://www.nga.gov/renovation>) .

For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's website at [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov). Follow the Gallery on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt](http://www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt) and on Twitter at [twitter.com/ngadc](http://twitter.com/ngadc).

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 by 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

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