

Activities of the Japan Foundation in Germany

ANDŌ Hiroyasu

President of The Japan Foundation, Member of the JDZB Foundation Council

Introduction

Japan and Germany are important partners with common values such as freedom, democracy, market economy, human rights, the rule of law, and international cooperation. In order to cultivate friendship and ties between Japan and the world, the Japan Foundation creates places to connect Japan and the world through “culture”, “language” and “dialogue”, and it is worldwide active to foster empathy, trust and goodwill among people. In Japan’s important partner country Germany, the Japan Foundation is engaged in various activities for further strengthening the ties between Japan and Germany.

Japan Cultural Institute Cologne

The Japanese Cultural Institute Cologne, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in September 2019, is the base of the Japan Foundation’s activities in Germany. Since its opening in September 1969 in Cologne, one of the most prominent cities in Germany, it has introduced various aspects of Japanese culture, from traditional performing arts such as Nō and Kyōgen, to pop culture such as anime and manga. Furthermore, the Japan Foundation also promotes bilateral cultural exchange, for example through more than 40 dialogue exhibitions with works of Japanese and German artists in which they engage in “dialogue” or through German ensembles performing music written by Japanese composers.

With the aim of promoting a deeper understanding of Japanese society and language as well as culture, lectures by experts in various fields, Japanese language courses and workshops for Japanese language teachers also take place on a regular basis.

As mentioned above, the Japan Cultural Institute Cologne will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. In order to commemorate this, a varied program of activities and events has been prepared, with the Nō and Kyōgen performance by the Ensemble of the Umewaka Kennōkai Foundation (Tōkyō) playing a key role. This performance will be held on 1 September 2019 at the Cologne Philharmony venue. We hope not only that the general public will enjoy it, but that the performance becomes a source of inspiration for German artists, and that new forms of art will emerge from this encounter.

In addition, we are planning a symposium on “the digitalization of society”, an issue that has become common to Japan, Germany and the world. Japan and Germany are both world leaders in cutting-edge technology. Each has a vision of the shape of future industry and society using artificial intelligence (AI) such as “Society 5.0” or “Industry 4.0”. Experts from both countries will be invited and a place and opportunity will be provided to exchange knowl-



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edge for an orderly, human-centric “digitalization of society”.

Cooperation with the JDZB and others

Although the Japan Cultural Institute Cologne is located in Cologne, it is active throughout Germany with the assistance of relevant organizations based in other cities. Cooperation

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with the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) in Berlin, the German capital and most populous city, is particularly important for the Japan Foundation.

Once a year, the JDZB co-organizes a symposium on common issues and current topics for both countries. This year, as a follow-up to the “Inclusive Cities – Tōkyō and Berlin” conference co-organized in 2016, there will be the symposium “Tōkyō and Berlin: Inclusive Cities and ‘Universal Design’”, with a view to the Olympic and Paralympic Games that will be held in Tōkyō in 2020. Universal design in urban space can be said to be a common issue not only in Japan and Germany but also around the world as well. I hope this symposium will deepen discussions in both nations, and create conversations that will serve as a reference for countries all over the world.

The collaborative relationship with the JDZB is not limited to intellectual dialogue. With their cooperation, the Nō and Kyōgen performance mentioned above will move on to Berlin, and will be held on 3 September 2019 as part of the Berlin Music Festival 2019 at the Berlin Philharmony venue.

When the Japan Cultural Institute Cologne invited the writer SHIBASAKI Tomoka in January 2019, the JDZB co-sponsored a reading and discussion event in Berlin, providing a valuable opportunity to introduce a young Japanese writer in German capital. In turn, projects implemented by the JDZB also travel back to Cologne. One example of this was the exhibition “Japan’s Masterpieces of Wooden Architecture – Photographs by FUJITSUKA Mitsumasa”, held last year. Cologne’s community is highly interested in Japanese architecture, so this was an excellent opportunity to present Japan’s precious wooden buildings.

The Japan Cultural Institute Cologne co-organizes and supports projects in areas other than Cologne and Berlin, for example with museums that focus on collections related to Japan, as well as with the Japanese departments established at 15 universities in Germany, and cooperates with German-Japanese Associations all over the country.

The existence of such partnerships and cooperation in various places right across Germany is proof that the bonds fostered in the long history of Japanese-German relations are strong. In addition to promoting cultural exchange throughout Germany, the Japan Foundation would like to continue to strengthen its network with related organizations.

Conclusion

As the international situation becomes increasingly unstable, the importance of Japanese-German relations with common values increases. It is necessary for the two countries to establish stronger friendships and contribute to the safeguarding and development of the international order.

It is under these circumstances that, in 2021, Japan and Germany will commemorate 160 years of their diplomatic relationship.

Various events will be held in order for Japan and Germany to learn more deeply about each other, and to strengthen their bonds. I believe that various exchange projects will be implemented under the auspices of the Embassy of Japan in Germany. The Japan Foundation will actively participate in this commemorative year through the activities of the Japan Cultural Institute Cologne and through cooperation with the JDZB and related organizations as well, so please look forward to it.

Dear Readers!

The leading article in this jdzb echo issue was contributed by ANDŌ Hiroyasu; he is president of The Japan Foundation, one of our close cooperation partners. He mentions Artificial Intelligence (AI) also, which we might call the topic of this issue. A conference in June concluded that, while AI was an opportunity for economic growth, it should be used for a human-centered technological revolution. Its influence on society should be discussed internationally, its possibilities for the job market were also reviewed. At a symposium in Tōkyō this October, experts will consider the legal aspects of AI.

When I hear AI, I always think of HAL from the movie „2001: A Space Odyssey“. The technological revolution conceived of as science fiction back then is rapidly becoming reality today. To make AI a safe technology that improves our lives, we quickly need a sound legal framework, and appropriate moral guidelines.

The JDZB starts the autumn season with the Umewaka Kennōkai Ensemble and their Nō and Kyōgen performance at the Berlin Philharmonie. The JDZB is cooperating on many aspects of the program organized by the Musikfest Berlin and the Japan Foundation. We would love to see you at this first Nō performance in Berlin in eight years, at a symposium, or at one of our cultural events.

KIYOTA Tokiko,
Deputy Secretary General of the JDZB

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Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: niemann@jdz.de

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Address of the JDZB:
Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220
E-Mail: jdz@jdz.de URL: <http://www.jdz.de>

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In cooperation with the German-Japanese Lawyers Association (DJJV, Hamburg), the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Tōkyō Office), the German Science and Innovation House Tōkyō (DWIH Tōkyō) and the Federal Bar Association (Berlin), the JDZB is organizing the German-Japanese symposium “LegalTech – Artificial Intelligence in Law and Justice. Opportunities and Risks” in Tōkyō on 4 October 2019. Below is an interview with former President of the Hamburg Finance Court and DJJV President, Dr. Jan GROTHEER.

AI – Artificial Intelligence – is on everyone’s lips. What exactly is the symposium about and what are the focal points?

Artificial intelligence is rightly so on everyone’s lips and will, in my opinion, decisively influence our professional and private lives. Stephen HAWKINGS is credited with the statement: AI is perhaps the greatest invention of humanity, but the development of full artificial intelligence could also spell the end of the human race. So this topic should concern us all.

At the symposium we will deal with the opportunities and risks of AI for the legal professions, as well as compare the current situation and future strategies in Japan and Germany. The main legal professions in the area of law and justice are those of judges and prosecutors, lawyers, commercial lawyers and, last but not least, law academics and researchers. Outstanding representatives of these professions, including the Chair of the German Judges Union, Jens GNISA, and the lawyer MOTOE Taichiro, Member of the Japanese House of Councillors, who will give us their views at the symposium on the opportunities and risks of AI for their occupational fields. Keynote speaker will be State Secretary in the German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, Margaretha SUDHOF, and the welcoming address will be provided by Japan’s Deputy Minister of Justice TSUJI Hiroyuki.

What are the foreseeable or current consequences of using AI for lawyers and what are they for judges? Could you give some specific examples?

By using AI we can retrieve and process large volumes of data and make them available to judges and lawyers in

specific cases. This is one of the opportunities that AI offers. When I see that they are trying to use AI in the USA to pass sentences against offenders, and Estonia plans to have an “AI judge” – a robot who will make decisions in minor cases, we will need to carefully examine whether and to what extent this is compatible with our understanding of the administration of justice and the provisions of Constitutional Law.

Legal-Tech start-up software is already available on the market in Germany for flight delays, rental disputes, fine proceedings etc, cases that are dealt with standardized procedures, and are controlled exclusively by algorithms. This raises concerns that jobs will disappear without replacements and the remaining ones will depend solely on algorithm results. This is why we need a broad discussion with representatives from the legal profession to develop consensus. Professional law practitioners are called upon to critically monitor the development of AI and not just accept their findings, but to actively shape the transformation.

In April, the European Commission presented ethical guidelines for AI and recommended further cooperation (https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/artificial-intelligence-2019-apr-08_en)

The symposium is designed to show legal comparisons – what are the similarities and differences between the use of AI in the legal system in Germany and Japan?

Germany and Japan are connected in the areas of law and justice by shared values such as the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law, as well as common roots of law. In addition, both countries are open to digital developments and progress. Both countries



will have the task of utilizing AI for opportunities that are in the interests of their citizens and to minimize the risks, while also setting ethical standards. Our symposium shall seek to give food for thought and create the opportunity to learn from each other.

Where will AI lead us in the area of law and justice?

As a technical layman, this is difficult for me to predict. I think it’s certain that written phrases can be processed in simple and repetitive procedures using algorithms, so that human intervention will be increasingly eliminated. In addition, the development of electronic contracts, but also the monitoring of compliance with these contracts, will be considerably simplified. In addition, software is already available today that enables the search for judgments and legal articles in a language-based manner and thus makes additional work unnecessary even when solving difficult cases. It is conceivable and (see above) already tested that the preparation of civil law judgments will be simply stored facts. Therefore, we will probably experience a reduction of legal aid work in all legal fields of work. On the other hand, it is not conceivable to me that highly qualified consultations and decisions could be taken over by AI. However, ten years ago I would never have imagined that my smartphone could verbally answer my questions in seconds, something in the past I would have had to go research in a library...

Ahead of G20: Artificial Intelligence and Innovation

Andreas EDER-RAMSAUER, MA (FU Berlin)

This extraordinarily insightful conference brought together representatives from politics, academia and businesses from Germany and Japan. The goal was no less than discussing one of the potentially biggest technological disruptions in human history – digitalization and artificial intelligence (AI). The symposium was organized by the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) in cooperation with the Fujitsu Research Institute in Tōkyō (FRI) and the German Economic Institute in Cologne (IW), and took place at the JDZB on 25 and 26 June 2019. Only a few days away from the G20 Ōsaka summit, the conference was filled with an atmosphere of urgency and relevance.

The structure of the symposium clearly reflected the various areas effected by advances in AI research and digitalization. From opportunities in innovation for the industry sector, novel ethical questions for societies worldwide, to new challenges in international relations, labor markets and the work environment. Common ground between Japan and Germany was identified in terms of challenges, such as stagnating or slow economic growth, decreasing global significance and a rapidly ageing population. On the other hand, it became obvious at the conference that digitalization and AI also hold numerous similar opportunities of growth for mature economies such as Japan and Germany and that cooperation between the two countries should be focused on. Especially, due to often cited shared values, the objective of strengthening free and inclusive societal models was repeatedly articulated.

Both keynote speakers of the conference, Prof. TAKEMORI Shumpei (Keiō University / Member of the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy, Cabinet Office) and Prof. Andreas DENGEL, (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, DFKI) proposed approaches, in which innovation and growth can occur. Public-Private-Partnerships or new, more dynamic relationships between large and small companies were central topics. A vital need for data and real-life applicability of technological innovation was emphasized and both speakers uttered the common wish for stronger coordination and utilization of existing data by and across states. As both speakers emphatically agreed, without even creating new data, effective utilization of existing sources would open tremendous opportunities for companies and researchers. Subsequently, questions of how various stakeholders and groups can and must cooperate to face challenges and opportunities of technological shifts was the common theme.

At the first panel discussion, the necessity for each innovation to originate in the desire to improve human well-being was brought up by Dr. HARAYAMA Yūko (former Executive Member of the Council for Science and Technology Policy, Cabinet Office). To ensure this, bottom-up approaches to innovation and government policy were mentioned as necessary measures. Thomas WALLOSCHKE (Fujitsu Technology Solutions GmbH) tackled a similar question, speaking about whether AI could be generating innovation or should be viewed as a tool for humans to realize ideas. His answer landed clearly on the latter. As he stated, for the foreseeable future, AI can bring forth innovation-free optimization and innovation comes from people for people. All speakers agreed though, that AI's utility must not be underestimated. To illustrate this, Dr. Ulrich LÖWEN (Siemens AG / Platform Industry 4.0) explained how digitalization and AI can improve every step of the production process in one company and every step inside a value chain between companies. Further, thanks to increased flexibility due to digitalization, responding to more diverse wishes by customers will become possible. It was inspiring to see, how all speakers highlighted the crucial role for human beings as the focal point and driver of innovation, given the anxiety felt by many that AI could make humans obsolete.

The focus somewhat shifted on the second day of the conference. How to avoid negative outcomes for societies was put into the spotlight. Although AI suffers from an “explainability-problem”, building a not too rigid architecture to avoid unwanted outcomes might be preferable to strict regulation, which could hinder innovation, as Prof. ŌYA Takehiro (Keiō University) concluded. To set up effective principles for such an architecture, unintended side effects (UNSEENS) must be conceived as a transdisciplinary, transnational discussion. In a similar fashion to previous speakers, Prof. em.

Roland W. SCHOLZ (ETH Zurich / Institute for Advance Sustainability Studies, IASS Potsdam) highlighted experiential wisdom as equally important to academic rigor and a bottom-up approach bringing experts and practitioners from all areas identified as vulnerable together, as key. Finally, Kaan SAHIN from the German Council on Foreign Relations cautioned that AI could change power dynamics in many bilateral relationships, and most likely increase power imbalances. To offset these dynamics, cooperation of “the weak” will be crucial.

The last session of the conference was focused on the future of work and gave insights from politics, as well as businesses. Dr. Markus DICKS of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs' new “Policy Lab Digital Work and Society” introduced listeners to a new approach inside the government structure to cope with future challenges. Through horizontal, less bureaucratic processes, the policy lab aims at more flexibility and faster reaction-times to disruptions of the labor market by technological developments. From an intra-business perspective Michiko ACHILLES (SAP Japan) described how digitalization and AI changes the work of human resource departments. Technological innovation will become crucial for HR departments to identify potentials, challenges and new job descriptions. On a wider scope, Dr. Martin SCHULZ (Fujitsu Research Institute) spoke about the digital learning economy, focusing on the nature of problem-driven, cooperative and creative work of the future. Dr. Hubertus BARDT (German Economic Institute Cologne, IW) added to this point that changes in the nature of work need to be understood more holistically. Additional competences are expected for every existing job profile. Therein, advanced IT skills might not necessarily be the most demanded, but creativity, empathy and innovative thinking will be central across all professions. To prepare for this new work environment, public education systems will need to adapt to these new challenges to facilitate a society able to take opportunities presented by technological developments.



Japanese-German Junior Experts Exchange Program German Study Trip Report, 1-10 June 2019 Hosoda Sōichirō (Tōshiba Electronic Devices & Storage Corporation)

Sometimes a trip comes out of the blue. After hearing through my company's in-house announcement in March that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was recruiting engineers for autonomous driving technology for their Japanese-German Junior Experts Exchange (JEX) Program, I applied enthusiastically. The 10-day program provided opportunities to learn much about German research foundations, research and development institutions, traffic environment, the resident Japanese community, and Germany's history and culture. The following is a report of each topic related to this program.

Research Support Foundation

During our stay in Bonn, we were introduced to the German R&D support system: The German Research Promotion Organization (DFG), which supports research projects with an enormous budget of over 3 billion euros, has no application deadlines, so it can provide flexible support when research is necessary. Unlike Japan's funding system with application deadlines, I felt it is a useful system, which does not miss opportunities for research. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation supports researchers from over 140 countries in a very flexible way, allowing them to relocate between research institutes. I think this is a very useful initiative from the perspective of international cooperation between Germany and other nations.

Research and Development Organization

As part of this program, we had the opportunity to visit research institutes of RWTH Aachen University, Technical University of Munich (TUM), and Technical University of Ingolstadt (TUI). I had the impression that German universities are not pyramid-structured like in Japan; rather, high-level technology institutes were able to work diligently and without disparities thanks to decentralization. For example, the research institutes at RWTH and the TUM recognize each other's research, and there were many opportunities to hear comments of mutual respect from researchers from both institutes. At RWTH, we were able to experience the full-fledged development system of spin-off companies from universities (StreetScooter Research and FKA Aachen Automotive Research), as well as an atmosphere of intense technological development created by the employees. At the TUM's two laboratories we witnessed

the ongoing research carried out with their excellent simulators for autonomous driving research from pedestrian and vehicle perspectives, HMI (human machine interface) testing machines for optimizing seat control, and vehicle driving test environments. At the Center of Automotive Research on Integrated Safety Systems and Measurement Area (CARISSMA) at the TUI, we were able to observe a research environment specializing in functional safety tests such as remote operation, collision test, pedestrian collision avoidance test conducted in an underground course, as well as a battery inspection environment. Being a development engineer for semiconductor it was very interesting to see the installation of an ECU (Engine Control Unit) board mounted on a commercial vehicle. Patrick GLÄSSER, in charge of sensor fusion development, showed us a demonstration reel of multiple scenes combining various in-vehicle sensors (LIDAR, RADAR, camera). I was impressed by the high degree of perfection achieved by them. Dr. Tobias DIRNDORFER, a development engineer from Audi, Inc. and graduate of the JEX Program, kindly guided us through his company and participated in the workshop at the JDZB where I presented my research on the on-board image recognition SoC (system on a chip). I appreciate his interest and questions regarding the functional safety mechanisms after my presentation.

Traffic environment

We had opportunities to use Deutsche Bahn (German railway company) as means of transportation during the JEX Program. The ICE (intercity express) is a high-speed link between cities like Japan's Shinkansen, and the dining car had a good selection of food, but according to the locals, the Japanese railway network is better in terms of punctuality. In urban areas such as Berlin we had opportunities to ride a bus. Departures were not based on a timetable

but rather on an announcement such as "The bus will arrive in X minutes". Sometimes, the bus would not come at all, therefore I felt the German system is "fuzzy". For this reason, I think that it still makes more sense to own a car in Germany, and it is understandable that maintenance work was being carried out at various locations in the Autobahn (expressway), and the road surface has been well maintained. The yellow lanes associated with construction work and the 120 km/h speed limit display, rarely seen in Japan, were impressive too.

The politically, economically and academically decentralized nature of the Federal Republic of Germany was very different to Japan's centralized system, and not only the capital Berlin but major regional cities (such as Bonn, Aachen, Munich, Ingolstadt) as well are respectively promoting industrial and academic research including autonomous driving. I felt strongly that each institute advances Germany's research while respecting the research of others.

I would like to thank the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMEF) and other officials in Germany as well as in Japan, who are committed to JEX Program providing meaningful research exchange opportunities for both Japanese and German young experts. My thanks also go to everyone in the German research institutes (especially to the graduates of the JEX Program) who gave us a warm welcome. I would also like to thank Tatiana WÖNNEBERG and Sabrina WÄGERLE of the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB), who accompanied and supported us daily during our stay in Germany. Finally, I would like to thank profoundly Prof. Dr. INOUE Shigeyoshi of the TUM, who also travelled with us and taught us the way of thinking of a sincere researcher with the words, "stand on the shoulders of a giant". I wish to end this report with my hope that Japanese and German research will continue to develop jointly through this program for a long time.





The German STEM-EC Delegation (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) at the Super Science High School Student Fair (SSF) from 7-10 August in Kōbe. The trip was organized by the JDZB and Gesamtmetall/STEM-EC and financially supported by the “Jugend forscht” Foundation and the German employers’ association Gesamtmetall. (Photo © MINT-EC)



Symposium “Labor Market Policy and Political Participation in France, Germany and Japan” held on 19 June 2019 at the JDZB. In cooperation with the German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ, Tōkyō) and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS, Paris).



The JDZB Open House was held on 15 June with a wide range of Japanese culture on offer for hands-on experiences: workshops for drawing Manga figures, Furoshiki knotting technique and Origami, the skills game Kendama and the board game Go, Shodō (calligraphy), Ikebana (flower arranging), learning Japanese taster sessions, relaxation with Daishin Zen and movement exercises with KaQiLa (photo), and so much more. The “Play Like Children” jazz concert was held in the evening with the shamisen lute and piano trio ensemble.



Photo right: Opening of the symposium “Dialog on Long-Term Care: Best Practice from Japan and Germany” on 28 May 2019 at Hamburg Innovation GmbH (HI). This event meets the JDZB priority area “Demographic Change” and was held in cooperation with the Asia-Africa-Institute (AAI) of the University of Hamburg and the knowledge transfer company Hamburg Innovation GmbH (HI).



Photo left: MEMORIES. German-Japanese Encounters – Wind quintet of the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie (Samuel RUEFF, flute; KIM Jiyeon, oboe; Nicolas PEREZ, horn; Grāce ANDRIANJATOVO, bassoon; Ramona KATZENBERGER, clarinet) in the Reimers concert 2019 with works by German and Japanese composers on 23 May at the JDZB. The Junge Deutsche Philharmonie was founded in 1974 by members of the Federal Youth Orchestra. Since then, the award-winning ensemble has been bringing together the best students from German-speaking music colleges to perform under renowned conductors.

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Symposium: Global Health III

C: Global Health Center (GHC), Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva; National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Tōkyō
25 October 2019

Security Policy Workshop, Track 1.5

C: German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tōkyō; The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA), Tōkyō
10 December 2019, in Tōkyō

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Symposium: International Trade and Digital Transformation: A Bright Future for Germany and Japan?

C: United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), Alumni Association of the German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
13 September 2019
Venue: United Nations University, Tōkyō

Symposium: LegalTech – Artificial Intelligence in Law and in the Judiciary. Chances and Risks

C: German-Japanese Association of Jurists (DJJV), Hamburg; Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Tōkyō Office; German Center for Research and Innovation Tōkyō (DWIH Tōkyō); The German Federal Bar, Berlin
4 October 2019, in Tōkyō

STATE, ECONOMY, GOVERNANCE

Lecture and Book Presentation by Prof. Richard SAMUELS: Special Duty – A History of the Japanese Intelligence Community

C: Graduate School of East Asian Studies, FU Berlin
9 October 2019

Symposium: Tōkyō and Berlin: Inclusive Cities and “Universal Design”

C: Japan Foundation, Tōkyō
11 November 2019

CULTURE AND CHANGE

Radical Modern – German-Japanese Architects’ Dialog

C: Association of German Architects, Berlin; Technical University Berlin
Date: Second Half of 2019

SPECIAL PROJECT

28th Japanese-German Forum

C: Japan Center for International Exchange, Tōkyō
5-6 December 2019, in Tōkyō

CULTURAL EVENTS

EXHIBITION

“Spagat” Photographs by Laure CATUGIER and drawings by KIMBARA Akane

Opening: 20 September 2019, 7 pm
On display: 23 Sept. until 15 Nov. 2019

“Morning Clouds” Lithographs of HIGASHIYAMA Kaii from the archives of the JDZB to commemorate the 20th anniversary of his passing away

Opening: 28 November 2019, 7 pm
On display: 29 Nov. until mid-Feb. 2020

FILM

Express 300 Miles (1928)

Japanese silent movie – Director SAEGUSA Genjirō – with live music by and with Günter A. BUCHWALD (piano, violin) and Silent Movie Music Company
14 November 2019, 7 pm

SPECIAL EVENT

Nō and Kyōgen Theater with the Ensemble Umewaka-Kennōkai at the Musikfest Berlin

3 September 2019, 7 pm

Venue: Berlin Philharmony

Organizer: Berliner Festspiele/Musikfest Berlin; The Japan Foundation/Japanese Cultural Institute Cologne

New Course at the JDZB!

Kanji learning: systematic and digital

Content: New learning strategies of the Sino-Japanese characters kanji, e.g. the KanjiKreativ method and its application, use of digital dictionaries and other tools that are offered for free on the Internet.

The course is intended for those with previous knowledge of grammar and vocabulary at the level JLPT (1) N5 to N3, CEFR (2) A2.1 to B1, or for those who have completed Basic Level 1 to Intermediate 1 in the JDZB.

Duration: 4 Sept. until 20 Nov. 2019

Date: Wednesdays 6 pm - 8 pm

Registration: fsekikawa@jdz.de

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
 - German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
 - Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
 - Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
 - Exchange Program for Young Employees
 - JDZB SCIENCEYOUTH PROGRAM
- For details of the programs, please refer to:
<http://www.jdz.de> --> Exchange Programs

Opening hours of exhibitions

Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm, Friday 10 am to 3.30 pm

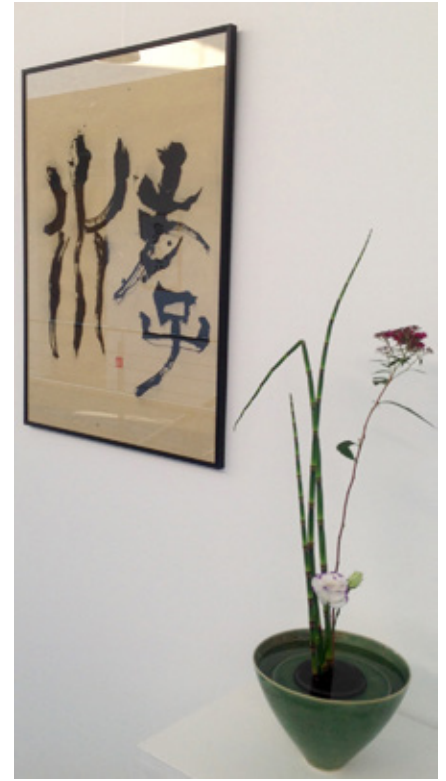
Registration for the cultural events opens close to the date

C: = in cooperation with

Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise

For **more information** please refer to:
<http://www.jdz.de> --> Activities

For **information on JDZB language courses** please refer to:
<http://www.jdz.de> --> Japanese Courses



The JDZB also offers a calligraphy course as part of its Japanese course offerings. Participants can come in their own time to the JDZB between 4.30 pm and 6 pm on Wednesdays to attend a 90-minute course. They are then individually instructed by the teachers MINAGAWA Saiu and MORIKAWA Noriko, no prior knowledge in calligraphy or knowledge of the Japanese language is required; one taster lesson is offered free of charge.

The results of the course are exhibited at the annual JDZB Open House Day; this year the works were presented in a particularly attractive combination with Ikebana flower arrangements. The teachers also offer very popular calligraphy workshops at the Open House Day as well. The calligraphy course students participate in the annual closing celebration for all language courses and exhibit their artworks in the atrium of the JDZB, photo below of the last celebration held in December 2018.

