

To celebrate the diplomatic relationship between Japan and Lithuania 20th anniversary we present to you - Shamisen!

We are honored to introduce you that Baltic Tour of Sho Asano (*Tsugaru Shamisen*) and the ensemble comes to Lithuania.

Sho Asano is very popular in Japan. At his young age he won many music competitions and is considered a Shamisen prodigy.

Performers combine traditional musical instruments like *shamisen* (Japanese three-stringed lute), *shakuhachi* (Japanese bamboo flute) with such modern music styles like pop, jazz, and also include the traditional dance into the performance.

„Folk music – it is music born from the lives of Japanese people. When we look at the lyrics of these folk songs, we can feel the expressed feelings of Japanese people and their attitude towards life. For example before Japanese people start eating they say “*itadakimasu*” which means „I humbly receive this meal” and after finishing eating – „*gochisousama deshita*” which means „thank you for the delicious meal” in order to express their gratitude towards nature and people. Thanks to nature, family, relatives, friends, leaders, farmers and fishermen we can enjoy our food and drinks. To show gratitude to everyone, I think, is the way of Japanese which did not change through centuries. Music which consist all this convey the Japanese spirit, Japaneseness and furthermore - humanness.

On the 11th of March Japan was struck by a very strong earthquake. In these modern times people, little by little, distance themselves from each other, so this disaster forced people to think what could they do in this situation to help. Support from around the world strengthened our will and made people understand that all of us are connected with each other and equal”

By Sho Asano

CONCERTS WILL TAKE PLACE:

19th of September at 19:00
„Girstutis” Culture and Sport Centre.
Kovo 11-osios str. 26, Kaunas

The concert is free of charge, however since the seat number is limited, you have to collect the ticket at the box office in „Girstutis” which is open Tuesday to Saturday 14:00-18:00 and 2 hours before events.

For more information:

<http://www.girstutis.lt>

Tel. 837 45 44 80



20th of September at 18:30
National M.K. Ciurlionio School of Art
“Dance Theatre”

T.Kosciuskos str. 11, Vilnius

The concert is free of charge, however the seat number is limited. Please contact the Embassy of Japan in Vilnius in order to collect free tickets.

Telephone: +370 5 231 0462

E-mail: culture@emb-japan.lt

Address: M.K. Ciurlionio 82b, Vilnius