

JASCO Pulse eNewsletter – May 2, 2007

Dear JASCO Members and Friends:

May is finally here and we are now just weeks away from the annual JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser at the Golf Club of Dublin! Please also check out all of the other Japan-related events going on this month. All of the details can be found in this issue of the *JASCO Pulse*.

- JASCO Staff

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1. Local Cultural Event: Russell Merritt's "Haiku in Pigment" – April 25 – May 25, 2007.

Russell Merritt is a Newark, Ohio artist specializing in Japanese-style art. His works include Sumi-e (Japanese ink painting), watercolors, cartoons, comic book art and Manga. Russell's work has been described as a synthesis of East and West. He strives to create a fluid poetry of water and pigment; simplicity, minimalism and beauty. The Haiku in Pigment Art Show will take place at the Art Works Gallery, 54 S. Second Street, Newark, Ohio, 43055 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

2. The Bonsai Series – Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 16 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Franklin Park

This course is a comprehensive beginner's course on the ancient form of bonsai gardening. Students receive their own tree and tools and learn the basics of bonsai in a hands-on repotting and styling session under the expert guidance of FPC Bonsai Specialist Dan Binder and members of the Columbus Bonsai Society. Learn the history of bonsai, compare traditional and American styles, and receive information on basic plant care including soil preparation, fertilizing and pest control. The cost for this course is \$90 for members and \$100 for non-members. Please call (614) 645-5923 to register.

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3. Local Cultural Event: Japan Night in Chillicothe, Ohio – Saturday, May 5, 2007

Southern Hills Academy, YSK and Ohio University (Athens) are partnering to provide an evening with events such as Tea Ceremony, Calligraphy, Origami, Anime/Manga drawing, Yukata wearing and others! There will also be a traditional curry rice dinner, complete with Japanese Mugi-cha. We are certain this event will be an entertaining one as families take part in a wide array of activities that highlight Japanese culture. Cost for the dinner is only \$5 and each activity (Tea Ceremony, Origami, etc.) costs only \$1. There will also be a raffle for a variety of Japanese goods ranging from Pikachu dolls to traditional Japanese fans. This event will be held at 365 Keller Road, Chillicothe, Ohio. For more information or to pre-order tickets, please call (740) 779-3865 or visit <http://japan.osu.edu/events/pdf/Japan%20Night.pdf> to view the information flyer.

4. Local Cultural Event: Hanamizuki no Kai (Japanese Women's Choir) 12th Annual Concert– May 6, 2007

For the past 11 years, the Japanese Women's Chorus has been directed by Kenichiro Matsuda. This year, the program consists of traditional and popular Japanese songs such as "Bashana Haba'ah" and "Amazing Grace." The concert will be held at the Church of the Redeemer Moravian Church, 3883 Summitview Road, Dublin, Ohio at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free!

5. Lecture: Architecture in Motion by Shoei Yoh Hamura – May 11, 2007

Shoei Yoh Hamura, internationally acclaimed architect whose style blends glass and steel, form and function into contemporary structures know for uniting indoor and outdoor environments. He will talk about the Wescott House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, located in Springfield, Ohio. The lecture will be held at Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center, Wittenburg University, Bayley Auditorium, Corner of Edwards Drive & Plum Street, Springfield, Ohio. Cost is \$15.00. Please contact (937) 327-9291 for ticketing information.

6. Local Cultural Event: Raku at The Artisan Center

Don't miss this wonderful event on Saturday, May 12, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Raku is the 16th century Japanese firing technique for pottery. The pottery is removed from the kiln glowing hot and placed into combustible material that produces carbon and then set into a water bath that sets the glaze from subtle crackle to brilliant metallic. Lunch is included. Location: Artisan Center at Maple Creek, 527 Maple Creek Road, Moscow, Ohio 45153. Price of admission is \$40.00. Please visit www.maplecreekart.com for more information!

7. X-Treme Private Documentary: Kazuo Hara & Michael Moore – May 11 & 12, 2007

- Special Film Screenings: *Extreme Private Eros: Love Song 1974*. Friday, May 11, 2007, 7:00 p.m. Located at Askwith Auditorium, Lorch Hall, 611 Tappan Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Directed by Kazuo Hara. In the profoundly personal film about political and sexual revolution, Hara paints a portrait of his abusive former lover, Miyuki Takeda. She is a determined feminist involved in bisexual and interracial relationships. Hara's intense "home movie" follows her to the military bases of Okinawa, climaxing with her most unusual and "independent" childbirth. Kazuo Hara will introduce this film and take part in a post-screening Q&A.
- Feature Event: A Public Conversation with Kazuo Hara and Michael Moore, Saturday, May 12, 2007, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Located at Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty, Ann Arbor, Michigan. While making *Roger and Me* in 1988, Michael Moore saw Kazuo Hara's *The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On* at the AFI Theater in the Kennedy Center. The file, Moore said, "had a profound influence" on him. Hara, who calls his work "Action Documentary", considers Moore a kindred spirit.
- *The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On*. Saturday, May 12, 2007, 9:30 p.m. Located at the Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI. Moore calls this film "the most amazing piece of filmmaking." It centers around Kenzo Okuzaki, a WWII vet of the fighting on New Guinea. Forty years after the fact, Okuzaki visits his former comrades with Hara to investigate the ambiguous circumstances behind the summary execution of two privates. When memories of the vets prove "faulty," Okuzaki pries the information out in the most shocking of ways – on camera. Kazuo Hara will

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introduce this film. For more information, please visit <http://michtheater.org/>, all events are free and open to the public.

8. Local Cultural Event: Concourse Gallery Exhibit Series: Five Women Sculptors, May 17, 2007 – June 14, 2007

Five women sculptors celebrates the work of the artists Barbara Chavous, Betty Collings, Ann Dewald, Jeanne Phillip and Yasue Sakoaka, using a variety of materials including wood, paper, fabric, vinyl and light. This event takes place Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the UA Cultural Arts Division Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221. Please visit www.oua-ohio.net for more information.

9. Local Cultural Event: Spring Festival 2007 at The Ohio State University – May 19, 2007

Japanese Student Organization's (JSO) annual spring festival is May 19, 2007 from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.! There will be cultural performances, delicious Japanese dishes, a career seminar and more! This event is open to the public. Please visit <http://jso.org.ohio-state.edu/events.html> for more information!

10. JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser at Golf Club of Dublin – Tuesday, May 22, 11:30 A.M. – Volunteers Needed!

Mark your calendars now and join us for a day of golf, networking and fun to support JASCO's ongoing educational and cultural programming for the Central Ohio community. Proceeds from this event will support JASCO's continuing educational and cultural programming for the Central Ohio community. For registration information, please click here: [9th Annual JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser](#). Volunteers are needed for this event; you may choose to volunteer for the entire day, or just a couple of hours. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mr. Nori Ito at ito.12@osu.edu!

11. Local Cultural Event: Asian Festival – May 26 & May 27, 2007

Asian Festival 2007 will take place at Franklin Park, 1777 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, Saturday, May 26 from 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 27, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Activities include Asian games such as Sepak-Takraw, Asian food, career fair, children's area, cultural exhibit and demonstrations, health pavilion, market place, and martial arts presentations. Admission is free and open to the public. Please visit <http://asian-festival.org> for more information!

12. Local Cultural Event: 27th Ohio Regional Bonsai Show at Dawes Arboretum in Newark – Friday and Saturday, June 9-10

Experience the art of bonsai and view more than 100 bonsai specimens at this annual show. For more information, please visit the Arboretum's site at <http://www.dawesarb.org/events/special-events-public.asp>.

13. 2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education

Asia Society and The Goldman Sachs Foundation are pleased to announce the 2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education. The 2007 competition asks students to select a problem or challenge that affects their local community as well as a community outside the United States; to create an in-depth written, audio, video, or animated feature that compares and contrasts how these two communities have addressed the issue; and to explain why these approaches reflect the different cultural backgrounds of those involved, and what lessons the different communities could learn from each other. Five winners will be selected and will receive up to \$10,000 each as well as an all-expense paid trip to New York City in early November 2007 where they will be recognized at Asia Society's Gala Annual Dinner. Please visit <http://askasia.org/students/gsfprizes.html> for the contest question, guidelines, rules, and online application. **The deadline for applications for the Youth Prize is June 11, 2007.**

14. Volunteers needed to share Japanese culture!

Are you looking to share your knowledge of Japanese culture with others? If so, this is the opportunity for you! We are currently looking for volunteers with knowledge of Japanese culture such as tea ceremonies,

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Japanese dance and drumming to name a few. JASCO receives many requests for individuals with these talents. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Nori Ito at (614) 292-4002 or by email at ito.12@osu.edu.

15. Kenyon College Dissertation and Teaching Fellowship

Kenyon College offers its Fellows an attractive stipend of \$32,500, plus housing and a small moving allowance. Kenyon also provides a modest allowance for travel to conferences or for consultation with the dissertation director. Please visit <http://www.kenyon.edu/x27112.xml> for application information.

16. ConsuLink Newsletter now available from the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit!

The Consulate General of Japan is now offering the ConsuLink Newsletter! Check it out at www.cgjdetroit.org.

17. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Midwest Newsletter

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) has released a newsletter highlighting changing economic fundamentals in Japan. The latest installment can be viewed at http://www.jetro.org/documents/JETRO_Midwest_Apr07.pdf.

18. Japan Economic Currents – March 2007

The Keizai Koho Center is pleased to announce the newest "*Japan Economic Currents*," a newsletter designed to provide readers with information about economic and social developments in Japan and the US-Japan business environment. The March issue can be viewed at <http://www.keidanren-usa.org/publications/currents/documents/March2007JEC.pdf> Back issues of e-JEC newsletter can be found at <http://www.keidanren-usa.org/publications/currents/archive/default.asp>.

19. Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA) eNews

Checkout the Columbus Council on World Affairs upcoming events and information at www.columbusworldaffairs.org.