

JFNY NEWSLETTER | February 7, 2025 ☐☐

Did you make a resolution to read more or watch more Japanese films, only to lose track of time and go "Wait, it's already February?!" Good news - we're here to help! Our Book Tree, in partnership with JF Toronto and JF Los Angeles, is back with a twist ☐☐ Plus, JFF Theater has a new line-up of films you can watch now until April 30.

Finally, registration for our next Pop Culture series episode is now open! If you're interested in *Dragon Ball*, academic deep dives, or both, be sure to register as soon as possible!

For more info on these and other events, read below! ☐

## *From Us*



### **Dragon Ball: How Black and Latin American Fans Found Themselves in This Anime**

March 4, 7pm (EST)

Online

Come join our FREE online panel session as we do an academic deep dive into the history and legacy of *Dragon Ball* and its effect on Black and Latin American fandoms. Don't miss this special event on the first anniversary of **Akira Toriyama's** passing.

→ [REGISTER HERE](#)

**JFF THEATER**

**NEW LINEUP**  
**NOW STREAMING**

STREAMING PERIOD  
**FEB. 01. 2025**  
≡  
**MAY. 01. 2025**

**FREE STREAMING**

DUE TO LICENSING RESTRICTIONS, SOME TITLES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES AND REGIONS.

## Watch the new JFF Theater Line-Up today!

Current movie selection available until Apr. 30, 2025 (9pm EDT)

It's time for a new selection of JFF Theater films! These films are divided into special features: Bridges Between Hearts, Delicious Tales of Happiness, When Passion Meets Comedy, and Anime to Rediscover.

### Featuring:

I Am What I Am

The God of Ramen

The Bread of Happiness

School Meals Time Graduation

Project Dreams – How to Build Mazinger Z's Hangar

Jungle Emperor Leo, AKA Kimba The White Lion

\*My Broken Mariko is not available in the US.

Create an account and watch for FREE today!

→[WATCH NOW](#)

*For Your (Virtual) Shelf*



## For Your (Virtual) Shelf: Starting A New Hobby

Welcome to another edition of For Your (Virtual) Shelf!

FEB. VOL. 1'S THEME: Starting a New Hobby

FEB. VOL. 1'S BOOKS:

- How To Draw Manga! Lesson #1: Eyes by Tadashi Koda
- Kirigami: Fold and cut to create beautiful paper art by Monika Cilmi
- Let's Cook Japanese Food! by Amy Koneko

→ [LEARN MORE \(How to Draw Manga!\)](#)

→ [LEARN MORE \(Kirigami\)](#)

→ [LEARN MORE \(Let's Cook Japanese Food!\)](#)

Not what you're looking for this time? There are plenty more books of all genres available. Visit the JF USA Digital Library today!

→ [LEARN MORE](#)

You will need a library card to be able to borrow and place holds for the books in the digital library. Visit the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles website below for instructions on how to get your digital library card.

→ [LEARN MORE](#)

***Your (Virtual) Shelf - Join the Giveaway!***



## Book Tree 2025 @ JFT Library & JF Canada/USA Digital Library Ongoing until March 29

Our annual Book Tree is back and there are prizes to be won! Share your thoughts on library items (and refer your friends) to make the library's book tree bloom and for your chance to win!

How to participate:

- 1) Borrow ebooks/audiobooks at the JF USA Digital Library. Every time you borrow 5 or more items, you are entitled to enter a drawing for prizes.
- 2) Submit comments on (an) item(s) of your choice on the virtual Book Tree board on Padlet.
- 3) If you want to opt in for the prize lottery, please submit your information from the form available on the virtual Book Tree board.

**\*NEW this year\*** Friend Referral Bonus: If you learned about the Book Tree and/or the library services from a friend, write your friend's library card number in the form. Both you and your friend get an extra ballot worth chance for small prizes!

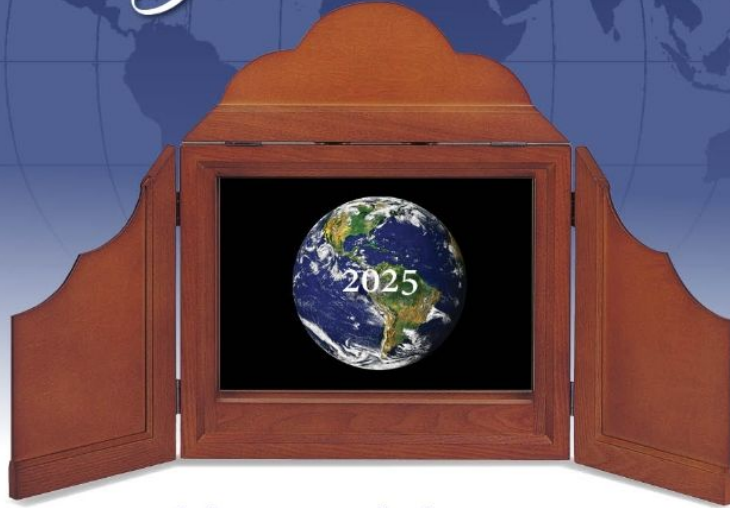
Prize winners will be notified directly in late April.

→[LEARN MORE](#)

## *From Our Grantees*

TEACHERS • LIBRARIANS • STORYTELLERS

*You're Invited*



## World Kamishibai Forum

February 15-16, 2025

### **World Kamishibai Forum LIVE IN SAN DIEGO!**

Feb. 15-16

San Diego Central Library (San Diego, CA)

As part of the World Kamishibai Forum, this unique and exciting opportunity will feature "how to" workshops and open-mic *kamishibai* - Japanese street theater and storytelling - performances. The workshops require advance registration. All other events are free and open to the public.

→[LEARN MORE](#)

# Kamishibai Storytelling

Tuesday, Feb 18, 6-7PM

Price Center, San Marcos, TX



Araki "Bunchan" Fumiko  
Tokyo, Japan



Mimoto Fumiyo  
Osaka, Japan



Pepe Cabana Kojachi  
Lima, Perú

We invite you for a one-of-a-kind event that will bring three internationally acclaimed kamishibai storytelling artists to the San Marcos Price Center to share stories and teach about this popular storytelling form. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 5:30pm



## Kamishibai Storytelling

Feb. 18, 6pm

Price Center (San Marcos, TX)

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn from dynamic *kamishibai* - Japanese street theater and storytelling - artists, **Araki Fumiko** and **Mimoto Fumiyo** from Japan and **Pepe Cabana Kohachi** from Peru. This event will celebrate the diversity of kamishibai performance styles from around the world. Organized by Write Out Loud and part of the World Kamishibai Forum.

→ [LEARN MORE](#)



50<sup>th</sup>  
1975-2025  
Anniversary

Festival 2025

Fukushima, February 09  
New York, February 21-22  
www.musicfromjapan.org

"...the uncompromising – though often playful – avant-garde vibe of the festival"  
– John Fleming, Classical Voice North America



Non-Profit Org.  
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FRI Feb 21

7:00pm pre-concert lecture by Mayumi Miyata  
7:30pm concert

Gagaku Ensemble *Toki no Koe*

Classical Gagaku

*Hyōjo no chōshi* // *Goshūraha no kyū* // *Etenraku*  
*Bairo* // *Tōshūshōko no netori*

Tetsuya Yamamoto

MFJ Commission for gagaku ensemble (2024)\*\*

Sukiyasu Shiba

*Met Fu jūin* for gagaku ensemble (2008, MFJ commission)

Osamu Kawakami

*Great Argus* for sho solo and gagaku ensemble (2024)\*\*

post-concert lecture with commissioned composers and Mayumi Miyata,  
moderated by Ralph Samuelsom

*Toki no Koe*: Mayumi Miyata director and sho solo Mayuyuki Shimeno (myōteki)  
Yoshie Kaminoto (shōmeiki) Hanako Nakamura (shō) Yoshiyuki Inaki (koto) Sakura Kido (sōko)



SAT Feb 22

5:00pm pre-concert lecture by Miyuki Shirahata  
5:30pm concert

Current Sounds Japan V

Mariko Endo

*Espece de son IV* for clarinet, cello and piano (2022)\*  
MFJ Commission for clarinet, oboe, bassoon and percussion (2024)\*\*

Makoto Ohata

*Trick or Treat* for flute, oboe, clarinet Bb, horn, and bassoon (2022)\*  
*KARASUYAMA Rhythm France* for flute, clarinet, and piano (2024)\*\*

Noel Hiyamizu

*Human Error: Dance* for violin solo (2019)\*  
*Tokyo Overlook* for four players (2024)\*\*

post-concert lecture with commissioned composers and Miyuki Shirahata,  
moderated by Tasha di Carlo

Ensemble: Anne Gendron violin, Christopher Gariss cello, Roberta Mitchell flute,  
Madison Greenhouse clarinet, Amy Wilson oboe, Nikolett Sauerer horn,  
Sara Schenker bassoon, Samuel Bui di percussion, Taka Kitagawa piano

\*\*MFJ commission/world premiere \*US premiere // Programs & performers subject to change

Music From Japan: Festival 2025

Feb. 21 - 22

Victor Borge Hall at Scandinavia House (New York, NY)

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Music From Japan with a two-day festival featuring pre-concert lectures, new *gagaku* (elegant music) ensemble **Toki no Koe**, and the world or US premiere of works by composers **Mariko Endo**, **Noel Hiyamizu**, and **Makoto Ohata**.

→ [LEARN MORE](#)

For inquiries, please contact: NY\_info@jpf.go.jp

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