



EuroJapan PRESS RELEASE Poetry Festival NOVEMBER 18, 2005

On December 9th and 10th, the first Euro-Japan Poetry Festival (www.eurojapan.org), will take place at the new Italian Institute of Culture in Tokyo (address: 2-1-30, Kudan Minami, Chiyoda-ku).

The Festival is organized by the EU-Japan Fest, the Italian Institute of Culture of Tokyo and the cultural association *Circolo dei Viaggiatori nel Tempo (CVT)* [*The Circle of the Travelers through Time*]. The artistic directors are Claudio Pozzani, an Italian poet and founder of the CVT, and for the Japanese side, the poets Kiwao Nomura and Shoichiro Iwakiri.

Numerous cultural institutions and European embassies collaborated in the event that is intended to repeat bi-annually.

More than 40 poets and musicians from 16 European nations and Japan will perform for 2 days in poetry readings, video-poetry, concerts, conferences and performances. It is a unique occasion to get to know some of the most important figures of contemporary European poetry and to listen to their different languages and styles.

In addition to readings and performances, there will be a round table discussion on December 10th entitled "The Role of the Poetry in Globalization", conducted by Yasuo Kobayashi.

Another featured event will be the "Gallery with Poets," where the authors will be called upon to 'give voice' to a painting of the prestigious collection in the Saizon Contemporary Museum of Art by using their own poetry.

Among the European poets participating are Cees Nooteboom (Netherlands), Jacques Darras and Juilien Blaine (France), Vivian Lamarque (Italy), Albert Ostermeier (Germany), Jaan Kaplinski (Estonia), Kornelijus Platelis (Lithuania), Krisztina Toth (Hungary), Tomaz Salamun (Slovenia), John Deane (Ireland), Pia Tafdrup (Denmark), Kai Nieminen (Finland), Jean Portante (Luxemburg), Casimiro De Brito (Portugal), Jan Lauwereyns (Belgium), and Lars Vargo (Sweden).

The Japanese side is also represented with great names such as Makoto Ooka, Sadakazu Fujii, Shuri Kido, Harumi Kawaguchi, Banya Natsuishi, Kazuko Shiraishi, Hiroya Takagai, Akira Tatehata, Takashi Tsujii, Ryoichi Wago, Chuei Yagi, and Gozo Yoshimasu. Among the musicians invited are Fabrizio Giudice, Gianluca Nicolini and Fabio Vernizzi (Italy) and the Japanese artists Flight of Idea, Yasuhiro Kasamatsu, Tetsu Saito, Norihiro Tsuru.

The Euro-Japan Poetry Festival in Tokyo will host a preview on December 8 at the Super Deluxe (B1F 3.1.25 Nishi Azabu, Minato-ku), with a special evening in which all the poets and musicians of the Festival will participated.

For information and the program, see the website: www.eurojapan.org