

Press Release

Classical Piano Concert
featuring Ms. NAKANO Mahoko

Saturday, 30 September 2006, from 18h30 (doors open at 18h00)

at the Chenla Theatre

The Embassy of Japan will present a "Classical Piano Concert" featuring Ms. NAKANO Mahoko, Japanese professional pianist, on 30th September, at the Chenla Theatre.

The concert is composed of three parts:

1. **Piano Solo Performance (Mozart, Liszt, Granados, Ginastera)**
by Ms. NAKANO Mahoko
2. **Tenor Performance (Mozart and Italian songs)**
by Mr. KUON Sethisak (Tenor) and Ms. NAKANO Mahoko (Piano)
3. **Japanese Songs by Ms. JINNAI Mari (Soprano),**
Ms. NAKANO Mahoko (Piano) and YUN Theara (Tro-Khmer)

The first part of the concert is the Piano Solo Performance.

Ms. NAKANO was born in Japan. She began to play the piano at the age of four. At the age of ten, she played for six months for the weekly television program "Piano Lesson" on Japan's NHK channel. Ms. NAKANO graduated from the Vienna Conservatory of Music, then went on to complete her studies at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, where she was awarded the Diplôme Supérieur de Concertiste after an unanimous decision by the panel. She is a winner of so many international competitions, including the "French Music" contest in Kyoto (1985), the Guilde Française de Paris competition (1991), the "Master Players" of Music Festival in Switzerland (1993), the "Albert Roussel" contest in Sofia, Bulgaria (1994), the Grand Prix "Rovere D'Oro" in Italy in (1994).

Now living in Tokyo and Paris, Ms. NAKANO plays as a soloist and with orchestral accompaniment in Europe, Asia and Canada. She is also a panel member for the International UFAM and Franco-Chinese Competition as well as being a soloist for the Center of

Electroacoustic Music at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. In Japan, Ms. NAKANO teaches at Ferris University.

The second part, Mr. KHUON Sethisak, the sole professional tenor in Cambodia, will show the performance.

Mr. KHUON Sethisak began singing at the age of eleven, soon after the fall of the Pol Pot regime. Aged 18, he was chosen to study at the Moscow Tchaikovsky College-Conservatory, where he studied for eight years. In 1996, KHUON Sethisak won the third prize at the "Bella Voce" competition, and was furthermore granted the "Best Russian Vocal Performance" award. After graduating, he travelled around the world, studying and performing opera at festivals, recitals and workshops.

The third part, Japanese songs performed with Ms. JINNAI Mari (Soprano) and Mr. YUN Theara (Tro).

Mr. YUN Theara is born in Kandal Province in 1958, started playing traditional Khmer instrumental music at the age of eight. In 1973, he entered the University of Fine Arts' Music School. In 1995, he received a Bachelor Degree in Ethnomusicology from the Royal University of Fine Arts. Since 1983, Mr. YUN Theara has taught traditional Khmer music and from 1996 serves as Vice Dean of the Faculty of Music of Royal University of Fine Arts.

Ms. JINNAI Mari is the sole Japanese Soprano in Cambodia. She received a diploma in vocal study from the Tokyo College of Music and later studied at the Ecole Normal de Musique in Paris, France. In 1998, Ms. JINNAI began teaching as a vocal teacher at the Faculty of Music of the Royal University of Fine Arts. She also conducts a community choir "Bella Voce" since 2000. Ms. JINNAI Mari has given several solo concerts in Phnom Penh since 1997.

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For further information, please contact:

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