

---

---

# awa life



"TOPPY"

A monthly newsletter for international residents of Tokushima, produced by TOPIA, the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association.

March 2005 No. 177

---

---

## the last remaining path of kukai

by david moreton  
dc\_moreton@yahoo.ca



*kobo daishi and emon saburo*

The title above is what you will see on signs pointing the way between Temple 11 (Fujiidera), and Temple 12 (Shosanji), in Tokushima which are part of the 1,200km 88-temple Shikoku Pilgrimage Route, known in Japanese as the **Shikoku hachijuhakkasho meguri** (四国八十八ヵ所巡り) or **Shikoku henro** (四国遍路). It is believed that the priest Kukai (Kobo Daishi, 774-835) created this route and since the late 17th Century, it has become a very popular thing to do. Today, it is estimated that over 100,000 people do this pilgrimage annually. The route starts at Temple 1, Ryozenji in Tokushima, circles around Shikoku and finishes at Temple 88, Okuboji in Kagawa prefecture. For information in English about this pilgrimage route, check out:  
<http://www.lac.uic.edu/~dturk/shikoku/html>;  
[http://www.kushima.com/henro/index\\_e.html](http://www.kushima.com/henro/index_e.html);  
<http://echoes.blumandala.com/>

Much has changed since Kobo Daishi's time and with modernization, most of the original pilgrimage route has disappeared or has been

paved over. However, the walk from Temple 11 to 12 is one that takes you through forests, up and down mountains and through quiet villages. It is one of the `last remaining paths of Kukai` and I highly recommend doing this arduous and memorable hike. (For information of this hike see the book, AWA Pilgrimage (1993) pgs 76-85). Let me tell you how you can prepare to do it and what to expect.

### Beforehand:

- 1) I strongly advise that you get the 2-book set entitled, **Shikoku Henro Hitori Aruki Dogyo Ninin** (四国遍路ひとり歩き同行二人). The guidebook (2,500yen) and map (1,000yen) are sold separately. Definitely get the latter! You should be able to get a copy at Kinokuniya, at Temple 1 or at a store called Taniya in front of Temple 11. Or you can order a copy from the **Henromichi Hozon Kyoryokukai** (Shikoku Pilgrim Path Cooperative Preservation Society): <http://www.kushima.com/henro/hozonkai/books.htm>
- 2) This journey will take all day and consists

---

**path of kukai... con't on page 8**

---

# contents

the last remaining path of kukai - 1, 8 ... fuyu yasumi... in japan - 3  
 introduction to yoga - 4 ... tastes of awa: simple and healthy - 5  
     japanese lesson schedule - 6 & 7  
 martin's anime corner - 9 ... cherry blossom delight - 10  
     japanese lesson - 11 ... memoranda - 12~15  
     tv movie guide - 15 ... cinema guide - 16

## from the editors

**m**ost people tend to focus on the cherry blossoms once spring starts to roll around, but in fact, there are lots of other blossoms that start to come out at this time of year. Before the sakura come out, plum blossoms are already starting to show, and after that comes the peach blossoms, just in time for **hina matsuri** - the doll festival - on March 3rd. I remember a scene from Akira Kurosawa's "Yume," where a small boy, on doll's day, comes upon a terraced field where the peach trees had been cut down, and the spirits of the trees appear before him in the shape of the hina matsuri dolls, and speak to him, before showing him a final display of peach blossoms. Hmm, if it was a cartoon, maybe we could get Martin to review this film for us. At any rate, check out Junko's history of the hanami on page 10.

Love, Claire



**S**o how was Valentines Day for you? I can't complain myself as I received a large quantity of high quality chocolate from the female staff at TOPIA. To be honest I didn't expect to receive much and was quite surprised when I saw the abundance of sweet delicious chocolate left on my desk. This surprised me as I was previously informed by my colleague and International Valentines Day's expert Junko Kimura that at TOPIA the western tradition of Valentines Day was observed and women were not required to give any chocolates. However in the end the Japanese tradition won out so I was extremely pleased. On a different note this month I have chosen another excellent Japanese anime title to review (page 9.) If anybody has a favorite title or any suggestions for future reviews please get in touch.

Peace, Martin



## awa life

is a monthly publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)

### Editors:

Claire Kinder & Martin O'Brien

### Contributors This Month:

Chris Howard, Junko Kimura, Claire Kinder, David Moreton, Fumie Murasawa, Jon Teakle, Martin O'Brien, and Don Weiss

**awa life** welcomes announcements, articles, opinions, letters, art and photographs. Please send contributions to the editors at TOPIA. You can also write (or call in!) for a free subscription.

### Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)

Clement Plaza 6F.  
 1-61 Terashima Honcho Nishi  
 Tokushima City 770-0831 JAPAN  
 T: 088.656.3303  
 F: 088.652.0616  
 topia@fm.nmt.ne.jp  
<http://www.topia.ne.jp/>

Download a PDF file of **awa life** or view the online version by going to TOPIA's website!

[http://www.topia.ne.jp/e\\_index/e\\_index.htm](http://www.topia.ne.jp/e_index/e_index.htm)

### English Information on FM Tokushima:

"Talk Up Tokushima" Thursdays @ 9:15am  
 Tokushima City 80.7 Ikeda 82.3  
 Anan 78.4 Hiwasa 77.7

# fuyu yasumi... in japan

by **chris howard**  
christopherahoward@yahoo.com

I'm assuming that by the time you read this, the cherry blossoms will be here and the last thing you want to think about is winter. However, I'd like to share my experience traveling around Japan for two weeks during December and January.

The decision to take to this trip was made the night before I embarked on it. I had no reservations anywhere, but somehow knew it'd all work out. And it did...

The ferry trip from Tokushima port to Tokyo took twenty hours and for the most part was very relaxing. The ship is only a few kilometers off Honshu the whole time, so you can see many bays, cities and mountains along the way. The ticket costs a little over 10,000 yen and includes 4 vending machine meal tickets (sushi from a vending machine?)

I spent the next few days in Tokyo and Yokohama. If anyone is into Japanese history, or really impressive miniature models, or both, I would highly recommend the Edo-Tokyo museum, which is adjacent to the national Sumo stadium. In my opinion, Tokyo is much easier to navigate than Osaka and has a distinctly different feel to it.

I highly recommend Nikko! It is a three hour trip north from Tokyo on the Saitama line. Nikko is not only a beautiful national park with lush, old growth cedar forests, a picturesque lake and waterfall, but is home to some of the most spectacular temples and shrines in Japan.

Another great place for



*follow the light to mystical Koya-san*

temples, gardens and delicious Buddhist vegetarian food near Tokyo is Kamakura. I prefer Kamakura and Nikko to Kyoto because they are quieter, less commercialized, and you can see them on foot.

From Kamakura, I continued south to the Izu peninsula. If you are a fan of onsens, Izu is the place for you. Rendai-ji has one of Japan's most famous onsens at Kanaya Ryokan. It's a huge wooden bath that you can almost swim laps in. Then there's Dogashima, on the western side of the peninsula. Here there's an outdoor onsen perched on a cliff overlooking a quintessentially Japanese sea view.

From Izu, I went to Hakone and Shizuoka-ken for several days. This area is incredibly beautiful, with great views of Mt. Fuji. There are also many wonderful onsens and ryokans in the area. I stayed at Yasudaya Ryokan in Numazu, which has a stunning view of Mt. Fuji from across a small bay. Ryokans may be a little pricy (Yasudaya is 20,000 yen per night), but well worth trying at least once or twice in

my opinion.

From Shizuoka, I caught the shinkansen to Kyoto, which cost about 10,000 yen and took about an hour. This was right around New Years and Kyoto was packed. The highlight of this visit to Kyoto was a dinner I had at a small restaurant on a side street in Gion. Kyoto cuisine is more like art than food and leaves you wondering whether you should eat it, or photograph it.

From Kyoto, I went to Shiga-ken and Mie-ken, where I visited two **ninja yashiki** (Ninja houses). The first, in Koga, was not really worth the confusing route it required to get there and I'd recommend the second in Ueno city (<http://iganinja.jp>). It has a little theme park flavor to it, with ninjas jumping out from revolving doors and such, but also has a good museum with plenty of information in English. Nearby is the birthplace of Basho, the infamous Haiku poet. Here one can view original writings by the man himself.

Next I went to Koya-san in Wakayama-ken. If temples way up in the mountains is your thing, this is the place for you. It takes about an hour from Osaka's Namba station and truly is an impressive place.

This trip was truly a wonderful experience and I'm so glad I did it. Japan is like an onion, full of layers upon layers. By traveling around, you peel away some of these layers and begin to understand and appreciate the culture and history of this place so much more.



# introduction to yoga

by jon teakle  
yogatokushima@yahoo.com

I remember as a kid hearing the word yoga from time to time, but it was hardly ever mentioned. When it did come up in conversations it always conjured up an image of a stereotypical hippie standing on their head. Although some of you may still agree with that image, I think its fair to say that the times have changed and yoga has become a very mainstream form of exercise which many people have seen, tried or at least heard about.

Often misconstrued as some kind of religion due to numerous references to God, the most common translation of the word Yoga is 'union.' This refers to a union of the individual consciousness with that of the universal consciousness, a search for the inner self, discovery of the soul etc and yoga is one method of achieving this.

Another misconception is that yoga is basically a series of poses and stretches, when in fact yoga comprises of 8 limbs, one of which is the stretching.

## The eight limbs of yoga:

1. **Yama** – universal ethical principles
2. **Niyama** – rules of personal conduct
3. **Asana** – practice of yoga postures
4. **Pranayama** – yoga breathing techniques
5. **Pratyahara** – control of the senses
6. **Dharana** – concentration of the mind
7. **Dhyana** – meditation
8. **Samadhi** – absorption in the infinite

Most of us are concerned with the Asanas (yoga poses), as these bring the initial health benefits. The practice of the Asanas is also essential in strengthening the body and mind in preparation for practicing other disciplines within the 8 limbs of yoga.

In most western countries yoga has seen a huge increase in popularity in the last 2 decades. Many schools of teaching and styles of yoga have evolved, including Iyengar, Ashtanga, Hatha flow, Bikram and so on. These styles vary in a number of ways, but the core poses of any good yoga class have remained

relatively unchanged since the yoga philosophy was systemized by the Indian sage Patanjali, some 2000 years ago.

In recent years, the yoga boom has spread to Japan and in response to this, sports gyms have introduced a number of classes, often with trendy names such as energy yoga, natural yoga and my favorite, aqua yoga. Despite their good intentions many of these classes tend to be a very diluted form of yoga. However, there are some good classes around but they tend to be in the bigger cities.

There are a lot of good

books, DVD's and CD'S for studying yoga now. It is always advisable to study in a class whenever possible, its hard to check your own alignment in a pose. If you are starting out by yourself, make sure you don't push yourself in any of the asana postures, listen to your body and breathe slowly into and out of the poses. If you aren't careful it is possible to do yourself an injury. Yoga isn't a quick fix, it's a very gradual process of opening up your body and calming of the mind, be patient.

The spiritual path, the search for enlightenment and finding your true self are not on most peoples 'to do lists', but yoga has been around longer than any other systemized form of exercise and has been scientifically proven to lower blood pressure, reduce the effects of stress, strengthen the immune system and numerous other benefits. If you do yoga regularly you will notice an increase in your energy, body toning, stronger muscles (not bigger) and with a healthy lifestyle it will help with weight loss (if you have something to lose). One of the best benefits of doing yoga is actually the least visible or tangible because it helps prevent sickness. If you haven't started already, give it a try, you won't regret it. Unlike aerobics, many sports and other forms of exercise, yoga is something you can practice for the rest of your life.



*Keep an eye out in next month's Awa Life for the first in a series of yoga poses you can try at home!*

# tastes of awa - simple and healthy

Japanese food has the reputation of being extraordinarily healthy, and in some ways, that's true. Traditional Japanese food (let's say pre-20th century) was based on whole grains, vegetables and fish. There were relatively few ingredients combined in myriad ways and eaten with what may be the best prescription for long life -- don't eat too much. In Japanese there's an expression はらはちぶ (**hara hachibu**) where **hara** is stomach and **hachibu** means eight-tenths. In other words, you should eat only until you're 80% full and then stop. Not necessarily a lot of fun, but definitely something that promotes longevity. (If you prefer that in Latin, it's the famous "Ne quid nimis - Nothing in excess." from Terence.)

Of course, in practice, Japanese food isn't necessarily superbly healthy, especially if you're sensitive to eating too much salt. Soy sauce, **miso**, and most Japanese pickles have more than enough salt to contribute to Japan's high rate of stroke and it's hard to think of a Japanese food that isn't made with or at least eaten with one or more of these. But if you don't overdo it (there's that はちぶ (**hachibu**) part again) Japanese food is great, especially if you get back to basics.

How basic is basic? Japanese meals are based on the idea the you should have rice, soup and one or more dishes of vegetables (or **tofu** or perhaps fish). The Japanese expression is **ichiju issai**, meaning one soup, one vegetable. The

vegetables will either be fresh or pickled (dried, reconstituted vegetables are also traditional, but not nearly as popular as pickled.) Since, ideally, they should be fresh, they will of course be what's in season. (The menu below calls for one soup with vegetables and one **tofu** dish - chef's prerogative.)

So here's a perfect, perfectly simple, and perfectly healthy meal for March.

## Ginger Rice

Do we need to talk about rice again? How you wash it and cook it in your rice cooker, perhaps mixing white and brown rice 50/50 and letting it sit in the rice cooker 30 minutes before cooking and 30 minutes after? No? Good. So all I need to add now is the directions for specifically ginger rice.

Buy some fresh ginger. Cut off a piece about 2 cm. long for each serving of ginger rice, clean it thoroughly and cut it crosswise into thin needles. After you've washed the rice, put in the ginger needles and a quarter teaspoon each of soy sauce and **sake** per person. (Is that clear, from a mathematical standpoint? If you're cooking for 3, you need about 6 cm. of ginger and 1 tablespoon each of soy sauce and sake.) This makes particularly fragrant rice so it's best to keep the cover on the rice cooker until meal time and serve it just before eating. The table will be enveloped in an aromatic, gingery cloud.

## Rape Blossom Miso Soup

Do we need to talk about **miso** soup again? Yes? How soon they forget.

For each cup of soup, start

with a cup of water (duh!). Bring it to a boil. Add 2 tablespoons of **katsuobushi** (shaved bonito). The good **katsuobushi** is in pretty big flakes, so forget about trying to measure two tablespoons. Just call it One Big Pinch of **katsuobushi**. Put it in the water. Turn off the heat. Wait two minutes. Then strain the broth. This is basic, light **dashi**, sometimes called **ichiban dashi**. (**Dashi** is the basic soup stock for virtually all Japanese soups.) To make basic **miso** soup, add 3 or 4 teaspoons of **miso** to one cup of hot dashi, turn off the heat, and mix thoroughly. To make rape blossom miso soup (rape blossoms, **nanohana**, were the theme of my column last March too -- it's the essence of spring food) simply simmer the blossoms in **dashi** 2 or 3 minutes, then put them in the miso soup just before serving. [Note: There are many kinds of **miso**. You can use any of them for **miso** soup. More on **miso** next month.]

## Cold Tofu - hiyayakko

This has become one of my favorite Japanese foods. Odd, I know, because I usually like strong-flavored food, but I add an interesting, strong-flavored topping and dig in. How to make it? Get some good **tofu**. (Good **tofu** is **tofu** you like. More on types of **tofu** one of these months.) Top it with **wasabi**, soy sauce, **yuzu miso**, or whatever. Done. My daughter likes her cold **tofu** topped with either **okonomiyaki** sauce or ketchup but what does she know? She's only three.

Simple!



## 平成17年度前期TOPIA日本語教室 受講案内

### 1. クラスおよび講師

日	時間	級講師	講義内容	
火	10:30 ↓ 12:00	初級II 元木	みんなの日本語I条件文を中心に復習をする。新しい学習はIIの26課から、可能形、意向形、条件形等の動詞の派生形、自動詞と他動詞の使い分け、これらを使った新しい文型を学習する。《みんなの日本語II》26課から(初回は、もし持っていればみんなの日本語Iも持ってくること。)	4/12～
水	10:30 ↓ 12:00	初級I 田村	て形など、いろいろな活用形を勉強し、それを使った表現を学習する。《みんなの日本語I》13課～	4/6～
木	10:30 ↓ 12:00	初級III 山田	初級後半。原因・理由、受身・敬語表現などを学ぶ。《みんなの日本語II》36課～	4/7～
金	10:30 ↓ 12:00	入門 青木	ひらがな、カタカナを読める人が対象。日本語の基本的な表現を学習する。《みんなの日本語I》1課～	4/8～
日	10:30 ↓ 12:00	初級II JTM	動詞の活用形を復習し、文法や語彙を増やし、いろいろな表現を用いてコミュニケーション能力を高める。《みんなの日本語II》26課～	4/3～
		初級I 広田	カタカナを読める人が対象。日本語の基本的な表現を学習する。《みんなの日本語I》5課～	

2. 対象 徳島県在住の外国人
3. 場所及び連絡先 財団法人 徳島県国際交流協会(TOPIA)  
〒770-0831 徳島市寺島本町西1-61 徳島クレメントプラザ6F  
Tel.088.656.3303 FAX:088.652.0616
4. 資料代 1500円  
申し込み時、受講回数が10回以下の場合は750円になります。  
※ 一度納入した受講料は、途中で受講しなくなっても返金しません。  
(ただし、クラスのレベルが合わなかった等の理由でクラスを変更するときは、届け出をすれば、2度払う必要はありません。)
5. その他 ①受付は3月からです。TOPIAカウンターにて、申し込んでください。  
②2クラス以上の受講を希望する場合は、受講するクラス数分の資料代を支払ってください。
6. 特別入門クラスおよび講師(無料)

火	10:30 ↓ 12:00	入門 村澤	かなの読み書きを学びながら語いを増やし、上記の日本語クラスでの勉強につなげられるような学習を行う。また、生活情報の交換・案内なども随時行う。登録の必要はなく、気軽に参加できる。	4/12～
---	---------------------	----------	--	-------

\*\*\*\*\* その他 県内の日本語クラス・サロン \*\*\*\*\*

毎週月曜日 10:30～12:00 TOPIAで にほんご Salon(会話練習)

毎週土曜日 19:00～20:30 青少年センターで にほんご Salon(会話練習)

TIA/徳島市国際交流協会 088.622.6066 吉野川市国際交流協会 0883.24.5112

小松島市国際交流協会 08853.2.0454 藍住町国際交流協会 088.692.9951

阿南市国際交流協会 0884.23.6323



# Japanese Lessons

## JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES AT TOPIA (FIRST TERM 2005)

### 1. CLASS AND INSTRUCTOR

DAY	TIME	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
TUE	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 2 MS. MOTOKI	We will review the points covered in Minna no Nihongo 1. New chapters will focus on potential form, volitional form, and conditional form of verbs and their derivatives, and use of transitive and intransitive verbs. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 2" from Chapter 26 (if you have it, please bring Minna no Nihongo 1 as well)	from April 12
WED	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 1 MS. TAMURA	We will learn various inflected forms of verbs such as -te form, and study how to use expressions using these forms. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 1" from Chapter 13	from April 6
THU	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 3 MS. YAMADA	The second half of the elementary course. We will study causative, passive voice, and honourific expressions. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 2" from Chapter 36	from April 7
FRI	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Beginner MS. AOKI	This class is for people who can read hiragana and katakana. We will study basic Japanese expressions. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 1" from Chapter 1	from April 8
SUN	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 2 JTM	We will review the inflected forms of verbs, and focus on increasing vocabulary and grammar, learning various expressions in order to improve communication ability. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 2" from Chapter 26	from April 3
		Elementary 1 MS. HIROTA	This class is for people who can read hiragana and katakana. We will study basic Japanese expressions. Text: "Minna no Nihongo 1" from Chapter 5	

2. PLACE: Tokushima Prefecture International Exchange Association (TOPIA)  
6F Clement Plaza, 1-61 Terashima Honcho Nishi, Tokushima City 770-0831  
Tel 088-656-3303 Fax 088-652-0616

3. ELIGIBILITY: All non-Japanese residents of Tokushima

4. MATERIALS FEE: 1,500 yen (if there are 10 classes or less left in the term, the fee is 750yen)  
(there are no refunds for leaving a class early, but it is possible to switch to a class which suits your level better without penalty)

5. NOTE: You can register at TOPIA from March.  
More than one class can be registered for, providing all required fees are paid.

### 6. FREE INTRODUCTORY CLASS:

TUE	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Beginner MS. MURASAWA	This class will help you prepare for the elementary classes by increasing vocabulary while teaching you to read and write Kana. We will also talk about information that will help you in your daily life in Japan. You can turn up anytime without enrolling in this class.	from April 3
-----	---------------------	-----------------------------	--	-----------------

For information on other Japanese classes held in Tokushima Prefecture, see page 13 of this issue.



# path of kukai... con't from page 1

of many up and downs (Shosanji`s elevation is 770 meters), so I suggest do some leg training, say climbing stairs, some days before doing this hike. On a sign at Temple 11, it says, "Time from Temples 11-12: 5 hours for healthy legs, 6 hours for average legs, 8 hours for weak legs." In my case, the walk from Temple 11-12 took 5:15 hours which included about 30 minutes in break time before reaching Temple 12!

3) Check out the local train times from Tokushima to Kamojima. It costs 440yen and takes about 45 minutes. I took the 8:10am local which arrived at 8:55. Also get a bus schedule from the Tokushima Bus booth. Ask for `Shosanji made no jikokuhyo wo onegai shimasu` ( 焼山寺までの時刻表をお願いします ) Buses run about every 45-60 minutes, will cost 1,000yen and take about 70 minutes from the bus stop Yoroinaka ( 寄井中 ) back to Tokushima.

**The Day of the Hike:**

1)The day that I went with two others in mid-February it was 13C and sunny. As we hiked, we kept thinking that it was the ideal weather to do such a hike. However, I was soaked in sweat upon reaching Shosanji and was very glad that I had brought along a towel and dry shirt. I could not imagine doing this hike in hot weather!

2)Bring along lots of food because there is nowhere to buy anything along the way. At Kamojima station, there is



*statue at temple 12*

a kiosk where you can pick up any last supplies. There is a supermarket and stores near the Yoroinaka bus stop.

3)Re: drinks. I took along one litre and that was fine. At Fujiidera, Shosanji and at the village after descending from Shosanji, there are vending machines where you can buy hot and cold drinks. As well, you can get spring water at Yanagi no mizu hut, which is part way along the trail.

**The Path:**

There are three small sacred sites (Chodo-an, Yanagi no mizu-an, and Joren-an) along the path between Temple 11 and 12 providing a good place for a break, to go to the washroom (somewhere in the woods!) and to fuel up for the next leg of the journey. There are a couple of sections (approx. 30 minutes long) where you go up and up and

up providing a panoramic view of the valley below. However, other times, you descent for a long period of time and this can be harder on your legs than going up. Part way down from Shosanji you will pass another site which is a statue of Kobo Daishi and Emon Saburo, the latter considered to be the forefather of the pilgrimage route.

**Getting Home:**

If you want to stop when you get to Shosanji, it is possible to stay the night there. (Cost: around 6,000yen for one night`s stay including two meals. Phone to reserve [in Japanese only]: 088-677-0112) Or you could get a taxi (about 20min) from the Kobo Daishi statue to the Yoroinaka bus stop. (see page 40 of the guidebook. Call from Shosanji). Or perhaps you could get a cab from the village below. If not, you must walk the 4km along Route 43 to the bus stop.

**Result:**

In my case, I left home at 7:25am and returned by 6:00pm. Walking time was between 9:00am - 5:00pm which includes 70 minutes of rest. There were other pilgrims on the trail, some in their 20s and others in their 50s but all made it to Temple 12. This hike is one that I am sure you will never forget, not just because it is difficult in spots but also because it allows you to walk through a beautiful area of Shikoku and gives you the opportunity to take part in a 1,200 year pilgrimage route that follows the footsteps of Kukai.



# martin's anime corner

by martin o'brien

[martinobrien2004@gmail.com](mailto:martinobrien2004@gmail.com)

**Title:** Tokyo Godfathers  
(東京ゴッドファーザーズ)  
**Directed by:** Satoshi Kon  
**Creators:** Mad House Ltd. (jp)  
**International Distribution:**  
Sony Pictures Entertainment, Inc. (jp)  
**Released:** Japan & US, 2003  
**Length:** Approx. 92 minutes

Last month, I reviewed Satoshi Kon's second major film "Millennium Actress" and this month I will introduce his third and latest Anime film "Tokyo Godfathers." "Tokyo Godfathers" is not as its name might suggest a violent yakuza thriller rather it is based on the adventures of three homeless Tokyoites during the Christmas period. While "Tokyo Godfathers" is not as adventurous as Kon's previous films, he has still managed to produce another animated masterpiece.

"Tokyo Godfathers" is very touching and sentimental, film in the same vein as other classic Christmas movies such as "It's A Wonderful Life" and "Miracle on 34th Street." The film has the same sense of sentiment and love won through hardships and pain, at the same time the film is not lacking a humorous irreverent edge.

On a snowy Christmas Eve, three homeless people; Hana, a melodramatic aging drag queen, Gin, a former bike racer who lost everything due to his gambling habit, and Miyuki, a sullen teenager runaway, find a newborn infant abandoned in a pile of rubbish. With the clues that they uncover, the trio set out to track down the mother of the baby and find out why she

abandoned her baby. As the three main characters try to uncover the mysterious origins of the baby they also manage to uncover in themselves the reasons why they have chosen to sever links with their former lives and live a nomadic existence in the streets of Tokyo. As the film unfolds and the trio get closer to finding the mother of the baby, the various regrets and tragedies that have shaped the three characters' lives and brought them together are revealed.

Hana, we find out, used to work as a singer but chose to live in the streets after his lover died. Gin's past is a more mysterious one, which he carefully hides from the other two characters. Miyuki is an only child who ran away from home after stabbing her father. Together the trio forms a family unit, and although unconventional they confront the innumerate troubles and strife that the world offers up. The theme of the family and what it means is explored in the film. The mother figure (Hana), the father figure (Gin) and the child (Miyuki) although unconventional are a real family with real problems, despite their obvious differences and conflicts they manage to struggle on together because they (although none of them will admit it) ultimately care about each other and want to help each other out.

Kon delivers a Christmas redemption tale of love and innocence lost and then once again found. While the film doesn't shirk from dealing with death and loss,

it is consistently uplifting. Whenever something sad, sentimental, or serious occurs, Kon inevitably punctuates the scene with some humorous quip. One of my favorite scenes is when Gin brings an old homeless dying friend back to his hut to hear his final request before he dies. After the man closes his eyes the scene changes to outside the hut. Numerous small windmills which flutter constantly, slow down gradually and then come to a stop. The imagery is obvious, the life of the old man has come to an end. Gin closes his eyes but the old man rises up and asks for one more request before he dies (a swig from Gin's sake bottle) Gin sighs and gives him the bottle. Scenes like this abound, perhaps excessively but none the less they provide constant humor. Kon repeatedly reminds us that no matter how serious things become you can't always take things seriously.

The story is very straightforward and avoids many of the violent fantasy elements that are common in Japanese animation. These elements exist in anime as they are difficult to portray in a conventional film format. Due to the straightforwardness of the story I believe that this film should have been portrayed in a conventional manner. The humor in the film is largely character based and its impact is only partially realized in its animated form. Despite this, "Tokyo Godfathers" is a rich and rewarding story that will appeal to all ages and tastes.



# cherry blossom delight

by junko kimura  
snowbird@fastmail.fm

Ladies, how was your White Day? Did you get any お返し, **okaeshi** - return gift - from your boyfriend or co-workers? I was watching news on TV before St. Valentine's Day; a reporter was telling that 友チョコ, **tomochocho** - friend chocolate - is popular now between girls. Girls give chocolate to her girlfriends as an expression of their friendship. Anyway, winter is over now and beautiful spring has just come! From now until next winter, it will be a bit easier for me to wake up in the morning.

What is the biggest event of the beginning of spring? March is the month that we say good bye to friends or co-workers. Japanese schools have graduation ceremonies all over in March and April is the beginning of our new lives at new schools or companies. Do you know what comes along with school entrance ceremonies? It is さくら, **sakura** - cherry blossoms. All of my schools that I graduated from, in Japan and the States, have had cherry blossom trees. At this time of year, the biggest event is 花見, **hanami**. 花見 means flower viewing and we bring a lot of food and drinks under the trees and enjoy this beautiful view while having a huge party in the middle of the day.

If you watch the news, a weather reporter will tell you about the cherry-blossom front. The cherry blossoms start to bloom in Okinawa in March, they come to the main part of Japan in April, and end up in Hokkaido by late April or early May. In Tokushima, there

are places that have beautiful cherry blossoms. If you check out the memoranda on page 13, there is the list where you can go for 花見. If you ask a Japanese person what 花見 is, they would answer that it is all about looking at cherry blossoms. However, in the Nara Period (710 - 794), if you asked the same question, they would answer it as 梅, **ume** - plum blossoms.

How did 花見 start? In the 古事記, **kojiki** - one of the oldest books in Japan, in a story, there was a daughter of the God of the Mountains. She symbolized cherry blossoms and was the goddess of rice fields as well. The God of the Mountains was supposed to come down in the village and take care of the rice fields for farmers. However, the God changed his daughter's figure into cherry blossoms, and sent her to the fields. So the farmers carefully checked out the blossoms blooming. They told fortunes about that year's harvest of rice by how the blossoms bloomed. They hiked up the mountains and brought loads of drinks for wishing for the best harvest under the blossoms. This story was the origin of 花見.

Japanese nobility have been enjoying the wild cherry blossoms since before the Heian period (794-1185). They started planting trees themselves after that. Finally, after the people begged for nine centuries, Emperor Saga started planting the blossoms in his property. They brought food and drinks while enjoying looking at the beauty of blossoms and practicing their

artistic accomplishments. Since then, 花見 started changing from fortune telling into a party. 花見 was only well known in big cities. It started getting popular during Kamakura and Muromachi Periods to powerful clans and Samurai society. Toyotomi Hideyoshi held a huge 花見 party in Kyoto during the Momoyama period. This is a well-known historical event.

花見 is also used for a company's 接待, **settai** - business entertainment - so one of the young employees - the one with the least seniority of all - needs to go to the park early in the morning in order to save a good spot for the company party. This is the time of year when new people join the company, so usually the person with the least seniority is the one who just joined the company a week before! 花見 is a good way to get to know your new colleagues. I like having 花見 with friends. We bring a lot of food and drinks and enjoy the blossoms with the perfect weather. If you look around at 花見 places, you are going to see a lot of people having a great time with their friends, families and co-workers. Usually there are lanterns set up in the park, so you can continue having a party until late at night. Also, some parks have stands with food and drinks for sale during 花見 season. I really hope that if you are going to a 花見, I want you to have a great time by looking at **sakura** since they only stay for a week after they bloom, then they are gone until next April.



by fumie murasawa  
topia@fm.nmt.ne.jp

# Japanese lesson: za and tsu

For this month's Japanese lesson, I've decided to focus on pronunciation of Japanese. A lot of people have problems with the Japanese sounds 'za' and 'tsu.'

今回の Japanese Lesson では、日本語の発音について少し考えてみましょう。日本語の発音の中でも特に「ざ」と「つ」の発音に苦労する学習者もいるのではないのでしょうか。

## za ji zu ze zo 「ざじずぜぞ」

When you pronounce 'za zu ze zo,' the tip of your tongue should be behind your upper front teeth, but when you say 'ji,' your tongue should move a little further back. Can you feel it? If you say 'za' and try to say 'ji' without changing the position of your tongue, it will come out sounding like 'zi.' Just like in 'sa shi su se so,' the sounds of 'za zu ze zo' are different than 'ji.'

「ざじずぜぞ」と発音するときは、舌先は上の歯茎のあたりにありますが、「じ」の音を発音するとき、舌の先がほんの少しだけ奥の方に動いているのがわかりますか？もしわかりづらければ、「ざ」と発音して、そのまま舌の位置を動かさずに「じ」と言おうとすると、「ずい」になりませんか？「ざずぜぞ」と「じ」では、舌先の位置が異なるのです。これは、「さしすせそ」も同じです。

Some students of Japanese

tend to pronounce the 'za' set of sounds as 'ja ji ju je jo.' For example, 'arigato gozaimasu' becomes 'arigato gojaimasu.' 'Dozo' becomes 'dojo.' This is because the tongue is not far enough up on the front teeth. It's not in the 'za' zone, but rather, the 'ji' zone. The tongue position for 'ja' is the same as that of 'ji.' A good way of practicing this pronunciation, is to put your tongue above the inside of the upper teeth, and repeat 'za zu ze zo' in short, sharp bursts.

ところで、日本語学習者の中には、「ざ行」が「じゃじじゅ じゃえ じゃよ」になってしまう人もいます。たとえば「ありがとうございます」が「ありがとうございます」に、また、「どうぞ」が「どうじょ」のように。これは、舌先が十分に上の歯茎のところに近づいていないために起こることです。つまり舌先が「ざ」の位置まで行かずに、「じ」の位置でとまってしまっているのです。(音声では、「じゃ」の舌先の位置は「じ」と同じです)。練習方法のひとつとしては、舌先を上歯茎に十分に近づけて強く息を当てながら「ざずぜぞ」を何度も短く発音してみるとよいと思います。

## ta chi tsu te to 「たちつと」

The pattern of the 'ta' sounds are similar to the 'sa' and 'za' sounds. Some students of Japanese tend to pronounce a word like 'futatsu' as 'futachu.' The reason for

this is that some people's native languages don't have the sound 'tsu' in them, so they end up using the 'chi' sound as a basis for saying the 't' sounds. A way of practicing the pronunciation of this sound, is to practice saying words that begin with the 'tsu' sound, and make sure your tongue is properly touching the area behind your upper teeth. Repeat the 'tsu' sound over and over again until you get it right.

「た行」も「ざ行(さ行)」と同じ現象が起こります。日本語学習者の中には、「ふたつ」を「ふたちゅ」と発音する人もいます。これは、その学習者の母語の影響などで、「つ」という音を認識しないので、「ちゅ」(音声では「ち」と同じと考えます)で代用してしまっているわけです。練習方法としては、語頭に「つ」がくる「つばき」などを練習して、舌先を上歯茎にぴったりとつける感覚を覚えます。それから、「つ」という音を強く何度も短く言ってみるとよいと思います。

As you can see, among the same set of sounds, the tongue position and type of pronunciation can change. Try practicing the pronunciation of these difficult sounds in front of a mirror.

日本語 50 音の中では、同じ行でも舌先の位置で、音が変化しているということをおわかりいただけましたか。鏡を見ながら発音してみてください。



# memoranda

## Big Hina Matsuri

### ビッグひな祭り

Every spring, a gigantic display of Hina Matsuri dolls can be seen at the Katsuura-cho Ningyo Bunka Koryu Kan.

**when:** February 20 - April 4  
9:00 - 16:00

**where:** Katsuura-cho Ningyo Bunka Koryu Kan  
Take the #72 or #82 bus from Tokushima Station platform A-5, and get off an hour later at Nakatsuno (中角)

**cost:** ¥300 for adults, ¥100 for Elementary students  
**for more info:** 08854.2.1505

## Submit!

### 記事を募集しています

Would you like to write for Awa Life? We are always looking for new articles to publish. In particular, those which serve some kind of use to the English-speaking population of Tokushima. We can not pay for submissions, but we can offer the kind of glory that can only come from seeing your own name in print.

**for more info, and detailed submission guidelines,**

**e-mail:** awalife@gmail.com

**write to:** Awa Life  
c/o TOPIA  
1-61 Terashimahoncho-nishi  
Tokushima City, 770-0831

## Tastes of Awa

### 阿波の味

Looking to impress someone with your knowledge of Japanese cuisine? Failed Home Economics class? Want to find out new ways of eating healthy without buying expensive imported food through the mail? Ask Don! Don Weiss, author of 'Tastes of Awa,' (page 5) is looking for reader's suggestions for future columns. What aspects of Japanese food interest you? What would you like to know how to cook? Send Don a message with your questions and ideas:

**e-mail:** woosongdonald@yahoo.com

## Plum Blossoms

### 神山町 阿川梅の里 梅祭り

View Tokushima's largest collection of plum trees in bloom - 30 hectares, 16,000 trees in Kamiyama's Agawa Ume no Sato. During the plum blossom festival, events and shops selling local products and food will be on site.

**when:** March 6 - 21

**where:** Kamiyama's Agawa Ume no Sato

**cost:** free

**for more info:** 088.678.0332

## Easter at Doitsu-kan

### ドイツのイースター祭り

Children have the chance to experience a German-style Easter celebration at Naruto's German House.

13:30 - 14:30 : Making Easter Eggs

14:30 - 15:00 : Piano Concert

15:00 - 16:00 : Treasure Hunt

**when:** March 27, 13:30 - 16:00

**where:** Doitsu-kan in Naruto

**cost:** entry is free. participation fee for children is ¥200

**for more info:**

tel. 088.689.0099 (in Japanese)

fax. 088-689-0909

email: doitukan@city.naruto.lg.jp (in English)

<http://www.city.naruto.tokushima.jp/germanhouse/>

## TOPIA's Library

### トピアの図書室

If you are a Tokushima resident (regardless of nationality) you can get a library card for TOPIA's library, and borrow books free of charge! The library has mostly English, Chinese, and Japanese books, with a small section of novels written in other European languages.

Books that have been culled from TOPIA's library are available for people to take home for free. Come to TOPIA anytime and take a look in the big boxes marked **free**. Donations of books are also accepted year-round!

# memoranda

## Japanese Lessons 日本語教室

JTM Tokushima Nihongo Network's "Nihongo Salon:"

This Japanese Chat Group holds free conversation sessions where you can practice speaking Japanese in a relaxed setting.

Mondays 10:30 - 12:00 at TOPIA

Saturdays 19:00 - 20:30 at the Seishonen Youth Centre

The following local international associations hold Japanese lessons regularly. Call the numbers below for more information:

Tokushima City: 088.622.6066

Kamojima Town: 0883.24.5112

Komatsushima City: 08853.2.0454

Aizumi Town: 088.692.9951

Anan City: 0884.23.6323

## International Child-rearing Salon 国インターナショナル 子育てサロン

International families living in Tokushima who have small children are invited to meet with other international families to discuss worries and spend an enjoyable afternoon together at TOPIA. This new monthly event is sponsored by the NPO Child-rearing Support Network.

**when:** March 27 (Sunday) 13:30 - 16:00

**where:** TOPIA (Clement Plaza 6F)

**cost:** Free

**for more info:**

NPO Child-rearing Support Network - 070.5681.1230

Child-rearing 'hotto' Space - 088.626.5454

TOPIA - 088.656.3303

**plus:** Suketo Daycare holds a similar weekly International Child-rearing Salon for international parents and their children. Thursdays, from 10:30 - 14:00.

**for more info:** [www.suketo.jp](http://www.suketo.jp)

**e-mail:** [suketo@suketo.jp](mailto:suketo@suketo.jp)

**tel.** 088.626.1911

## Shoun Yamamoto 山本昇雲展

An exhibition of Shoun Yamamoto's works; a view of nostalgic Japan and the beauties of those days. Woodblock prints and illustrations from the the turn of the 20th Century

**when:** on now, until March 27

English gallery talk on March 13

**where:** The Museum of Art, Kochi

**cost:** ¥700

**for more info:** 088.866.8000

<http://www.kochi-bunkazaidan.or.jp/~museum>

## Cherry Blossoms

さくらの季節が参りました～

It's cherry blossom time! The following spots are favourite places around Tokushima Prefecture for viewing cherry blossoms. Bring a picnic, bring your friends, and enjoy the pink fluffy petals all around. Blossoms usually start coming out in late March, peaking around the first weekend in April.

Tokushima Central Park - 徳島中央公園 - Tokushima City

Myokensan Park - 妙見山公園 - Naruto City

Iwawaki Park - 岩脇公園 - Haroura-cho

Mt.Bizan - 眉山 - Tokushima City

Tsunomine Park - 津乃峰公園 - Tsunomine-cho

## Man Ray Exhibition マン・レイ展

"I am an enigma."

**when:** January 15 - March 21

**where:** Tokushima Modern Art Gallery at Bunka no Mori

**cost:** adults: ¥600, students: ¥450 / ¥300

**for more info:** 088.668.1088

<http://www.art.comet.go.jp>

To get to Bunka no Mori from Tokushima Station, take the number 6 bus from Bus platform B-3 to Ichihara and transfer to the Bunka no Mori bus there.

# memoranda

## Counselling Service at TOPIA

### トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Monday to Thursday

10:00 - 17:00

**tel.** 088.656.3303 or 088.656.3320 (allows three way conversations with an interpreter)

## The Chiiori Project

### チイオリ・プロジェクト

#### March

4-6	Bamboo crafts
11-13	Tofu making
18-21*	Open House
25-27	TBA

#### April

1-3	Straw raincoat weaving
8-10	Wood crafts
15-17	Mountain vegetable picking and hiking
22-24	TBA

April 28 - May 8 Golden Week open house

#### May

13-15	Hiking (Mt Tsurugi to Mt Miune, staying overnight on the mountain)
20-22	Iya River Fishing
27-29	Country Cooking

\* designates long weekend/ public holiday

**Basic rate:** ¥6000 per night,  
¥7000 during Golden Week.  
Extra charges apply for weekend events.

**for more info:** [www.chiiori.org](http://www.chiiori.org)  
[reservations@chiiori.org](mailto:reservations@chiiori.org)

**tel.** 0883.88.5290

## Hana Haru Festa

### はなはるフェスタ

You don't have to wait until August to experience Awa Odori in Tokushima! Hana Haru Festa features Awa Odori dancing, food stands, live performances, and lots of other fun events in downtown Tokushima City.

**when:** April 29, 30, and May 1

**where:** Aibahama Park in downtown Tokushima City

**cost:** free

**for more info:** the Hana Haru Festa Committee  
088.655.7331 (in Japanese)

## Children's Photos

### 「こどもがしゃしん」展

A public display of photos taken by children aged 1 to 5. Photos taken without any preconceived notions of what a good photo should look like - refreshing and original.

**when:** March 12 - 20

**where:** Higashi Shinmachi Arcade

**cost:** free

## 11th AJET Musical

### 第11回のAJETミュージカル

This year's AJET English Musical is entitled 'A Night of Fantasy,' featuring a huge cast as well as numerous song and dance numbers, with easy-to-understand English dialogue that the whole family can enjoy.

#### when & where:

March 5th - Anan Kominkan - 18:00 - 20:00

March 6th - Hiwasa Community Hall - 14:00 - 16:00

March 12th - Aizumi-cho Chomin Kaikan - 18:00 - 20:00

March 13th - Yoshinogawa-shi Kamojima Kominkan  
14:00 - 16:00

March 19th - Wakimachi Odeon-za Theatre  
18:00 - 20:00

**cost:** free

**for more info:** Claire or Martin at TOPIA.  
tel. 088.656.3303

# memoranda

## Town Mergers

### 合併フィーバー

Town mergers, known as **gappei** in Japanese, are happening all over Japan as a way of centralizing local governments and reducing government costs. As of March 1st, 2005, the following Tokushima towns merged:

Wakimachi, Mima, Anabuki, and Koyadaira became Mima-shi

Handa, Sadamitsu, and Ichiu became Tsurugi-cho

Wajiki, Aioi, Kaminaka, and Kito became Naka-cho

For residents living in the newly-merged towns, it may be necessary to get medical insurance cards replaced with one reflecting the new address, and the location of various local public offices may change. If you live in a **gappei**-affected area, please confirm with your local public office whether you will need to have your Alien Registration Card updated with your new address.

## Jam Camp

### ジャム・キャンプ

Your kids can have fun learning to play a variety of musical instruments and songs while practicing their English at the same time! Canadian instructors in co-operation with Kamiyama Board of Education are coming to lead this three-day workshop in the mountains of Kamiyama! Children will be able to stay at the Kamiyama Junior High dormitory or commute from home. At the end of the three-day workshop, everyone will record original songs they have written for a CD that will serve as a souvenir of their experience.

Jam Camp is looking for volunteers to help lead games and help with onsite English classes. We are especially looking for people who can speak both Japanese and English, in order to help our international facilitators communicate with the kids. Volunteers will have their meals provided in exchange for their time.

**when:** May 3-5

**where:** Kamiyama O-Awa Jinga

**cost:** ¥15,000 for students staying overnight,  
¥10,000 for students commuting from home

**for more info:** [register@jamcamp.org](mailto:register@jamcamp.org)  
[www.jamcamp.org](http://www.jamcamp.org)

# tv movie schedule • march

Japanese television broadcasts most foreign movies in their original language as well as in Japanese. Bilingually equipped TVs can be flipped between these two audio channels by selecting the 音声切替 button on the remote control.

Date	Time	Place	Nat.	タイトル	Title	
Fri. 18	9:00	⑩読売	USA '00	グラディエーター	Gladiator	🔥
Fri. 18	late night	④毎日	USA '00	ハイ・フィデリティ	High Fidelity	⊗
Sun. 20	9:00	⑥ABC	USA '01	ウインドトーカーズ	Windtalkers	🔥
Fri. 25	9:03	⑩読売	USA '01	ギャング・オブ・ ニューヨーク	Gangs of New York	⊗
Sun. 26	late night	⑥ABC	USA '78	続7 <sup>+</sup> ハンチャー・ファミリー 白銀を越えて	Further Adventures of the Wildmess Family Part 2	⊗
Sat.26	late night	④毎日	USA '89	バットマン	Batman	⊗
Sun. 27	late night	④毎日	USA '92	バットマン リターンズ	Batman Returns	🔥
Mon. 28	late night	④毎日	USA '95	バットマン・ フォーエヴァー	Batman Forever	🔥
Wed. 30	late night	④毎日	JPN '88	アキラ	Akira	SF

🔥horror ? mystery 🌀suspense ☺comedy ⊗drama 🔥action ♥love & romance SF science fiction

This schedule is subject to change.

# cinema guide

<b>TOKUSHIMA HALL 徳島ホール</b> <b>(Saiwai-cho - near the Central Post Office)</b> <b>088.653.1802</b>	<b>The Bourne Supremacy 【USA】</b> ボーン・スプレマシー	
	Regular tickets → ¥1800 1st of each month → ¥1000 Ladies' day / Tuesday → ¥1000 Men's day / Friday → ¥1000	
<b>TOKUSHIMA TOHO 徳島東宝</b> <b>(Kagoya-machi - in Higashi Shinmachi Arcade)</b> <b>088.625.5311</b>	<b>Lorelei 【JPN】</b> ローレイ (in Japanese)	
	Regular tickets → ¥1800 1st of each month → ¥1000 Ladies' Day / Wednesday → ¥1000 Men's Day / Thursday → ¥1000	
<b>TOHO CINEMA 東宝シネマ</b> <b>(Kagoya-machi - in Higashi Shinmachi Arcade)</b> <b>088.625.5311</b>	<b>Howl's Moving Castle 【JPN】</b> ハウルの動く城 (in Japanese)	
	<b>Shark Tale 【USA】</b> シャーク・テール	
	Regular tickets → ¥1800 1st of each month → ¥1000 Customer Appreciation Day / Wednesday → ¥1000	
<b>ATTACK HEIWA アタック平和</b> <b>(Kuramoto 2 cho-me - near Kuramoto Station)</b> <b>088.631.6490</b>	<b>Alexander 【USA】</b> アレキサンダー	<b>until 3/18</b>
	<b>National Treasure 【USA】</b> ナショナル・トレジャー	<b>from 3/19</b>
	1st of each month → ¥1000 Customer Appreciation Day/ Wednesday → ¥1000	
<b>HEIWA DOLBY 平和ドルビー</b> <b>(Kuramoto 2 cho-me )</b> <b>088.631.6490</b>	<b>Sekaino Chushin de Ai wo Sakebu 【JPN】</b> 世界の中心で愛を叫ぶ (in Japanese)	
	<b>Ima Aini Yukimasu 【JPN】</b> いま、会いにゆきます (in Japanese)	
	Regular tickets → ¥1800 1st of each month → ¥1000 Customer Appreciation Day / Wednesday → ¥1000	
<b>KITAJIMA CINEMA SUNSHINE</b> <b>*FUJI GRAND*</b>  北島シネマサンシャイン <b>(Kitajima-cho Tainohama)</b> <b>088.697.3113</b> <b>088.697.3111</b> (24 時間テープ案内 - <b>24 hour recorded message)</b>  Regular tickets → ¥1800 The 1st of each month → ¥1000 Ladies' Day / Wednesday → ¥1000	<b>Eternal Sunshine Of the Spotless Mind 【USA】</b> エターナル・サンシャイン	<b>from 3/19</b>
	<b>National Treasure 【USA】</b> ナショナル・トレジャー	
	<b>MAKOTO 【JPN】</b>	<b>until 3/18</b>
	<b>Year One in the North 【JPN】</b> 北の零年 (in Japanese)	
	<b>The Phantom of the Opera 【USA】</b> オペラ座の怪人	
	<b>Shark Tale 【USA】</b> シャーク・テール	
	<b>Howl's Moving Castle 【JPN】</b> ハウルの動く城 (in Japanese)	
	<b>The Bourne Supremacy 【USA】</b> ボーン・スプレマシー	
	<b>Lorelei 【JPN】</b> ローレイ (in Japanese)	
	<b>A Very Long Engagement 【FRN】</b> ロング・エンゲージメント (in French)	
	<b>Racing Stripes 【USA】</b> レーシング・ストライプス (in Japanese)	
	<b>The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement 【USA】</b> プリティ・プリンセス2 ロイヤル・ウエディング	

## coming soon:

At Kitajima Sunshine Cinema in Fuji Grand this April:

Lots of anime: Crayon Shin-chan, Detective Conan, Pretty Cure, and more!

人権守って  
輝く明日