

## HISTORY OF JAPAN AND SOUTH AFRICA DURING THE LAST 100 YEARS

In 1910 the Government of Japan decided to appoint Mr Julius Otto Jeppe, who was at the time living in Cape Town, as the honorary consul of Japan in South Africa. Then the government of Japan established the consulate in Cape Town in 1918. In 1916 a regular ship to transport Japanese migrants to South America stopped in Cape Town after coming from the Indian Ocean. In 1926, a regular ship exchange was established between Kobe and Durban.

## 2010 JAPAN SOUTH AFRICA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Mr. Julius Otto Jeppe

The Japanese migrant ship going to South America was allowed to stop in Cape Town and to disembark for several days. As a sign of appreciation to such facilitation, the Government of Japan handed over a stone lantern to the city of Cape Town. This stone lantern was set and still stands in the Companies' Garden (next to the South African Parliament building), which is South Africa's oldest garden situated in the centre of the city.

After the establishment of a legation in Pretoria in 1937, diplomatic relations were broken off due to the Second World War in 1942. After the War, consulate relations resumed. In 1952, a consulate general was established in Pretoria and in 1964 a liaison office was established in Cape Town.

Following the democratisation process of Apartheid, diplomatic relations were re-established in January 1991. The Embassy of Japan in South Africa was opened in February of the same year.

Since 1994, dignitaries such as Prime Minister Mori, Prime Minister Koizumi, and Foreign Minister Kawaguchi among others visited South Africa from Japan. Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada visited South Africa to attend the 10th Japan-South Africa Partnership Forum in May 2010. From South Africa; Presidents Mandela and Mbeki, Deputy President Mlambo-Ngcuka among others visited Japan.

Moreover, more than 340 South Africans have stayed in Japan as assistant language teachers in Japan so far. In July 2010, 36 more South African youths went to Japan as English teachers. Application form for 2011 JET programme is now available and will close on Friday 3 December 2010. ([http://www.za.emb-japan.go.jp/en/culture/programme\\_JET.html](http://www.za.emb-japan.go.jp/en/culture/programme_JET.html))



Stone Lantern

Currently, Japan is South Africa's third biggest export destination and fourth biggest import source (2009). Japan and South Africa are working hard to further strengthen this partnership.

## SCHEDULE

### BROOKLYN

### PRETORIA

DATE	14:15	17:30	20:15
6 NOV	Shangri La (Comedy)	The girl who leaped through time (Animation)	Kamome Diner (Drama/Comedy)
7 NOV	Dog in a side car (Drama)	Half a confession (Drama)	

### V&A

### CAPETOWN

DATE	14:15	17:30	20:15
13 NOV	Shangri La (Comedy)	The girl who leaped through time (Animation)	Kamome Diner (Drama/Comedy)
14 NOV	Dog in a side car (Drama)	Half a confession (Drama)	

### ROSEBANK

### JOHANNESBURG

DATE	14:15	17:30	20:15
20 NOV	Shangri La (Comedy)	The girl who leaped through time (Animation)	Kamome Diner (Drama/Comedy)
21 NOV	Dog in a side car (Drama)	Half a confession (Drama)	

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## V E N U E S

6 November – 7 November  
 BROOKLYN NOUVEAU (PTA)

13 November – 14 November  
 V&A NOUVEAU (CT)

20 November – 21 November  
 ROSEBANK NOUVEAU (JHB)



## THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME



**Title** The Girl Who Leapt Through Time  
**Cast** Voices By Riisa Naka, Takuya Ishida, Mitsutaka Itakura  
**Director** Mamoru Hosoda  
**Producer** Tetsuya Ikeda  
**Running time** 102 min  
**Release date** 2006  
**Genre** Animation /Comedy

### S Y N O P S I S

Based on a novel by Yasutaka Tsutsui, The Girl Who Leapt Through Time is

a fascinating animation about 17-year-old Makoto Konno who gains the ability to "leap" back through time. Initially she sets about improving her grades and preventing personal mishaps. However, she soon realises that changing the past isn't as simple as it seems, and eventually, uses her ability to shape the future of her and her friends.

## SHANGRI LA



**Title** Shangri La  
**Cast** Sho Aikawa, Shiro Sano, Yu Tokui, Akaji Maro, Shigeru Muroi, Houka Kinoshita, Nao Omori, Takashi Ebata, Takashi Miike  
**Director** Takashi Miike  
**Producer** Yoichi Arishige  
**Running time** 104 min  
**Release date** 2002  
**Genre** Drama

### S Y N O P S I S

A printer is forced to shut down his business after his main client goes bankrupt. That rich client has a lot of property and assets hidden away and doesn't plan to pay off his debts. Clouded by feelings of shame for leaving his employees without an income, the printer tries to commit suicide but ends up instead in Shangri-La. Inhabited by social misfits, Shangri-La is basically a small group of makeshift houses by a river in an industrial wasteland. The "Mayor" and the "Deputy" who has knowledge on business stock market set on to help the printer get revenge on the rich businessman, and make a little fortune while they're at it.

## KAMOME DINER



**Title** Kamome Diner  
**Cast** Satomi Kobayashi, Hairi Katagiri, Masako Motai, Niemi Jarkko, Markus Tarja, Peltola Markku  
**Director** Naoko Ogigami  
**Producers** Enma Maekawa, Mayumi Amano, Seiji Okuda, Mitsuru Oshima, Masayasu Ishihara  
**Running time** 102 min  
**Release date** 2006  
**Genre** Comedy/Drama

### S Y N O P S I S

Kamome Diner is about a 38-year-old Japanese woman named Sachie (Satomi Kobayashi) who runs a small Japanese diner in Helsinki, Finland.

Although she works hard to keep the centrally located diner sparkling clean and inviting, the locals don't really know what to make of it. People walk by and peer in through the window, but not one customer dares to open the door.

Things begin to change when a young man named Tommi (Jarkko Niemi) who is interested in Japanese anime enters and becomes the diner's first regular.

Then Midori, a Japanese woman who has just arrived in Finland without any definite plans enters the picture. She and Sachie happen to meet and Midori starts to help out in the diner.

Later, Masako, another Japanese woman turns up, and before long she too starts to work in the diner.

Each one of the characters adds their own layer to the goings on at the diner. As one might guess, the little eatery ultimately turns into the toast of the town.

But the movie isn't about success or failure. It's about a sense of community, and each character's personal inner journey of self-discovery.

## DOG IN A SIDE CAR



**Title** Dog in a Side Car  
**Cast** Yuko Takeuchi, Kana Matsumoto, Arata Furuta, Takeru Taniyama  
**Director** Kichitaro Negishi  
**Producer** Masaaki Wakasugi, Yoshiro Hosono, Junko Tanabe  
**Running time** 94 min  
**Release date** 2006  
**Genre** Drama

### S Y N O P S I S

10 year-old Kaoru (Kana Matsumoto) suddenly has to get used to a new-way of life when her mother walks

out on their family. Things take a dramatic turn when her father's new girlfriend, Yoko, arrives on the scene. At first, Kaoru isn't sure what to make of Yoko, who is unusually forward, good-humoured, and unconventional. During the summer, a unique friendship forms between them and Kaoru is opened up to a world she never knew before.

## HALF A CONFESSION



**Title** Half a Confession  
**Cast** Akira Terao, Mieko Harada, Kyohei Shibata  
**Director** Kiyoshi Sasabe  
**Producers** Chiharu Nakasone  
**Running time** 122 min  
**Release date** 2004  
**Genre** Drama

### S Y N O P S I S

Former police detective Soichiro turns himself in at his local police station and confesses to the murder of his wife at their home, three days earlier. Under questioning by his former colleague Shigi, he explains that

the shock of their son's death from leukemia brought about the onset of Alzheimer's disease in his wife, which ultimately led her to ask Soichiro to end her suffering. However, despite rigorous interrogation, he steadfastly refuses to explain his movements in the two days between his wife's death and his surrender. The case becomes highly sensational as it emerges that Soichiro had visited Kabukicho, Tokyo's red-light district, after killing his wife.

Winner of Best Film and Best Actor at the 2005 Japan Academy Prize, this drama was responsible for an unprecedented surge in marrow donor registrations.