

The Sounds of the Far East come to UMBC

Japan has had a major influence on American pop culture over the years from cars and electronics and video games to animation, and food. Now, you can add music to that list.

Check out UMBC's three-day symposium/musical festival, tabbed **Music of Japan Today 2007**. The festival is UMBC's sixth event in a series addressing Asian music which commenced in 1992. The festival will feature lecture-recitals, panel discussions, presentations, and performances by its three guest composers, fellow UMBC faculty and students, and musicians from the Baltimore/Washington DC area. The event will showcase the diversity of music as solo instruments, chamber music, computer, and electronic music accompany the sounds of traditional instruments to enliven adventurous and complex compositions.

Boasting a roster of A-list talent, the festival will feature new works by each of its acclaimed guest composers: Hiroyuki Itoh, Hiroyuki Yamamoto, and Shiroto Aizawa. Each is an internationally recognized composer who has worked with a bevy of prestigious musical outfits including ensembles such as the New Japan Philharmonic, the Nieuw Ensemble, and the Arditti Quartet. Like most of the talent at the event, Itoh will be both performing and discussing music. Which is another thing that makes this event so special: The symposium covers a lot of ground, musically *and* culturally, as all of the guests will be giving lectures and presentations. The festival will have concerts in the daytime and evenings, with lectures only in the daytime.

Mar. 30, 9 am-8:30 pm; Mar. 31, 9 am-9:15 pm; Apr. 1, 1 pm. University of Maryland, Baltimore County. 410-455-ARTS. www.umbc.edu.arts.

