

Japanese today—the people and the culture

There seems to be no shortage of interesting talks, exhibitions and resources for anyone wanting to know more about Japanese people—in Japan and here in Australia—and about Australians of all backgrounds who have made part of Japanese culture their own. We've picked up a few for you.



NIPPON JIN Portraits of Japanese Now

The third part of the Japan Foundation's *Momentum* series of free photographic exhibitions is being held at the Foundation's Gallery in Sydney from **31 August to 28 September**.

More than 300 striking portraits of Japanese people will be showcased by New York and Tokyo based commercial photographer, **Junichi Takahashi**. While famous for celebrity portraits which include Robert De Niro, Calvin Klein and Anna Sui, he has always focussed



on Japanese people throughout his career, questioning identity and chance encounters by being the interventionist photographer. For Takahashi, "taking photos is all about connecting with people, getting involved with them. I feel this even more profoundly since 3.11".

Also being exhibited at the Japan Foundation Gallery are images Takahashi took in the disaster affected areas of Japan. He visits these areas frequently, photographing places and people. His motivation behind this work is not to create photographs for himself, but for the people affected by the disaster, a way of providing them support.

For more information: www.jpf.org.au and www.junichitakahashi.com



Akira Isogawa
fashion designer
31 August

Living Histories Series 3

This excellent series of talks organised by the Japan Foundation runs until 14 September, so you still have a chance to learn about some *extraordinary lives linking Australia and Japan*. Presented by writer and academic Ian McArthur, Living Histories continues to reveal interesting stories from highly talented individuals.

Find out more and reserve your spot at
www.jpf.org.au.



Junko Morimoto and Teruko Blair
Children's book artist and writer
14 September



ONLINE RESOURCES

Japanese on the Move: Life Stories of Transmigration is a fascinating project using video-interviews to explore what it means to move between two cultures and the notion of 'home'. www.languageonthemove.com/japanese-on-the-move

Japan Art Directory in Australia (JAD), published by the Japan Foundation Sydney, introduces Japanese artists and non-Japanese artists practising traditional and contemporary Japanese art forms, as well as experts in the area of Japanese art and arts organisations representing Japanese arts based in Australia. www.jad.jpf-sydney.org