Cultural Exchange and Performing Arts

# Newsletter of the Min-On Concert Association

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### www.min-on.org

### Celebrating 50 Years of the Min-On Concert Association

### The Main Event

### harmony

### Jazz is a Dialogue Celebrating the Joy of Life

"Jazz is a music that depends on dialogue ... Jazz is also a very spiritual music. The dialogue that happens within the performance of the music is not frivolous or casual. The dialogue embodied in jazz is very serious, even when it's playful. In many ways, it's a celebration of the joy of life. It's a cry issued from the depths of human emotion." These words are from the legendary composer, pianist and keyboard pioneer Herbie Hancock, recipient of an extraordinary 14 Grammy Awards and a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for his dedication to the promotion of peace through dialogue, culture and music.

Celebrating 50 years of the Min-On Concert Association working to promote the global exchange of musical culture with the aim of developing international friendship and peace, this jazz legend was invited to Japan with his quartet of internationally celebrated jazz musicians—Vinnie Colaiuta on drums, James Genus on bass, and Beninese rising star Lionel Loueke on guitar—for a four-city concert tour taking in Hiroshima, Nishinomiya, Nagoya and Tokyo during the beautiful autumn season in Japan.

Hancock was one of the first jazz pianists to embrace electronic keyboards and synthesizers, and was an early adopter of the vocoder (a device that allows the player to modulate the sound of a synthesizer by means of his or her voice). Indeed, he has spearheaded almost every development in electronic and acoustic jazz, fusion, hiphop and R&B in the stream of modern jazz during the last decades of the 20th century and into the 21st.

This Japan tour of Hancock's latest quartet, in which various synthesizers and other computer-based music technologies were played alongside acoustic instruments, including a beautiful Fazioli concert grand

piano, concluded on November 6 at Shibuya Bunkamura-Cultural Village Orchard Hall in Tokyo in front of a capacity crowd of jazz devotees and music lovers. The concert featured some of his classic compositions, including Watermelon Man, Cantaloupe Island, and Chameleon, yet probably more than 90 percent of the entire performance comprised spontaneous improvisations in which Hancock and the other musicians on stage interacted with and played off each other in a dazzling display of virtuoso musicianship. In a very real sense, these flights of improvisation could be thought of as a dialog-not just between the musicians on stage, but between the musicians and the audience, a dialogue on the powerful impetus to build common ground, for mutual respect and wonderful relationships between people of diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, and races.

### Expressing the Sanctity of Life Through Music

### "Music plays a powerful role in illuminating the dignity of human life"

The following are excerpts from "Jazz and Black Culture," chapter one of Min-On Founder, SGI President Ikeda's dialogue series with jazz legends Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter titled "Soul Freedom: Jazz, Life and Buddhism," of which the original text in Japanese appears in the Oct. 9, 2010 issue of the Seikyo Shinbun newspaper. **Min-On Founder Daisaku Ikeda:** Music connects hearts. It opens people's lives. Unrivaled in its ability to instantaneously transcend all kinds of differences, music creates a unity of spirit and enriches one and all. When I met the world-renowned violinist Yehudi Menuhin, he recalled his impressions of the great continent of Africa. Mr. Menuhin

### Herbie Hancock Receives Min-On International Award for Arts



**On October 30**, the day after his arrival in Japan for his concert tour, jazz icon Herbie Hancock visited the Min-On Culture Center in Tokyo, and in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Min-On's founding, he received the Min-On International Award for Arts at a presentation ceremony held in the grand entrance foyer of the Min-On Culture Center. In attendance were Mr. Hiromasa Ikeda on behalf of the Founder, Min-On President Hiroyasu Kobayashi, the members of the boards of directors and trustees, as well as staff and distinguished guests of the Min-On Concert Association. The Award was established in recognition of outstanding artistic achievements and longstanding dedication to the promotion of culture for peace, together with profound spirituality and unparalleled abilities in the field of music and the arts. Herbie Hancock became the second recipient of the Award since John Neumeier of the Hamburg Ballet, who received it in 1997.

### Herbie Hancock's Acceptance Speech

"I would like to thank President Kobayashi and the staff of the Min-On Concert Association, Mr. Hiromasa Ikeda, and of course the Founder Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, for bestowing upon me this wonderful and prestigious award. I would actually like to receive this award on behalf of so many mentors I have had in music and also in life, those who have brought me up to carry me upon their shoulders, and who have played such an important part in making me the person I am today.

"I must confess that I am a work in progress. I continue to learn and hopefully to grow. But for the rest of my life, I have the deep conviction that I will continue to be not only a student of music but also of life.

"In the past, I saw the lessons I learned from my musical mentors as applying only to music. But through what I have learned from the Founder, as an SGI member, I have come to realize how important many of those lessons were for life.

"For example, we all probably know that the three basic components of music are melody, harmony and rhythm. But those same components are also very important components for life. We might think of melody as being the life that we live and the decisions we make from day-to-day, from moment-tomoment; harmony as being how we relate to other human beings and how we relate to the environment we live in; and rhythm as being the sufferings and joys of life – the ups and downs of life.

"With that in mind, we might consider this idea that human beings are really part of the orchestra of life. An orchestra that we look forward to harmonizing with, having unity and rhythm, and eventually to achieve the kind of peace we want to establish in this world that we live in, for our own happiness and for the happiness of others.

"I can see here a cello, a violin, a flute, and a drum over there. You're all part of this great orchestra. Mr. Hiromasa Ikeda was just talking about the power of music; I would hope that our young people will not only be able to enjoy music just for the pleasure of enjoyment we see young people walking around with earbuds in their ears all the time ... With this Min-On International Award for Art, I commit my life to encouraging young people to use the power of music—not only for enjoying the melody, harmony and rhythm of the music itself, but also to have a larger vision of using music to help harmonize the orchestra of life.

"Thank you very much."



remembered hearing the sound of drums reciprocating one another's rhythms among distant hilltops. He told me that this drumming was the exchange of evening greetings between good friends. In this way, the power of music resonates from one life to another to unite people with a rich, romantic and vital sense of freedom and generosity.

The American-born Menuhin sometimes performed with jazz musicians. He told me: "No matter how trying the times, music continually offers us encouragement and gives us strength. This is even true when music comes from a profoundly deep place." **Herbie Hancock:** Thank you. I believe that music plays a powerful role in illuminating the dignity of human life. Songs are a melding of music and poetry. Words are a means for us to express ourselves. We can also use them to acknowledge and protect the dignity of human life. But music offers much more freedom than language. Nothing stands in the way of music, so it can transcend language. Music is universal, while languages may be bound by national borders.

### News Update

### harmony

### Vieira Premieres 'A Musical Celebration' and 'Song of Solidarity'

"Music speaks directly to the heart. This response, this echo within the heart, is proof that human hearts can transcend the barriers of time and space and nationality. Exchanges in the field of culture can play an important role in enabling people to overcome mistrust and prejudice and build peace." This is an excerpt from one of the Min-On Founder's writings.

World-renowned Brazilian composer and virtuoso pianist Amaral Vieira drew inspiration from these words and his own experiences of working with the Min-On Concert Association over the past 19 years to compose an original piece entitled A Musical Celebration: Tribute to the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of Min-On Concert Association, opus 331.

In response to requests from enthusiastic fans during his piano recitals in Japan, which now number more than 250, Maestro Vieira was invited once again for a tour, this one commemorating 50 Years of the Min-On Concert Association and taking in 19 cities across Japan during the months of October and November. His piano recital in Tokyo was held at the magnificent Tokyo Metropolitan Theater Grand Concert Hall on November 15 and was watched by a rapt audience.

The program encompassed an impressively wide variety of genres and styles spanning both traditional and contemporary pieces in addition to his original compositions. Part one began with *The Italian Concerto, BWV 971* composed by J.S. Bach, followed by Schubert's 12 Deutsche Tänze, D 790 and Chopin's Scherzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 54. Part two consisted of various South American pieces as well as new compositions written for this Japan tour: Song of Solidarity and A Musical Celebration, both of



Vieita plays at the Tokyo Metropolitan Theater Grand Concert Hall

which were premiered here. Throughout this tour of musical celebration, Vieira's intensity and sensitivity in his heartfelt performances spoke clearly to the audiences at each venue and inspired in their hearts solidarity of the human spirit.

### Memorial Tribute to Legendary Singer Hibari Misora

Hibari Misora, which means "lark in a beautiful sky," is the name of Japan's most famous multifaceted singer, actress and



The late Hibari Misora's performance projected on to a screen

cultural icon of the post WWII era in Japan, offering people hope and encouragement through her musical performances. In 1945, she debuted at a concert hall in Yokohama at the age of eight, and soon after started appearing on TV and touring notable concert halls to sellout crowds. Her popularity has endured, even after her death in 1989, and fan clubs are still actively supporting various events in memory of her singing.

The Min-On Concert Association, in commemoration of its 50th anniversary, collaborated with Hibari Production, Inc. to organize a nationwide concert series entitled *A Memorial Tribute to the Legendary Singer* 

Hibari Misora: Hibari Sings for You and for Me Forevermore, which successfully toured Japan from January through November. This unique concert, produced and directed by Kazuya Kato, Hibari's son-in-law, featured the late singer's performances projected onto a large screen taking up the major part of the stage and synchronized with live performances of top Japanese singers such as Hiroshi Itsuki, Yoshimi Tendo, Saori Yuki, and many others—including the popular AKB-48 group. They themselves are enthusiastic fans of Hibari, and each one shared with the audience her own memories of Hibari and sang a favorite song in tribute to this most versatile diva of the Showa era.

#### $\Rightarrow$ Continued from previous page

**Wayne Shorter:** I know exactly what you mean. I have also experienced the power of music to overcome national boundaries. Last year, we were asked by the U.S. State Department and the mayor of Los Angeles to go to Mexican city of Guadalajara. It is a time of instability and uncertainty in Mexican society, and many in the audience told us that our performance helped lift their mood and made them happy.

The audience was wildly enthusiastic about our modern jazz performance, and we ended up playing five encores. The person who had arranged our visit seemed quite proud. Her expression seemed to say, "This cultural exchange was a magnificent idea!" **Herbie Hancock:** African Americans may have had the trappings of their traditional cultures stripped from them, but no one could destroy the heart of their culture. This cultural core was the source of the blues, gospel music and jazz.

Although jazz originated in the African American experience, white musicians immediately began to play it, too. This meant that jazz was a kind of music that could express poetry of life. It revealed the ability of the human spirit to poetically express hardship and the feelings of the heart. It showed that the rhythms of jazz resonated in the hearts of all people.

### New Program of Overseas Dispatches: The First to China

Based on the Founder's belief that a genuine bridge of culture connecting people to people cannot be broken, the Min-On Concert Association has invited more than 40 cultural groups and artists from neighboring China since 1975, three years prior to the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China in 1978.

This year, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of its foundation, Min-On launched a new program of overseas dispatches of Japanese cultural groups and artists. As the first of the new program on the auspicious occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Peace and Friendship Treaty, Min-On formed a special troupe of Japanese performing artists, and from the end of October through the beginning of November, dispatched the troupe to the People's Republic of China for performances in Beijing and Tianjin to further enhance mutual friendship between the two nations.

On October 31, Min-On's special performance of the Japanese artists was premiered at the Mei Lanfang Grand Theater in Beijing in front of a capacity audience. President Tang Jiaxuan of the China-Japan Friendship Association, a former foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, together with many other distinguished guests, enjoyed a variety of unique performing arts from Japan. After the performance, President Tang Jiaxuan encouraged the members of the troupe saying that the success of diplomatic



Traditional Japanese dance arranged in modern style

relations could be realized only through such heart-to-heart ties of common people, and this kind of a cultural exchange could deepen mutual understanding and respect between the two nations.

### The Real Group Delights Audience with Vocal Artistry

A cappella is the Italian term historically referred to music performed "in the style of the chapel"—vocal music without instrumental accompaniment—typically performed as part of religious services. But today, contemporary a cappella is considered as a musical performance by the human voices alone, or sometimes by the vocal apparatus and some other part of the body together in a variety of styles and genres of music.

In celebration of its 50th anniversary this year, Min-On invited an internationally acclaimed Swedish vocal super-group, The Real Group, for their multifaceted a cappella performances at the popular *Min-On Fureai Concert—A Close Rapport with Neighbors* series, which is designed to be held at local neighborhood theaters and invites people from local communities in 19 districts across Metropolitan Tokyo during the months of October and November.

The five members of the group, Emma



A cappella-a colorful array of wonderful voices in harmony

Nilsdotter (soprano), Katarina Henryson (alto), Anders Edenroth (tenor), Morten Vinther Sørensen (baritone), and Anders Jalkéus (bass), all graduated from The Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, and they superbly create a unique and incredible musical expression with various tones, rhythms and harmonies of male and female voices as their sole instrument. At each concert, this versatile quintet showcased a wide-ranging repertoire from jazz, pop, and Swedish rock, to Mozart's classics, Scandinavian folksongs, and original a cappella compositions. Their incredible vocal artistry delighted a audiences at each venue and successfully delivered the pleasure of world-class quality music to local communities around Tokyo.

**Wayne Shorter:** In that sense, the process that gave rise to jazz probably existed even before the appearance of slavery—that is, the idea that when slavery of any form, during any period, takes away the language of the enslaved, expression finds another path. This reminds me of the phrase "life finds a way" in the movie Jurassic Park. No matter the system of slavery or how it inhibits human expression, an alternative means of expression will always be found as an outlet for the creative impulse.

Founder: Yes, that's true. It illustrates the profoundly dynamic principle of all life—that is, the symbiosis between challenge

and response, between adversity and development, and between hardship and creativity.

One does not make rapid progress in life by sitting idly and enjoying favorable circumstances. Whether it is an individual, an organization, an ethnic group or a culture, it is in the midst of enduring extreme pressure and fighting back with all one's might that one achieves true progress in life. Those with an indomitable spirit who face adverse circumstances and overcome hardships proudly are able to raise their voices in a thunderous cheer of victory. I would say that jazz represents this celebration of the human spirit.

### harmony

Interview

### The Unique Musical Heritage of Kazakhstan

Interview with H.E. Akylbek Kamaldinov, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan



During their long history, the Kazakh people created a priceless seam of musical culture.

**Min-On:** We deeply appreciate your Excellency's consistent support of Min-On's cultural activities. Indeed, Japan and your esteemed country of Kazakhstan have forged close cultural ties and developed a wonderful relationship since the establishment of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 1991.

Ambassador Kamaldinov: The history of cultural cooperation between Kazakhstan and Japan really began in 1994 with a great focus on humanitarian concerns. An important area of bilateral cooperation between our two nations was the overcoming of the negative consequences of the use of nuclear weapons. Kazakhstan is grateful for the fact that the Government of Japan was among the coauthors of a UN General Assembly resolution on the Semipalatinsk (later renamed Semey) region which designated August 29 as 'International Day against Nuclear Tests'. The date commemorates the day in 1991 when President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed a decree closing the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site.

We were pleasantly surprised that Zamanai ('Oh Such Times'), a song by the famous Kazakh singer Roza Rymbayeva and a symbol of the popular movement against nuclear tests at the former Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site, was reborn in Japan as the anthem of the popular anti-nuclear movement.

We are also grateful to the Government of Japan for cultural grants in the form of technical assistance to renowned educational and cultural institutions in Kazakhstan, including the Kazakh National University, the State Academic Opera and Ballet House, and the Kazakh National Conservatory.

As the Embassy, we frequently invite musical groups and artists from Kazakhstan

to perform in Japan, as well as organize numerous exhibitions around the country that show the natural and cultural diversity of Kazakhstan and its people.

## **Min-On:** Based on its long history and rich traditions, Kazakhstan has such a uniquely articulated culture, especially in art and music. Please share with us your thoughts on the importance of treasuring a country's cultural heritage.

Ambassador: As was noted by Leader of the Nation, President Nazarbayev, "Culture is a reflection of the nation, its soul, mind and nobility. Civilized nations are proud of the course of its history, development of the culture, great people, who glorified the country and who made an enormous contribution to the golden fund of world achievements of thought and art. It is through culture and traditions nations become famous." The Kazakh people have a centuries-old history and possess cultural artifacts that are part of the treasury of world civilization. The number and diversity of monuments in Kazakhstan puts it in line with such countries as India, China, the Mediterranean countries and the Middle East; it's like a unique open-air museum.

Our cultural heritage includes the diversity of cultural artifacts of the peoples who lived on the territory of present-day Kazakhstan more than 25,000 immovable monuments of history, archeology, architecture and monumental art; more than two million pieces of cultural heritage held by 89 state museums; and 66.8 million volumes of books, rare manuscripts and unique publications stored in 3,500 state libraries.

Historically, the "medial" location of Kazakhstan in Eurasia, the largest

continental landmass in the world, meant it was directly involved in many significant civilization processes and events. From times immemorial, the broad Kazakh lands acted as the cultural cradle for the whole of Eurasia. In ancient times, the steppes of Kazakhstan formed part of the great Silk Road that connected East and West. The caravan routes were used by many cultures, customs and religions. The heritage of that epoch lives on today in the shape of numerous monuments of history and culture—wonders of ancient, medieval and oriental architectural art and culture.

Many of these monuments have been recognized by UNESCO as the World Heritage Sites. Today the cultural 'brand' of Kazakhstan is represented by 'The Golden Warrior,' the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi, the ancient towns of Otrar and Turkestan, and so on.



Kazakh artist in A Musical Voyage along the Silk Road series in 1991

The musical heritage of Kazakhstan is also unique. It is said that "God included in souls of the Kazakh a part of kui from the moment of their birth." (Kui is an ancient musical art and part of the centurieslong culture of the Kazakh people). It is no accident that 18th and 19th-century travelers to the country who witnessed the lives of Kazakh people expressed their surprise at the amazing musical and poetic improvisation practiced by people, as well as the involvement in musical art by everyone, from babies to elders. Ancestors of the Kazakh people-nomadic tribes with their own distinctive cultures-developed a rich variety of instrumental music as well as unique musical and poetic traditions that live on to this day. Talented artists created high art and encouraged ordinary people to join the "celestial mystery" of the music. In the Great Steppe, artists were highly respected. alongside famous rulers, outstanding state figures and warlords. During this period of its history, the Kazakh people created a priceless seam of musical culture. One of the most popular and significant epic Kazakh poems, Kyz-Zhibek, has been recognized by UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage.

**Min-On:** Your Excellency has participated in many Min-On events and has kindly collaborated on cultural exchange activities. Please share with us your experience and impression of those cultural activities.

Ambassador: We are honored to have such

a reliable and loyal friend as the Min-On Concert Association, an organization that makes a significant contribution to the strengthening of friendly relations between the peoples of Kazakhstan and Japan. In 1991, the Association launched its 7th installment of A Musical Voyage along the Silk Road, which featured the unique music of Kazakh artists and traditional musical instruments. This project was one of the first to introduce the unique culture and musical heritage of Kazakhstan to the Japanese public.

In 2008, the Association played an important role in the success of the first ever 'Days of Culture of Kazakhstan in Japan' festival, especially in the organization of the festival's most striking event, a gala concert held at Suntory Hall that featured the well-

known Kazakh ensembles Otyrar Sazy and Camerata of Kazakhstan.

In 2012, thanks to the Association's support, we successfully concluded a Japan tour of music groups from the Kazakh National Academy of Arts dedicated to the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kazakhstan and Japan. Despite our long history of collaboration with the Min-On Concert Association, we are confident that our relationship will be closer still in the future, strengthening the bonds of friendship between our nations. We hope that the Association will continue to act as a catalyst for major cultural events with the participation of famous Kazakh groups in Japan, as well as famous Japanese artists in Kazakhstan.



Gala concert during the 'Days of Culture of Kazakhstan in Japan' festival in 2008

#### From the Editor: 50 Years of Min-On in Print

» In commemoration of its 50th anniversary, Min-On published 50 Years of Min-On Concert Association, a bilingual Japanese and English book, for which the Harmony editorial team was responsible for the production of its English portion. Through our involvement in this commemorative publication looking back on fifty years of



the Association's history, new depths of emotion have been stirred among us and our appreciation renewed for the many people who have supported Min-On's efforts over the years. The Association can be immensely proud of the unparalleled accomplishment that over the last 50 years, cultural exchange has been successfully initiated with a total of 105 countries and regions, realizing almost 77,000 performances in front of audiences of some 110 million people. » The commemorative publication features a piece about the longstanding relationship between Mr. Hancock and the Founder: "When Herbie Hancock, one of the world's foremost jazz pianists, celebrated his 59th birthday in 1999, he proclaimed that he had entered a new stage in his life. He felt like he was still growing, like he was standing at the start line getting ready for a new race. When the Founder heard these words, he lauded Mr. Hancock's vigor, saying that a life that doesn't stand still is beautiful indeed. Mr. Hancock believes that music is an expression of life. Music, he says, is not something you do for yourself, but a ray of hope you shine into others' lives. Music helps us to see the beauty in life and inspires us to look forward to greater things. But in order to create great music, he maintains, you need to attend to your own life first. This is Mr. Hancock's music philosophy." During this concert tour, we could see his philosophy in reality.

### harmony

Information

### From the Min-On Music Museum Collection



Herbie Hancock's Steinway 'Model D' Grand Piano

Steinway & Sons, also known as Steinway, is an American and German manufacturer of handmade pianos. The founder, Henry E. Steinway, first built grand pianos in 1835 from his house in Germany, and after his family emigrated to the United States, founded the company in 1853 in New York City. Since then, Steinway has been recognized as a leading piano maker, known for producing pianos of high quality and for its influential innovations in the development of the piano. The 'Model D' is the flagship concert grand piano built by Steinway & Sons. It is generally described as the first choice of most concert pianists.

One of the world's most acclaimed Steinway Model D grand pianos was presented to the Min-On Music Museum in Tokyo in 2008. Built in 1960 in Germany, this majestic nine-foot-long instrument was owned by legendary jazz pianist Herbie Hancock for more than three decades, and many of his masterpieces were composed on it. He presented this beloved piano as a gift in honor of Min-On Founder's 80th birthday in 2008. Since 2012, it has been featured in the western Japan branch of the museum in Kobe and is regularly played for visitors to enjoy its superb sound.

### About The Min-On Music Museum and Music Library

The Min-On Culture Center is home to the Min-On Music Museum and Music Library. The collection includes more than 120,000 vinyl records, CDs, and DVDs, as well as 45,000 musical scores and 33,000 reference books and other materials, all of which are freely available. On display in the museum are a number of antique harpsichords

and classical pianos, various music boxes and gramophones, and a variety of ethnic instruments collected from around the world. The museum also hosts various special exhibitions and cultural activities on different musical themes. Entrance to the museum is free of charge.

#### The Min-On Concert Association Celebrates the People's Music

The Min-On Concert Association was founded in 1963 by Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, president of the Soka Gakkai International, as a nonprofit, independent nondenominational organization to promote the global exchange of musical culture. Min-On aims to develop mutual understanding and respect among people of different races and nationalities. In 1965 it became an incorporated foundation. which is now supported by more than one million sustaining members nationwide. Min-On literally means "people's music," and its aim is to share the joy of music and to unite people through shared emotion, thus creating an ever-expanding circle of friendship among people around the world.

Today, Min-On sponsors some 1,100 performances each year, attracting a total audience of more than 1.5 million, and making available diverse music of high quality from classical to modern, from popular to traditional—to as wide a range of music lovers as possible. Min-On also sponsors various musical programs, including free concerts in schools and the Tokyo International Music Competition to encourage the emotional development of young people and foster the growth of new talent.

Since its foundation, Min-On has hosted almost 77,000 cultural performances and concerts, with a total audience of more than 110 million. Through these various musical activities Min-On has successfully initiated cultural exchanges with 105 countries and regions around the world.

### Come and Visit Us!

#### To Yotsuva 3-chome Address: Min-On Culture Center 8 Shinano-machi, Shiniuku-ku, Tokvo, 160-8588 Tel: 03 5362 3400 Fax: 03 5362 3401 Min-On Culture Cente n Music Muser **Exhibit and Shop Open:** 11:00-16:00 (Tuesday-Saturday) 10:00-17:00 (Sunday & public holidays) Keio University Hospital Closed: Every Monday (If Monday is a public holiday, Soka Gakkai Headquarters next day is closed) **Music Library** IR Shinanomachi Station Open: 11:00-18:30 (Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday) bu Line Metropolitan Expressway #4 (Closed on public holidays) Closed: August 1-15, Year-end / New Year To Aovama 1-chom

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