

# harmony

Newsletter of the Min-On Concert Association



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## Legendary Jazz Giants Inspire their Japanese Audience with Improvisation and Philosophy

**JAZZ** was born in the African-American communities of New Orleans in the United States, between the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Since then, many distinctive styles of jazz have appeared—free jazz emerged in the early 1950s, modal jazz followed in the late 1950s, jazz-rock fusion (a combination of jazz improvisation with rock music rhythms) appeared in the late 1960s and early 1970s—and the genre’s international popularity has increased steadily over time. Miles Davis and the members of his Great Quintets are among the most influential and acclaimed figures in the history of jazz, having contributed to the development of 20th century music.

Fourteen-time Grammy-winning jazz pianist and composer Herbie Hancock and ten-time Grammy-winning saxophonist and composer Wayne Shorter were members of Miles Davis’s second Great Quintet in the 1960s, alongside legendary jazz bassist Ron Carter and drummer Tony Williams. Both of these jazz giants adopted a variety of musical directions over their five-decade careers, and led the jazz fusion movement—the forefront of one of the greatest stylistic developments in jazz history.

Aside from developing prestigious careers as jazz musicians for over half a century, both Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter have developed an encouraging and inspiring philosophy regarding jazz performance and human life. Hancock explains, “Even though the roots of jazz come from the African American

avoid confrontation with the unexpected and the unknown.” He also says, “During performances, many musical challenges arise. It is precisely in those moments that I address the question of how to engage with the unexpected, rather than running away from it or just looking for the comfort of the familiar. Also, I am trying to impart the joy of adventure, which vacuums all the fear out of the room.”

Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the earliest jazz recordings, on November 7, 2017, the Min-On Concert Association launched a one-year-long musical celebration series looking toward the 55th anniversary of its founding in 2018. The first concert in this series was a one-time *Super Premium Concert* featuring both jazz giants Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter, onstage with jazz drummer and entrepreneur Terri Lyne Carrington and upcoming jazz bassist and singer Esperanza Emily Spalding, at the Ryogoku Kokugikan Sumo Arena in Tokyo. The full capacity audience of 7,500 included ambassadors and diplomats from 14 countries, who were mesmerized by the musicianship and artistry on display, and deeply inspired by the incredible improvisation and humanistic spirit of jazz.



Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter continue to inspire generations of jazz fans

experience, my feeling has always been that jazz really developed from a noble aspect of the human spirit common to all people—the ability to respond to the worst of circumstances and to create something of great value.”

Shorter adds, “The message I share with people when I play is this: Do not

## Min-On Tango Series: The Soul of Maestros



**ARGENTINA**—one of the most geographically distant nations from Japan—is a country that the Min-On Concert Association has engaged in cultural exchanges with since its early history. After launching the Min-On Tango Series in 1970 with an original installment by the legendary Jose Basso Orchestra, Min-On has proudly presented an annual series of Japan tours featuring an impressive lineup of legendary tango maestros and virtuoso composers (listed in the right-side column) in the years since. From 1970 to date, there have been more than 2,500 performances across Japan, attracting a total of more than 3.7 million people. The series has contributed to long-lasting cultural ties and friendship between Argentina and Japan, while also boosting the popularity of tango worldwide.

On the 55th anniversary of Min-On's

founding, as well as the 120th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Min-On hosted the 49th installment of this popular series, featuring the Fabio Hager Sextet, singer Fernando Rodas and four pairs of award-winning dancers. The 28-concert Japan tour, entitled *Alma del Maestros—The Soul of Maestros*, began on January 21 in Kanagawa prefecture and successfully concluded on March 8 in Sapporo, Hokkaido. On February 14 at Nakano Sun Plaza Hall, marking the mid-way point of the nationwide tour, Min-On celebrated these significant anniversaries, as well as 49 excellent years of Argentine tango in Japan and worldwide, with a splendid performance of *The Soul of Maestros*. The event was attended by a full audience of tango lovers, including ambassadors and diplomats from 33 countries.

## Fabio Hager Dedicates Original Tango Compositions to Min-On Founder

Before embarking on *The Soul of Maestros* nationwide Japanese tour, Fabio Hager visited the Min-On Culture Center in Tokyo on January 16 with the members of his special ensemble. After being warmly welcomed by staff members of the Min-On Concert Association, Fabio Hager expressed his personal admiration and appreciation for Min-On's endeavors, saying, "It is my greatest pleasure to visit Japan

once again for the 49th installment of the Min-On Tango Series. In 1993, when I was 24 years old, I performed for the first time in Japan as a member of Orquesta Juan D'Arienzo for the 24th installment of this world-acclaimed series. Since then, I have been able to join over 200 performances of this prestigious tango series."

Fabio Hager then presented Min-On President Ito with two framed scores of the compositions dedicated to the Min-On Founder, saying, "Before coming to Japan this time, I was greatly inspired by Min-On Founder Dr. Daisaku Ikeda's novel *Human Revolution*, and wrote two original compositions entitled "Integración" and "Naikan" to express my deep appreciation for the Founder's efforts to promote cross-cultural integration and global harmony for all of humanity." Both "Integración" and "Naikan" were debuted during *The Soul of Maestros* nationwide tour.



Fabio Hager presents original compositions to President Ito

## Annual Min-On Tango Series Lineups 1970 - 2018

1970 (1)	Orquesta Jose Basso
1971 (2)	Orquesta Hector Varela
1972 (3)	Florindo Sassone y Su Orquesta Tipica
1973 (4)	Francini Pontier y Su Orquesta Tipica
1974 (5)	Carlos Garcia Tango All Stars
1975 (6)	Orquesta Fulvio Salamanca
1976 (7)	Orquesta Leopoldo Federico
1977 (8)	Francini & Symphonic Tango Orchestra
1978 (9)	Orquesta Jose Livertella
1979 (10)	Orquesta Osvaldo Pugliese
1980 (11)	Carlos Garcia Tango All Stars
1981 (12)	Gran Orquesta Salgan-De Lio
1982 (13)	Orquesta Carlos Lazzari
1983 (14)	Orquesta Orlando Tripodi
1984 (15)	Orquesta Mariano Mores
1985 (16)	Orquesta Jose Basso
1986 (17)	Orquesta Osvaldo Berlingieri
1987 (18)	Enrique Dumas y Orquesta Dragone
1988 (19)	Orquesta Mariano Mores
1989 (20)	Antonio Agri & la Orquesta de Tango Sinfónica
1990 (21)	Orquesta Juan D'Arienzo
1991 (22)	Orquesta del Tango de Néstor Marconi
1992 (23)	Gloria & Eduardo Tango Ballet
1993 (24)	Orquesta Juan D'Arienzo
1994 (25)	Gloria & Eduardo Tango Ballet
1995 (26)	Orquesta Orlando Tripoi
1996 (27)	Orquesta Julian Plaza
1997 (28)	Orquesta Osvaldo Piro
1998 (29)	Orquesta Mauricio Marcelli
1999 (30)	Orquesta Carlos Buono
2000 (31)	Orquesta Osvaldo Requena
2001 (32)	Raul Lavie & Sexteto Sur
2002 (33)	Orquesta El Arranque
2003 (34)	Orquesta Carlos Galván
2004 (35)	Gloria & Eduardo Tango Ballet
2005 (36)	Orquesta El Arranque
2006 (37)	Fabio Hager & Tango del Sur
2007 (38)	Orquesta Erica di Salvo
2008 (39)	Orquesta Fernando Marzán
2009 (40)	Oswaldo Requena and Fernando Suarez Paz
2010 (41)	Orquesta Victor Lavallen
2011 (42)	Color Tango
2012 (43)	Fabio Hager & Tango del Sur
2013 (44)	Orquesta Nicolás Ledesma
2014 (45)	Greco's Tango Orquesta
2015 (46)	Orquesta La Juan D'Arienzo
2016 (47)	Sexteto Meridional
2017 (48)	Horacio Romo Sexteto
2018 (49)	Fabio Hager Sexteto

## Portuguese Fado Resonates Deeply with Audiences across Japan

**FADO**, meaning “fate” or “destiny” in Portuguese, is one of the most popular forms of Portuguese music. A vocal art form, it is considered the soul music of Portugal, and commonly associated with pubs, clubs and



restaurants. In typical *fado* music, the singer conveys desire and despair through song, coupling the harsh realities of daily life with a profoundly melancholic tune. The *fado* genre was added as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2011.

Min-On invited Carla Pires, renowned Portuguese *fado* diva, and Cristiano de Souza, one of the finest male *fado* singers in the world, to introduce this unique music tradition to Japan. Alongside five musicians from Portugal, the pair performed a total of 13 concerts during their nationwide tour in November 2017. While on stage at prestigious venues in major cities across Japan, Carla Pires displayed her remarkable vocal artistry in the *fado* tradition with her unique, emotive voice and facial expressions, supported by the distinctive sounds of Portuguese guitar and other ethnic instruments. The audience at each venue was carried away by the *fado* music, the atmosphere pulsating with Portuguese soul.

## Terem-Quartet Delivers Sophisticated and Lively Russian Sound

**RUSSIAN** ensemble Terem-Quartet is one-of-a-kind, impossible to categorize into a single musical genre. Russian folk music, classics, jazz, tango, rock, pop and musical traditions from around the world all play a part in their arrangements. The group showcases a versatile performance using Russian folk instruments, including the *balalaika* (a stringed instrument with a flat back and a triangular body), the *domra* (from the lute family, with a rounded body and three or four strings) and the *bayan* (Russian accordion). Founded in St. Petersburg in 1986, Terem-Quartet has garnered an international fan base and is considered a Russian national treasure. Over the years, they have built an impressive repertoire of over 500 wide-ranging compositions, released 17 CDs and performed over 2,500 concerts in more than 60 countries.

With support from the embassy of the Russian Federation in Tokyo, Min-On invited Terem-Quartet—currently featuring Andrei Konstantinov on soprano *domra*, Andrei Smirnov on *bayan*, Vladimir Kudryavtsev on

double bass *balalaika* and Alexei Barshchov on alto *domra*—accompanied by Russian mezzo-soprano Valentina Panchenko for a Japan tour (November 19 through December 7) across 13 cities. Each audience was fascinated by Terem-Quartet’s unique performance, captivated by their artistry and musicianship in contrast with their comical onstage theatrics.



## The Musical Innovation of Earth Rhythm Stomps to a Global Beat

**EARTH** Rhythm is a collaborative concert project initiated and produced by Shuichi Hidano, a world-renowned Japanese *taiko* drummer. Hidano has traveled around the world to introduce the powerful rhythms of traditional *taiko* drums and has performed over 2,700 times in 40 countries to date. Traversing the globe, he experienced the diverse rhythms of many

different ethnicities, and found himself inspired and influenced by them—often through joint performances with local musicians.

In December, Min-On sponsored a cross-cultural collaboration of *Earth Rhythm* alongside percussionists and versatile musicians from diverse backgrounds on their first Japanese concert tour across five major cities. The tour featured Hidano himself as master *taiko* drummer and artistic director, Latin percussion virtuoso Masato “Pecker” Hashida from Japan, expert *sabar* drummer Wagane Ndiaye Rose from Senegal, Brazilian pandeiro player (and versatile instrumentalist) Robson Correa do Amaral, steel drum virtuoso Tony Guppy from Trinidad and Tobago, Korean master percussionist Min Young-Chi and four additional Japanese musicians: Issai, Getao Takahashi, Yuji Hasegawa and Hiroto Ishida. The passionate innovation of *Earth Rhythm* generated a powerful beat of global percussion instruments and a dynamic ensemble of ethnicities on stage, drawing enthusiastic cheers and applause from a capacity crowd at each concert venue across Japan.



## Foreign Student Music Festival Expands International Friendships

**KANAGAWA** Foreign Student Music Festival, co-sponsored by the Yokohama Arts Foundation, was held at Shintoshii Hall in the harbor city of Yokohama on December 2, 2017, marking the 4th festival held in Kanagawa prefecture. However, since the inaugural festival in 1989, the



Foreign Student Music Festival has become a well-established tradition in the Kansai area for nearly three decades. Emphasizing the value of international students as future leaders of their countries, the festival has welcomed students studying at universities and colleges in Japan to present traditional dance, music and song from their respective cultures and ethnicities. The festival's aim is to create a worldwide network of friendship and goodwill for the future of our world.

In 2017, the festival was held both in Osaka and Yokohama on the same day, and over 100 students from 14 countries and territories presented a variety of musical performances enjoyed by the capacity audiences, including ambassadors and diplomats from five countries. A student from Indonesia who played the piano at the Kanagawa festival remarked that she made many new friends through at Foreign Student Music Festival, further expanding international friendships in Japan and worldwide.

## Cultural Envoy from Japan Celebrates Long Friendship with India

**INDIAN** Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed that 2017—the 60th anniversary of the Indo-Japan Cultural Agreement—be designated as a year of Japan-India friendly exchange. In response to the proposal, Min-On dispatched a special troupe of Japanese traditional performing artists—Katsunari Sawada, an acclaimed Tsugaru *shamisen* virtuoso; Koushi Tsukuda, an upcoming *shakuhachi* master; Kazumi Minamikoma, a Japanese traditional percussionist; Chiaki Ejima, a Minyo folk singer, and 11 members of the dance troupe “Wakatake”—to Delhi and Mumbai for a special performance to celebrate the year of Japan-India Friendly Exchange. The envoy showcased a 90-minute program at the Siri Fort Auditorium in New Delhi on December 12, and at St. Xavier's College Auditorium and the prestigious Tata Theatre in Mumbai on December 13 and 14. In Mumbai, the capacity audience included students, faculty members, staff and public attendees. Concluding their cultural performance with thunderous applause from the Indian audience at each

venue, they brought honor and fulfillment back to Japan after celebrating the past, present and future of benevolent India-Japan relations.



## The Berlin Philharmonic's Varian Fry Quartet Amazes in Japan

**BERLIN** Philharmonic is a globally acclaimed orchestra based in Germany. While many highly talented young musicians from around the world seek to join the Berlin Philharmonic, only a select few are allowed to study at the Orchestra Academy and “Learn from the pros”—the academy's



motto. After joining, younger members of the Berlin Philharmonic are also involved in chamber music alongside their orchestral activities, as per the Berlin Philharmonic's tradition.

The Varian Fry Quartet is one such chamber music group, founded in 2012 by four members of the Berlin Philharmonic—Philipp Bohnen and Marlene Ito (violin), Martin von der Nahmer (viola), and Rachel Helleur (cello). The quartet was named in honor of the American journalist Varian Fry, who helped over 2,000 anti-Nazi and Jewish refugees escape Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, in an expression of the members' deep respect for his courageous spirit. In 2018, to commemorate the 55th anniversary of its founding, Min-On invited the Varian Fry Quartet for their first ever 10-concert tour across Japan from January 29 through February 10. Their superb performance including *Haydn: String Quartet in Es major, Op. 33-2* and *Shostakovich: String Quartet No.8 in C minor, Op.110* was greeted by enthusiastic applause from the capacity audience at each venue, amazed by the virtuoso musicianship of the Berlin Philharmonic.

# Min-On Presents Outreach Programs during Kyrgyz Cultural Week

Interview with **H.E. Chingiz Aidarbekov**, Ambassador of the the Kyrgyz Republic to Japan



Children are the future of their nations and the world. What they experience during childhood will certainly determine their future, and thus, ours.

**KYRGYZSTAN** is a mountainous country located in Central Asia on the historical Silk Road, with incredible natural beauty and a rich cultural heritage of nomadic traditions. The Kyrgyz Republic achieved independence as a sovereign nation from the former Soviet Union in 1991 and established diplomatic relations with Japan in 1992. With support from the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Tokyo, to celebrate the 25th year of friendship between the two countries, the Min-On Music Museum presented a series of three different outreach programs featuring the Kyrgyz folk band “Ordo Sakhna,” for three consecutive days during Kyrgyz Cultural Week in November 2017. First, a Min-On Museum Concert at the Min-On Culture Center, then a Cultural Lecture and Concert at the Akasaka Civic Center, and lastly, a School Concert at Akabane Elementary School in Minato Ward in Tokyo. The members of Ordo Sakhna delivered a masterful performance of authentic Kyrgyz folk instruments, including the komuz (a three-stringed lute), the oz-komuz (mouth harp), the chopo choir (clay wind instrument), the sybyzgy (a side-blown flute) and the kuiak (a four-stringed instrument played with a bow). The performances also featured the reciting of epic Kyrgyz poems, including a narrative singing of the well-known epic Manas, for the audience at all three venues. After the series of successful events, we had the honor of interviewing H.E. Chingiz Aidarbekov, Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to Japan.

**Ambassador Chingiz Aidarbekov:** I am very pleased and deeply honored to successfully host a number of concerts during Kyrgyz Culture Week to celebrate the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan. In particular, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Min-On Concert Association for their efforts to organize these significant events, including the cultural lecture in Tokyo.

**Min-On:** Indeed, the audiences at each concert really enjoyed their first-time experience with the musical culture of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the elementary schoolchildren were especially excited on such a wonderful occasion. They shared very positive comments and impressions after the

performance by Ordo Sakhna.

**Ambassador:** We are very happy that so many Japanese schoolchildren could experience traditional Kyrgyz folk music. It was a treasured opportunity, not just for them, but for us as well. I was surprised and deeply inspired by the students politely listening to unfamiliar foreign music for an entire hour-long concert. Children are the future of their nations and the world. What they experience during childhood will certainly determine their future, and thus, ours. Seeing the schoolchildren’s naïve and positive responses to the performance of Ordo Sakhna, I was so happy, and I’m sure that first encounter with Kyrgyz musical culture was deeply engraved in their minds. I cherished the experience, and I hope that those Japanese schoolchildren will someday visit the Kyrgyz Republic to further strengthen the bond of friendship between our two countries.

**Min-On:** Yes, it was obvious through their facial expressions—they were genuinely interested in the performance of various folk instruments, as well as surprised and inspired by the unique narrative singing of the epic poem *Manas*.

**Ambassador:** *Manas* is an orally transmitted epic poem, a patriotic tale of its eponymous hero, *Manas*. The



Ordo Sakhna performs at a Min-On School Concert

poem contains approximately a half-million lines, which is twice as long as the Greek epic, Homer's *Iliad*. It is considered one of the longest epic poems in history. Once in the past, Kyrgyz *Manaschi*—the reciters of the epic poems—recited the entirety of *Manas* without stopping, over several days. Thanks to the esteemed epic *Manas* and the *Manaschi* narrators, our Kyrgyz language, folklore and ethnic history has been orally transmitted, without being written down, for many years. It has been orally preserved to this day—rich Kyrgyz cultural heritage passed down from generation to generation. In that sense, the great *Manaschi* narrators are highly admired by Kyrgyz people as precious messengers of our cultural values.

**Min-On:** Please tell us briefly about the ethnicity, history and culture of the Kyrgyz Republic.

**Ambassador:** There is no evident proof, but we see quite a few similarities in physical appearance between the people of the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan. There is an amazing tale surrounding the reason for these similarities. It is said that the people of the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan belonged to the same race in ancient times. Then, over time, the people who liked eating meat became Kyrgyz, and those who liked eating fish migrated east and

became Japanese. The facial resemblance between the people of our countries is very obvious, and many similarities can be found in our languages. Also, it is very interesting that just as some Japanese infants are born with a congenital birthmark, many Kyrgyz people



Kyrgyz musical performance during cultural lecture

exhibit the same Mongolian blue spots during childhood, a feature only found only among specific races worldwide.

Traditional culture unique to the Kyrgyz people includes nomadic yurt dwellings, a sort of portable house tent (called *boz-ui* in Kyrgyz) made of woolen felt on a collapsible wooden frame. These Kyrgyz yurts are very durable yet transportable, making them convenient and environmentally friendly. Although they

are lockable, Kyrgyz people rarely lock their yurts, and welcome visitors into their homes anytime. This fact definitely says something about the open-mindedness of the people and culture of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The flag of the Kyrgyz Republic consists of a yellow sun in the center of a red field. The center of the yellow sun contains two sets of three red lines intersecting, which is a symbolic illustration of the roof top construction of Kyrgyz yurts called *tunduk*, which commonly have two sets of three crisscrossing wooden slat laths across a circular opening at the top. These lines symbolize the origin of our country and the greater universe. The red of the field on the flag symbolizes the bravery and courageous spirit of the Kyrgyz people—ethnic characteristics we are proud of. Also, the yellow of the sun symbolizes peace and the richness of the Kyrgyz Republic's cultural heritage.

**Min-On:** Thank you so much for your time and for allowing us to interview you today.

**Ambassador:** Thank you as well. I am delighted for this opportunity. I really hope to maintain a close friendship, and work in collaboration with the Min-On Concert Association on another cultural and musical initiative in the near future.

## From the Editor

» Legendary artists Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter have had a series of dialogue and correspondence with Min-On Founder, SGI President Daisaku Ikeda. Their conversations exploring the roots of jazz and its role in the advancement of fostering youth, in addition to various topics from nuclear disarmament to environmental pollution, were compiled and published in a book titled *Reaching Beyond*. Some of their words from the book are introduced in this issue. Mr. Hancock believes that music is an expression of life. However, music is not something you do only for yourself, but a ray of hope you shine into others' lives. Similarly, Mr. Shorter wants to create music not just for a particular place or population, but music that lasts for an eternity to inspire people to never give up, no matter how dark life becomes. Their philosophy on music resonates with Min-On's belief that, "Art is peace. Art captures people's hearts, their minds and imaginations. Art enriches people; it enriches society. Artists have the power to affect an immense number of people in a very profound way. What a great role this power plays in the victory of the people!" as the Founder has stated. Herbie Hancock and Wayne

Shorter's *Super Premium Concert* was the perfect event to launch the 55th anniversary celebration of the Min-On Concert Association.

» During the interview with Ambassador Aidarbekov of the Kyrgyz Republic, he shared with us his impressions of how Japanese schoolchildren responded to the performance of traditional Kyrgyz folk music at their school concert. He was very happy with their positive response, saying he cherished the hope that those children will someday visit the Kyrgyz Republic and strengthen the bond of friendship between the two countries. Contributing to the emotional development of younger generations and deepening mutual understanding and friendship among all countries involved, Min-On has provided the *School Concert* program for young students to experience a diverse range of live music by artists from around the world. The ambassador's words encouraged us in reaffirming the educational value of the 4,300-plus school concerts Min-On has presented to over 1.3 million students throughout Japan for over four decades, since 1973.

### From the Min-On Music Museum Collection

#### Membranophones

There are a number of ways to classify musical instruments. In the West, they are divided into three categories of string, wind and percussion instruments. The classification used in the Folk Instrument Exhibition Room at the Min-On Music Museum follows the system that is now in general use, in which instruments are classified according to the source of their vibration. It also uses shape and other factors to produce more specialized groupings. This results in four categories: chordophones, aerophones, membranophones and idiophones.

Membranophones are instruments in which the source of vibration is a stretched membrane. The exhibition room displays the rich wisdom and creativity of each instrument from countries representing a diverse array of ethnic, linguistic and religious traditions.



Chango from Korea



Table Bongo from Zambia



Cuica from Brasil



Bombo from Peru

### 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 800 performances each year, attracting a total audience of more than 1.2 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 more than 78,000 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 108 countries and regions around the world.

### 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.

### Come and Visit Us!

**Address:** Min-On Culture Center  
8 Shinano-machi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 160-8588  
**Tel:** 03 5362 3400 **Fax:** 03 5362 3401

#### Exhibit and Shop

**Open:** 11:00-16:00 (Tuesday-Saturday)  
10:00-17:00 (Sunday & public holidays)

**Closed:** Every Monday (If Monday is a public holiday, next day is closed)

#### Music Library

**Open:** 11:00-18:30 (Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday)  
(Closed on public holidays)

**Closed:** August 1-15, Year-end / New Year



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