

## Yosuke Yamashita; piano

Born in Tokyo in 1942, Yamashita is a household celebrity in Japan, and has been performing on the international stages including frequent appearances at many famous jazz festivals. He has been working mainly in a jazz field, also collaborating energetically with various genres of music, ranging from classical orchestra to Japanese or foreign traditional folk music. Critics admire Yamashita's explosive playing style, often compared with that of Cecil Taylor, as his own unique achievement.

In 1988 Yamashita formed his own New York Trio with bass player Cecil McBee and drummer Pheeroan akLaff. In 1994 Yamashita was invited to perform at the 50th anniversary concert of Verve, a prestigious jazz label, as a sole musician participated from Asian countries, held at the Carnegie Hall. In 1998 Yamashita made the film score for Shohei Imamura's "Kanzo Sensei (Dr. Akagi)". By the achievement of this work, Yamashita received "the Education Minister's Encouragement Award", and other film awards. In January 2000, he did the world premiere of his original concerto "Encounter for Improviser" with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2001 he composed the film score for Kihachi Okamoto's movie "Vengeance Is Such A Great Business". In May 2003 he was conferred "the Medal with Purple Ribbon" from Japanese Government for his contributions to the arts and academics. In October 2004, he has toured the United States commemorating the 150th anniversary of U.S. - Japan relations. November 2004, he performed his own concerto with the RAI National Orchestra conducted by Yutaka Sado in Turin, Italy. March 2006, he played together with Ornette Coleman when his group toured Japan. February 2007, he has presented a duo concert with a master pianist in free jazz, Cecil Taylor. In January 2008, he did the world premiere of his third concerto "Explorer" with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yutaka Sado (the live CD was released through avex-classics). In this year he celebrated the 20th anniversary of his New York trio with the commemorate album "Triple Cats" and the concert tour.

(As of Dec. 2009)

## Terumasa Hino; trumpet

Born 1942 in Tokyo. Learns to play the trumpet at the age of 9 and plays in the dance band at the US base camp around the age of 13. Releases his first album as band leader, "Alone, Alone, and Alone," in 1967. In the years to follow, the popularity of "Hinoteru," as he was nicknamed, is hugely featured by the media. Moves his home to NY in 1975 and works with countless musicians in the city. While enjoying the success of his albums "City Connection" (released 1979) and "Double Rainbow" (released 1981), makes numerous media appearances including various TV commercials. In 1989, becomes the first Japanese artist to sign with the American jazz label Blue Note. From 1990, with his dream of "Asia as One" at heart, forms Terumasa Hino & Asian Jazz Allstars and realizes a live tour of North America and Asia. In 2000, Hino is appointed visiting professor at the Osaka Junior College of Music. Receives the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology award for Art in 2001. Receives Medal with Purple Ribbon in 2004. The same year, works on music for the film "Toukou no Ki" and the original soundtrack receives the Excellence Prize for the Recordings Division of the Agency for Cultural Affairs Art Festival and the Music Award in the Mainichi Film Awards. In 2007, releases two albums with long-time friend, Masabumi Kikuchi (pf), "Counter Current" with the Hino-Kikuchi Quintet and "Edges" as a duo. "Edges" receives the Silver Award of the Japan Jazz Disc Awards. Hino's latest release is album "Jakkou," which has received the Japan Jazz Award of the Jazz Disc Awards. Performing aggressively in Japan as well as globally as an international artist leading the jazz scene, Hino is also active in recent years as a painter, holding art exhibits and publishing a collection of his works. He is also passionate in his support of charity work as well as providing guidance to younger people.

## Kumi Adachi; guitar

Guitarist Kumi Adachi, born in Osaka, Japan. At the age of 11, she began playing the guitar. At the age of 19, she went to Los Angeles to study music at conservatory.

Not long after her debut, in 2007, Kumi released her first album “Little Wing” with “club PANGAEA”, which band she co-leads with drummer Hiroyuki Noritake and made a sensation for her powerful and groovy musical style. Her original compositions are quite popular for her unique view of the world.

Released her second album “WINNERS” in '08, third album “L.G.B~Lady Guitar Blues” in '09.

Kumi is one of the two female monitors for the world famous guitar builder, Paul Reed Smith along with Orianthi, who performs in Michael Jackson's DVD “THIS IS IT”.

## Hirofumi Okamoto; guitar

Okamoto was born in 1960. He is from Hiroshima city, now living in Kyoto.

He started his career as jazz guitarist. Then he has been playing many kinds of music, such as blues, R&B, funk, folklore, tango, Indian music, Japanese folk and more.

He learned chord works from Bret Willmott in Boston, Folklore from Juan Falu in Buenos Aires.

His guitar play, both of acoustic and electric guitar, obtained him high evaluation. Especially he is a very few Japanese professional guitarist can play tango.

He released two albums [Jawango/1998] as acoustic guitarist,

[Grand Blue/2007] as electric guitarist. Now he is the one of most important guitarist in Japan.

The main musicians that he ever played is: Kazumi Watanabe (g/Japan) as duo Rie Akagi(fl/Japan) Hiroki Miyano(g/Japan) Tomohiro Yahiro(per/Japan) Vagabond Suzuki(b/Japan) Gustavo Gregorio(Bass/Argentina) Jorge Cumbo (kena/Argentina) works in 2 years on Japan tour. (He played with Simon and Garfunkel on El Condor Paso) Muguel Cantiro (Vo/Argentina) Cesar Olguin(Bandoneon/Argentina) Miguel Balcos (p/Argentina) Milva (Vo/Argentina) Prodigio (Cuatro/Puerto Rico) Fidel Morales Reyes (dr/Puerto Rico) Luis Pelico Ortis (tp /Puerto Rico) Giovanni Hidalgo(per/Puerto Rico)