To celebrate the 40th year of ASEAN-Japan friendship and cooperation, the Japan Foundation is presenting the ASEAN-Japan 'Drums & Voices' Concert Tour. It will be touring each ASEAN country throughout October and November and playing in Japan in December 2013.

'Drums & Voices' brings together 12 performers of traditional music from seven countries-Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Brunei, and Japan in a unique collaborative group. Over the course of two 2-week residential workshops, held in Thailand (June-July 2013) and Vietnam (August-September 2013), the group worked together to compose the music for the tour, and will then perform this specially commissioned program in all six ASEAN countries throughout October and November 2013, before performing at the Bunkamura Orchard Hall in Shibuya, Tokyo, on Wednesday, December 18 2013. This project represents a unique undertaking of musical collaboration across the ASEAN region. By inviting 12 musicians from the ASEAN countries and Japan to spend 4 weeks living and working together, the project will provide a neutral platform upon which the musicians can learn about the character, cultural background, and creative vision of their fellow collaborators. It will also enable
the musicians to leverage their similarities and their differences alike to create and perform original work. All of the participants have in common the fact that they are performers of traditional music. Still, the act of bringing together artists from diverse backgrounds to work together to compose music is inherently challenging. This intrinsic difficulty is precisely why it will be so fascinating to hear the music that this process generates. How will the traditional music of each country be influenced and altered through interaction with other musical traditions? The musicians have now finished their first residential workshop, held in Thailand, and are focusing their thoughts on the new music that is the next stage.

* Check the tour schedule [here](#)

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