



## Developing Global Technology Perspectives With and In Japan

### Dr. Heinrich Höfer

Japan surprises. Anyone who thought that Japan was overwhelmingly focussed on itself and its export strategies will be wiser after the Science and Technology in Society Forum was held for the fifth time in Kyôto in October this year. Japan invited leading technologists from government, academe and the economy from around the world to discuss new technologies and their contributions toward solving global problems. This year's closing statement clearly made reference to the significance of nuclear power for meeting global energy demands, it demanded a post-Kyôto framework for climate protection, and made clear that promoting bio fuels will endanger food supplies in developing countries, and that GMO and non-GMO (genetically modified

organisms) must play a role in the food supply, and highlights individualized medication as well as prevention.

The closing statement clearly demonstrated that just describing problems does not suffice. It is imperative that we create a timeline with measurable milestones to solve problems. Here the Japanese should not "hide behind the mountain" an instrument they have developed to perfection in social discourse: Technology Roadmaps. These can be excellent instruments for global technology cooperation within these fields in which all countries and regions must contribute toward solving problems.

The Federation of German Industries

has learned from Japan. After various discussions and consultations as well as a Workshop carried out in cooperation with the JDZB at the Hanover Fair in April 2008, the Federation of German Industries presented its "Manifesto for Growth and Employment – Germany 2020," which contains approximately 15 roadmaps. They sketch the path toward increasing Gross National Product as well as improving health care, energy supplies, town planning and environmental technology. The roadmaps include recommendations to overcome shortfalls in transport as well as outline our involvement in modern information and communication technologies. One of the most important areas for reform is the federal and state government domina-



The 17th meeting of the German-Japanese Forum was held on the 25th and 26th of November 2008 at the JDZB. Members of the Advisory Board were warmly received by the German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel.

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tion in science/academe and knowledge sectors. Autonomy and competition for schools and high schools as well as addressing the issue of a lack of specialised staff are topics that are very topical in both Germany and Japan.

Of course the STS Forum always provides a good opportunity to showcase successful existing German-Japanese technology cooperation as well as support the formation of other cooperative projects. The latter includes the bilateral project "Partner for Innovations", which includes the participation of the Federation of German Industries, the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research as well as the Japanese External Trade Organization JETRO. The same applies for the "Innovation Award" for excellent collaboration between companies and research institutes in Japan and Germany. Japan and Germany are important economic and technology nations. Where they unite their efforts, they have much to offer the world and more than they ever could alone. At this year's STS Forum, Japan, the USA and Germany presented the largest and highest calibre delegations. This should be the case again for the 6th STS Forum to be held from 4th to 6th of October in 2009.



Dr. Heinrich Höfer heads the Department of Economics, Technology and Infrastructure, as well as the Department for Research, Innovation and Technology of the Federation of German Industries (Bundesverband der deutschen Industrie)

The JDZB Foundation Council has three new Japanese members as of September 2008:

Prof. AGATA Kôichirô

Professor Agata studied Political Science at Waseda University/Tôkyô and then continued his post-graduate studies at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer. After many years working within academe in Tôkyô, Speyer, Cologne and Bonn, he was offered a chair as Professor for Public Administration and Management at Waseda University. He is also Dean of the Waseda Okuma School of Public Management and member of numerous academic associations and organizations in Japan and Germany.

KATÔ Hiroki

Mr. Katô is the long-serving Managing Director of the "Toyota Foundation," which supports projects in the fields of environmental protection, education, civil engagement and conserving cultural heritage. After he completed his studies at the School of Economics/Nagoya he was appointed to various management positions in Toyota Motor Co. Ltd., before being named the Director of the History and Cultural Department, he was then appointed as Manager of the Toyota Health Care Trust. In addition to heading the Foundation Council, Mr. Katô is an active member of numerous Japanese friendship and promotion associations.

Prof. YAKUSHIJI Taizô

After finishing his studies of Electrical Engineering Keiô University/Tôkyô, and post-graduate studies in the History of Sciences and Philosophy at the University of Tôkyô and being awarded his PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Prof. YAKUSHIJI taught in the areas of technology and international relations in Japan and the USA. Throughout his career he has worked in various capacities as an advisor and consultant. He was Vice President of Keiô University and is a member of the Advisory Council for Science and Technology Policies within the Cabinet Office of Japan.

We would like to extend our deep gratitude to the members who ended their service to the board in the fall: Prof. OSHIO Takashi, Prof. SAWADA Toshio, Prof. SOTOBAYASHI Hideto and Prof. TOYODA Kôji, and the JDZB thanks them warmly for their many years of support.

KOJIMA Akira (Japan Center for Economic Research) was elected as successor of Prof. OSHIO as Vice Chairman of the Foundation Council.

Dear jdzb echo readers,

With six conferences and a series of cultural events, all just in the month of October, the JDZB is seeing out what has been a very busy working year indeed. We hope that one or two of our events may have aroused your interest and perhaps awoken your curiosity for a sequel. In November we hosted the 17th German-Japanese Forum which gave way to intense discussions about the financial market crisis – a topic currently dominating politics, economics and the media both in Japan and Germany; no doubt its consequences will continue to keep us busy in next year as well.

The New Year will again give rise to many opportunities to engage in deepening and furthering German-Japanese dialog and this is reflected in the JDZB's events program for 2009. We are keenly anticipating the conference with JICA President OGATA to be held at the end of January, as well as the presentation by the new Japanese Ambassador, Dr. SHINYO, in February.

On behalf of all the staff here, I would like to wish all the JDZB's friends happy holidays and a prosperous New Year for 2009. We look forward to welcoming you to our events.

Dr. Friederike Bosse  
JDZB Secretary General

#### jdzb echo

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Editor: Michael Niemann

Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: niemann@jdz.de

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Address of the JDZB:

Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany

Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220

E-Mail: jdz@jdz.de URL: <http://www.jdz.de>

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Society of Friends of the JDZB: [freundeskreis@jdz.de](mailto:freundeskreis@jdz.de)

The JDZB is planning a German-French-Japanese Conference to exchange ideas about care insurance, to be held February 3, 2009, in Tôkyô. The below is an interview held with the Director of the Subdivision for Care Insurance within the German Federal Ministry for Health, Dr. Matthias von Schwanenflügel:

***When was care insurance introduced?***

Care insurance became a necessity because we live in an aging society in which the number of those requiring long-term care and assistance is rapidly increasing. Let me explain this briefly further: in Germany a 60 year old man can expect to live another 20 years, and a woman will live another 24 years; this will increase to a further five years by the year 2050. The percentage of the total population of those aged 60 years and over will increase by 2050 from 20% to almost 38%. The risk of requiring long-term nursing care increases greatly with advancing age: for those aged under 60 years of age less than 1% are in need of care, from 60 to 80 years of age it is 4%, and for those aged over 80, approximately 25% will be long-term care-dependent.

The face of society is changing and with these developments questions are being raised about how do we best help our community? The answer was long-term nursing care insurance, which was established as a new branch of the social security system in Germany about ten years ago. With this model, funded by those insured and based on the principle of mutual solidarity, Germany has been successful in establishing a quality-assured infrastructure and a corresponding high level of care provision. Currently, in Germany more than two million people are being cared for, two-thirds as out-patients and one third in hospitals or care institutions.

***How does Japan compare?***

Japan is comparable in its economic development, but above all in demographic change. Nonetheless the situation is even more dramatic in Japan: life expectancy in Japan is higher and thus the number of people requiring long-term nursing care is similarly higher. Japan looked closely at the design of the German system to safeguard those who are care-dependent through a care insurance, and today the structures are similar but not identical.

***If the systems in Germany and Japan are comparable, could you please explain the similarities and where we can still learn from each other?***

From a German perspective there are three areas that we looked to Japan for inspiration,

these are

- Care consultancy services
- Revision of the concept of care-dependency
- Local community networks.

***Care consultancy services***

In Japan there are so-called Case Managers, these are individuals who create a personalized care concept for a person requiring care and ensures that everything is taken care of. Japan has many positive reports with this approach and, against this background, Germany has also introduced a care consultancy system. Nevertheless, the Japanese system is more comprehensive and differentiated. Care consultancy is carried out by the care provider, i.e., nursing services in Japan, whilst in Germany this consultancy work is done by the nursing care insurance funds.

***Concept of Care Dependency***

Let's look again at Japan: in Japan the need for nursing or long-term care tends to be determined by assessing the necessities and a comprehensive assessment is made. In Germany we tend to look more at the shortfalls: what cannot be done in terms of care within a certain parameter, however, we don't necessarily look at what actual care is required. The Japanese system is more differentiated in this regard: in Germany we have three levels of care, in Japan there are five as well as an additional two levels of assistance care.

***Local Community Networks***

I think that nursing or long-term care insurance is more deeply embedded in local authorities or communities in Japan than it is in Germany. Reasons are varied but include the fact that local authorities are involved in the financing of care insurance, which is not the case in Germany. The deeply embedded community model seems to work well in Japan, and we would like to find out more about just how it works. By the way, this model is also found in Holland, not only in Japan.

***Where are problems?***

If we seek to draw a balance after ten years we get an initially positive result; acceptance in Germany of the care insurance is high. A central problem is naturally the financing of the care insurance in view of increasing costs. We need extra money and thus in Germany



contributions increased from 1.7% to 1.95% in July. At the same time reforms were carried out that led to a significant improvement to the range of services that until recently were very prescribed, above all in out-patient care.

In addition we have also improved the level of service for dementia patients. Currently in Germany we have approximately one million people who suffer from dementia, and this figure will increase to almost two million within the next few decades. Certainly, however, dementia patients without care-needs fall through the cracks of the German care insurance scheme. We've tried to improve this with the introduction of the so-called care level 0. It appears that dementia patients are dealt with differently in Japan. For example, they have some quite smart ideas about group houses or senior living communities, we would like to have a look at these concepts in more detail as well.

The care consultancy services already mentioned are expected to play a central role in the basic foundations of care, and in all likelihood with the involvement of local communities and authorities. That's an important aspect for us. Perhaps Japan has a few suggestions for us here as well.

***A last comment on the significance of German-Japanese exchange?***

Bilateral exchange within the field of care insurance is of general importance and necessity, and not only with Japan. However, due to the many similarities of our social welfare systems we share many starting points for cooperation. This has been very fruitful to date and I am certain that we can expand on these in the future as well. The next meeting at the ministerial level scheduled for next February is another important step in the right direction.

**Symposium "Eco-Design"  
on October 30, 2008, in Tôkyô  
Dr. Silke Claus  
Design Consultant**

The topic Eco-Design is based on a holistic view of the life of a product and is oriented toward the principles of sustainability. The topicalization of ecological issues within the context of product development is not new. However, in view of increasing climate change and growing global scarcity of resources, circumstances have now changed dramatically. New measures must be adopted particularly at the international level. This well-attended event, highlighting the importance and contemporary relevance of the topic, was organized by the Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin with support from the Japan Industrial Design Promotion Organization and the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Japan within the framework of the Tôkyô Designers Week.

Following an overview of international developments and policies on the topic and a short summary of Germany and Japan's position at the federal level, discussions were held with high-level experts on current approach, whether regulations and incentives at the political level are sufficient, and which trade recommendations could be written up for companies, designers and consumers.

Invited to the event were noted representatives from Eco-Design of Japan and Germany. Prof. YAMAMOTO Ryôichi (Tôkyô University) and Prof. Raimund Bleischwitz (Wuppertal Institute) gave talks about environmental policies and the challenges facing our society. In a panel discussion aimed at examining industrial practices, Prof. MASUDA Fumikazu (Tôkyô Zôkei University), Prof. Ursula Tischner (Design Academy Eindhoven) and Eike Frühbrodt (Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG) discussed establishing trends, methods, and practical possibilities of sustainable design strategies in society and companies.

Japan, similar to Germany, is globally actively engaged with the topic of sustainability and is focusing on various levels of incentive systems to fortify responsible and ecological behavior. For example, the new progress report on the German Federal Government's sustainability strategy was presented in the middle of 2008. In this report the Federal Government presented, among other things, an integrative political approach that envisages a sustainable



approach to the raw materials industry and introduced actions and measures recommendations to continuously improve the efficiency of materials and resources in Germany.

The Eco-Design topic has been classified with regard to improving material efficiency. Raising the level of material efficiency is a central element of a sustainable raw materials economy. In addition to protecting resources, it is also an important contribution toward improving competitiveness among companies and drives forward technological innovations. Product design plays a central role within this context because the energy consumption associated with the production and consumption of a product is already determined by up to 80% in the designer's blueprint. Accordingly, sustainable design may seek to optimize energy efficiency, to minimize pollutant emissions and waste production, to conserve natural resources, to train social practices, and thus contribute decisively to the success of sustainable development. Eco-Design is basically a legitimate concern with a view toward future-oriented integrated product policies.

Unanimous agreement with the speakers was reached in the event's closing discussions that currently identified three areas where an effective sustainability strategy will have the greatest impact on improving the environment: these are mobility, construction and food. Lively public discussions clearly revealed that we must continue to seek high levels of dedication and involvement of many people in order to stop or minimize a further environmental catastrophe. The Eco Design event documented in an excellent manner the fundamental questions facing our communities which can only be dealt with and solved by adopting a global perspective. The dialog of sustainability creates a positive platform for cultural understanding of all participants.

**Participating in the Visiting Program of  
the Robert Bosch-Foundation for Japanese  
Journalists (Germany, Brussels),  
Topic: "Global Warming"**

KABA Toshiya

Journalist for Environmental and Energy Issues, Tôkyô Shimbun; Visiting Scholar at the Research Center for Environmental Policy, Free University Berlin

Climate change is one of the most important problems facing humanity today. Evidence for this was reflected in the efforts of Prime Minister FUKUDA at the G8 Summit in Tôyako (Hokkaidô) to bring about an international agreement to reduce global emissions of green house gases by 50% by the year 2050. Against this background, it is very important and reasonable to provide opportunities to Japanese journalists to engage in direct dialogs with all parties concerned in Europe. Although many Europeans travel to Japan and are concerned with the problems of global warming, it still remains extremely difficult to increase awareness and understanding of problems that are prevalent in the EU and Germany because we continuously hear only of Europe's progressive initiatives within this field.

Among the participants that were involved in the program that ran from September 21 to 27, were nine journalists, as well as four experts that included Professor AGATA Kôichirô from the School of Political Science and Economics of Waseda University, who, among others, is a champion of the project. Preparatory seminars were held at the university which gave me the opportunity to visit once again my Alma Mater after many years of absence.





At the Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin we listened to various papers on basic fundamentals given by, among others, the head of the Research Center for Environmental Policy of the Free University Berlin, Dr. Miranda Schreurs, and panel discussions with development delegates from German industries. In Europe we continue to see increasing numbers of offshore wind energy plants, however in relation to a few of the accordant projects in the Baltic Sea we heard a few participants complain: "Environmental groups argue that we have discovered completely new species of fish that need protection. Some Germans are just against everything, which makes development very difficult." On the topic of renewable energy we were informed that the German company *Q-Cells SE* has just overtaken the Japanese company *Sharp* in the production of solar cells thus making it the global leader. We visited the company headquarters located near the city of Leipzig and were able to inspect personally the electronically controlled large-scale production of the component. When we visited the wind energy plant of the *wpd think energy Ltd. & Co.* we were allowed the unique opportunity to climb (with a lifeline attached) to the top of a wind turbine where the generator is located. We were told that this was first time that members of the press had ever climbed so high. (Photo left)

Germany has already decided to stop nuclear power generation by the year 2021, however, in view of high oil costs, people have recently began to discuss in the German Federal parlia-

ment the pros and cons for an extension of this deadline. The CDU Member of Parliament Dr. Georg Nüßlein, whose own private house is fitted out with a hydro-electrical power generation plant, argued, "if we want to achieve the goal to reduce green house gases we must increase our reliance on nuclear energy." SPD MP Frank Schwabe represented a completely contrary position. We were given direct access to listen to these and other opinions of German Federal MPs.

In Brussels we visited the EU and gathered information through our discussions with numerous staff members working directly within the field of climate change and energy policies. When I first arrived I thought that winters in Europe would be very cold and cloudy compared to Japan. Wouldn't the Europeans like a little bit of global warming? In response to this very naïve question of mine I received the following reply: "Without doubt, it's cold. But in Belgium global warming could lead to a rise in sea levels which would damage the coastal areas. We have to solve problems with a global approach."

Since the program finished I have been examining comparative studies within international politics related to the issue of global warming at the Research Centre for Environmental Policy at the FU Berlin. During an informal meeting at the ministerial level for treaty parties of the "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change" held in Warsaw in October, members discussed, in view of the current in-

*Participants, speakers and organisers of the seminar at the Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin*

ternational financial crisis, how climate change initiatives in particular promote technological developments of renewable energies and in turn employment, which minimize the consequences of the crisis.

I would like to thank the Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin, Waseda University, the Robert Bosch Foundation and in particular Ms Andrea Tischer. Their combined efforts made it possible for me to achieve these good results. I noticed during my practical research in Berlin how difficult it is to organize individual information opportunities for program participants, and to arrange personal appointments. I am sure that the coordination of the event was a lot of work. I would also like to thank the staff at the branch office of the German Academic Exchange Service in Tôkyô who introduced me to the program. Parallel to my investigations I attended academic German and English language courses at the Berlin Humboldt University. I would like to use the knowledge I gained through this program as a foundation for my intensive efforts to examine how Germany and Japan can cooperate together in the fight against global warming.



A quilt exhibition of German and Japanese artists "Life – jinsei" (photo left) and an exhibition about the life of the German SANO Anne in Japan (the photo right depicts her daughter KAWABATA Harue at the opening of the exhibition at the JDZB) were the cultural highlights during the fall of 2008.



"Anime – Japanese Comics Global" on October 30 and 31: Anime "Piano no Mori (Piano Forest/The Perfect World of Kai)" at the Berlin Theater Engelbrot and in discussions with the director KOJIMA Masayuki and MARUYAMA Masao (creative director of the Studios Madhouse) on the evening before the symposium at the JDZB "Borderless Japan: Why are certain forms of Japanese Pop Culture so loved and successful around the world?" Numerous researchers, students, Manga and Anime Fans took part in the events that were organized in cooperation with the Japan Foundation.

The symposium "Internationalization of Labor and Employment; Educating internationally-minded decision makers" was held in cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service on October 16, 2008, in Tōkyō. The event celebrated the 25th anniversary of the German Academic Exchange Service's Program "Language and Practice in Japan." The principal theme was an evaluation of the current labor market in Japan with regard to the recruitment of foreigners.



"German Softpower in East Asia - in Past and in the Future." Second East Asian German Historians' Conference November 21-22, 2008, in Ōsaka.

In cooperation with the University of Ōsaka, conference participants examined the question of which influence Germany had on the modernization of Korea, China and Japan in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Workshop und Symposium "Family Planning Policy in Germany and Japan" from November 13-15, 2008, in Tsukuba and Tōkyō for cooperation in the fields of social policy and social security legislation. The photo shows Ute Lysk from Roland Berger Strategy Consultants on the corporation network "Success Factor: Family."

## CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

### GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

#### Conference: Global Responsibility in Development Cooperation of Japan and Germany – Different Approaches, Common Interests?

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin/Bonn; Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA, Tôkyô)

Date: January 26-27, 2009

#### Lecture of Ambassador Dr. SHINYO Takahiro on German-Japanese cooperation in global issues

C: Embassy of Japan, Berlin

Date: February 10, 2009

#### Symposium: German-Japanese Cooperation in Judicial Assistance for Transition Countries

C: Nagoya University; Waseda University, Tôkyô; Bremen University

Date: March 12-13, 2009

#### Conference: Asia's Old and New Powers. The Rise of China and India and the Consequences for Japan, Europe and Global Politics

C: German Association for Asian Studies, Hamburg

Date: May 14-15, 2009

#### Conference: Energy and Climate Security

C: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Berlin; Fujitsu Research Institute, Tôkyô

Date: Spring 2009

### POLITICS AND POLICY MAKERS

#### Symposium: 1968 in Japan, Germany and the USA: Political Protest and Cultural Change

C: Freiburg University

Date: March 4-6, 2009

#### Workshop: 20th Anniversary Commemorating the Fall of the Berlin Wall

C: German Embassy Tôkyô

Date: October 2009, in Tôkyô

#### Workshop: Political Leadership and Professionalism in Japan and Germany

C: Free University Berlin

Date: to be decided in 2009

## DEMOGRAPHY

#### Workshop: Discussions on the Further Development of the Long-term Care Insurance

C: German Federal Ministry for Health, Berlin; Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Tôkyô; French Ministry for Labor, Social Partnership and Solidarity, Paris

Date: February 3-4, 2009, in Tôkyô

#### Symposium: The Future of the Periphery II

C: Institute of Behavioral Sciences, Tôkyô; Institute for Regional Studies, Berlin

Date: October 2009, in Tôkyô

#### Conference: Silver Market

C: Munich University, German Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Tôkyô

Date: To be decided in 2009

### PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

#### Symposium: Sustainable, Life-long Learning and Digital Media

C: Graz University; University of Electro-Communication, Tôkyô

Date: September 7-8, 2009

#### Workshop: Shifting the Balance of Power between Ministries and Universities and Changing Structures within Universities

C: Association of German Universities, Bonn; Japan Committee of Universities for International Exchange (JACUIE, Tôkyô)

Date: Fall 2009

#### Workshop: Potential of Research & Development at the Location Decision

C: North Rhine Westphalia Japan K.K.

Date: To be decided in 2009, in Tôkyô

### GOVERNMENT, CORPORATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY

#### Conference: Disappearance of the Middle Class – *kakusa shakai*

C: Keizai Kôhō Center, Tôkyô; Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft (Institute of the German Economy), Cologne

Date: May/June 2009

#### Workshop: Social Risks in Japan and East Asia

C: Duisburg-Essen University; Association for Social Science Research on Japan

Date: November 19-22, 2009

#### Conference: Corporate Social Responsibility

C: Free University Berlin; Econsense, Berlin

Date: To be decided in 2009

## DIALOG OF CULTURES

#### 3rd German-Japanese-Korean Grantees' Seminar (10th meeting of grant recipients from the German Academic Exchange Service)

C: German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn

Date: July 2009

#### Symposium: Tasks for National and State Museums

C: State Art Collection Dresden

Date: October 2009, in Dresden

#### Panel Discussion: The Role of Art Within the Public Space

C: Jürg Geismar, Tôkyô

Date: Fall 2009

### SPECIAL PROJECT

18th meeting of Japanese-German Forum

Date: November 5-6, 2009

### EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
- German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

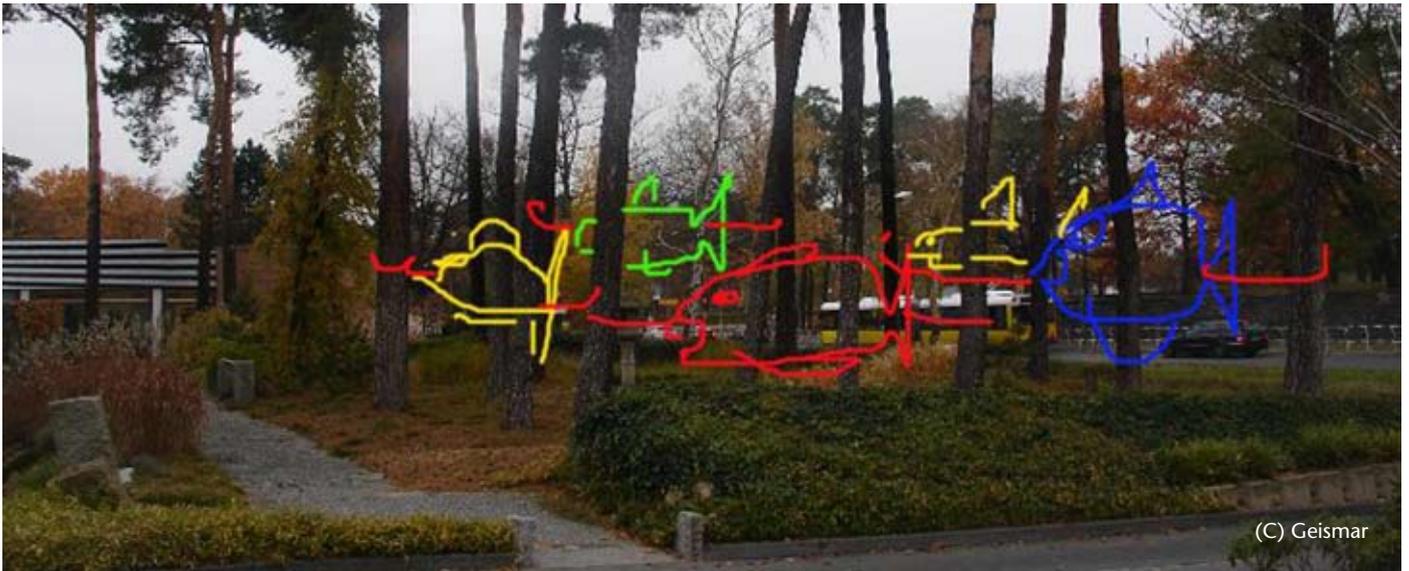
For details of the programs please refer to "http://www.jdzb.de --> Exchange Programs"

Opening hours of exhibitions:  
Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm,  
Friday 10 am to 3.30 pm.

C: = in cooperation with  
Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For **more information** please refer to:  
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

For **information on JDZB language courses** please refer to:  
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Japanese Courses



(C) Geismar

Jårg Geismar will incorporate the atrium as well as the JDZB gardens and building walls into an art installation called "Aquarium." Geismar is planning to install neon lights and cellophane paper that will highlight the JDZB building in the fall and winter evenings.



(C) ICHIHARA



(C) Thies

Photo exhibition by Sven Ingmar Thies entitled "Humans and Their Rooms" – Japanese Rooms. Thies will document through a European perspective how Japanese deal with spaces and rooms both at home and abroad (Opening February 6).

An unusual exhibition will be held with the artist ICHIHARA Keiko under the heading "Mino-washi (Japanese paper from Mino)." In this exhibition, she will display wedding dresses, jewelry and other objects that can be worn and washed, and which are made out of paper. The display objects demonstrate that Mino-Japan paper can not only be used for traditional things like calligraphy and paintings, but is also suitable for clothing and everyday items because of its strong plant cellulose content.

#### FURTHER CULTURAL EVENTS 2009

Concerts will be held within the framework of the "Dahlem Music Evenings," among them a concert given by the JACOB-Orchestra, a group of Japanese and Korean students that are located in Berlin (on January 30) as well as a piano concert with KANO Mizuka, winner 2007 of the International Robert Schumann Competition in Zwickau (on May 8).

Under the heading "Writing in the Unknown" a discussion will be held on January 16 with the writer TAWADA Yôko and the poet Ito Hiromi (in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, Japan Foundation, Literaturhaus Berlin).