

May 2007



Traditional Japanese drumming performance at last year's festival.

Japan Week celebrations

Japan Week festivities kick off Sunday May 27 at Tanks Arts Centre, with the Japan Week Market Day from 9am, celebrating the diversity of Japanese culture, in arts, music, performance food and ceremony held in partnership with the Australia Japan Society and The Japan Festival.

Monday May 28 is a Japanese Film Night to commemorate the 50th birthday of the first Godzilla movie, with screenings of both the first (1956) and most recent (2006) movies, as well as a brief live presentation by a Godzilla expert who has followed the character from its humble beginnings to where it is today, and in his opinion, what Godzilla says about Japan.

The Japanese Family Film Night on Thursday May 31 features *My Neighbour Totoro*, rated PG and sure to entertain young and old alike.

Throughout the week there are several Japanese

themed exhibitions to explore in Tank 4, including *Koko Ni Sunderu* which directly translates as "I Live Here" and for three artists who migrated from Japan to live a new life in Far North Queensland, this exhibition is a fond tribute to their new home.

Japan Blue is another beautiful exhibition that explores the age-old art of deep blue dyeing with the works from Tansho-An Workshop in Tokyo under master dyer, Yasuko Murai and her students.

On Saturday June 2, a combination theory exhibition showcases the works of Jim Woodring, a man called the most important cartoonist of our generation.

His work is highly regarded in Japan, and a specially curated live performance will highlight a collection of animations by some of Japan's most innovative film makers, scored live by Australian musician Jeff Lang and others.