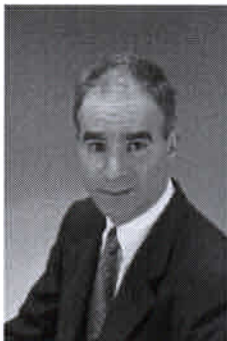


Embassy of Japan in cooperation with Cultural Club
presents

**Rare Chance to See Classic Japanese Anime and Films
accompanied by Mr. Greenberg's Lecture on "The Roots of
Japanese Cinema and Anime Preserving Katsuben :
Unique Performance Art"**



Monday, October 5, 2009 at 7 pm
Venue: Cultural Club – Qurm, Muscat
Free Entrance

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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The Golden Era of silent cinema in Japan began with the introduction of film to Japan at the end of the 19th century. In the decades that followed cinema developed rapidly as a dynamic performance art in which filmed images were accompanied by live musical performances and narrated by highly skilled performers called benshi. From the turn of the century until the end of the 1930s, when silent film finally gave way to talkies, the benshi entertained the masses of moviegoers in Japan with an art form that was unrivaled anywhere else in the world.

Since arriving in Japan in 1985, Larry Greenberg, a native New Yorker, has studied the development of cinema in Japan and through the two companies that he founded, Urban Connections (www.urbanconnections.jp) and Digital Meme (www.digital-meme.com), he has diligently worked to preserve the remaining silent films that represent the glory of that Golden Era and to package them in a digital format that will allow present and future film lovers an opportunity to experience the performing art that was katsuben.

During a 90-minute lecture Mr. Greenberg will outline the introduction of cinema to Japan against the narrative traditions that have long existed such as Kabuki, Noh and Rakugo. During the lecture Mr. Greenberg will screen several rare films from the Japanese Anime Classic Collection developed by Digital Meme, as well as a special 10-minute video presentation on the unique methodology developed by Digital Meme to digitally preserve, restore and commercialize this unique treasure of Japan's cinematic legacy. There will also be a screening of a short feature film from the Talking Silents collection of restored Japanese classic films. All films will be screened from DVD and will have English subtitles. After the 90-minute lecture and screenings, Mr. Greenberg will be available for a question and answer session.



