

National Day of Chile

PUBLICITY

Chile, Japan fostering ties in a wide array of fields

By **Ricardo G. Rojas**
Ambassador of Chile

September ushers in the arrival of the beautiful autumn season in Japan. In Chile, this month brings us together to celebrate the anniversary of our independence.

Throughout Chile's 213-year history, our country has built extensive ties around the world, exchanging products, knowledge, culture and experiences that have truly enriched our society. Among these ties, a very significant one was established 126 years ago with Japan. Since then, our two countries have developed a profound relationship based on shared values and collaborative efforts to address global challenges.

We honor the lasting ties that exist between Chile and Japan, which cover a wide array of fields, from trade, investment and culture to the academic and scientific arena. Mutual appreciation and admiration increase every year.

Culture plays an important role in the process of knowing each other. This year, many Chilean cultural activities have taken place in Japan. Among these, we had the privilege of an exhibition from celebrated Chilean artist Alfredo Jaar, the recipient of the 11th Hiroshima Art Prize, whose works were showcased at the Hiroshima City Muse-

um of Contemporary Art.

Furthermore, "The Wolf House," a Chilean stop-motion animation, has enthralled Japanese audiences, received praise from critics and drawn thousands of viewers. Its success demonstrates the strength of storytelling and how it transcends cultural boundaries, facilitating profound conversations and

forging meaningful bonds between the audience and its creators.

This October, the Chilean animated film "Nahuel y el Libro Magico" will be released in Tokyo, promising further engagement of Japanese audiences with traditional representations of our country's indigenous and ancestral communities.

Performing arts from Chile have

also made interesting headways on Japanese theatrical stages, with two noteworthy productions showcased at the Ricca Ricca Festa event. These performances provided insight into the expansive range of Chilean storytelling and artistic expressions.

As we strengthen these cultural links, we can foresee further devel-

opments that will no doubt pave the way for opportunities allowing for the discovery of new means of expression and bring our two nations closer together.

This year is especially significant for us Chileans as we commemorate 50 years since the coup d'etat of 1973. As a part of this remembrance, the documentary "50 Years:

Identity, Memory and Future" was shared through our social media. This emotive film delves into the experiences of those Chileans who departed their homeland, evoking nostalgia, discoveries and cultural transformations, bearing testimony to the enduring spirit of our nation's people and the importance of safeguarding our collective history.



Ricardo G. Rojas



A moai statue

Courtesy of the Embassy of Chile

Congratulations
on the 213th Anniversary
of the Independence of
the Republic of Chile

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