



# Sadao Watanabe Jazz Concert *in* Kathmandu

22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2016  
(Saturday/ Sunday)



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**Venue:** Tribhuvan Army Officers' Club  
Tundikhel, Kathmandu

**Time:** 4 P.M. (Sharp)

**PASSES AVAILABLE**  
at the Embassy of Japan (Panipokhari)

*Organized by:*



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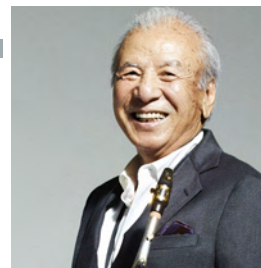
## PROFILE

### **Sadao Watanabe** (Alto Saxophone, Sopranino)

Born in Tochigi Prefecture in 1933, Mr. Watanabe moved to Tokyo after graduating high-school. In 1962 he moved to Boston to study at the Berklee College of Music.

He participated in many band sessions as an alto saxophone player before becoming, as he is today, a top Japanese musician, and world-class saxophonist with a unique style in and beyond jazz. As an Executive Producer of the Japanese Government Exhibition Project 'Aichi Expo' 2005 in Japan, he advocated, and continues to advocate, the message "World Peace" through music. In 2005 he was awarded 'The Order of the Rising Sun' by the Japanese Government. In 2015, he produced his 74<sup>th</sup> album 'Naturally' with Brazilian instrumentalist, Mr. Jaques Morelenbaum. Mr. Watanabe received Brazil's most prestigious award 'Ordem De Rio Branco' for his distinguished contributions to Brazilian music.

More recently, he represented Japan in the International Jazz Day 2016 All-Star Global Concert, held in the White House and hosted by President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama.



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### **Akira Onozuka** (Keyboard)

Born in 1967, at the age of 19 he participated in live music tours with TUBE and other renowned artists as a keyboardist. He is a multi-dimensional musician who can play different genres and musical instruments, thus, has participated in the recordings of famous Japanese artists such as B'z, Maki Oguro, ZARD, Tetsu Shiotani and Sadao Watanabe. Since 1995 he has been the regular pianist of the Sadao Watanabe Band.

### **Takashi Yofu** (Guitar)

Born in Chiba Prefecture in 1969. In 1988, he moved to the United States to study guitar and music composition and arrangement at the Berklee College of Music. When he returned from the USA, he engaged with jazz and fusion music bands and released albums. Since 2009 he has been active in the Sadao Watanabe Band and has participated in jazz concerts at home and abroad.



### **Koichi Osamu** (Bass)

Born in Osaka in 1960. After graduating from Kyoto University, he studied music composition and arrangement at the Berklee College of Music. In 1985 and 1986, he was awarded the Berklee Eddie Gomez Award. After returning to Japan he was active in jazz clubs and stage performances. From 1996 to 2008 he was engaged in the Sadao Watanabe Band as the bassist. In 2001 he formed a new jazz band called 'EQ'.

### **Masaharu Ishikawa** (Drums)

Born in 1959, he started his career as a professional drummer while in university. He is active as a professional drummer in different genres of music, such as jazz, rock, pop and fusion, which supports the base of Japanese music. Since 1994, he has been a member of the Sadao Watanabe Band and his own bands 'KK JAM' and 'SOURCE'.



### **N'diasse Niang** (Percussion)

Born in Dakar, capital of Senegal in 1962, he learned sabar from his grandfather when he was very young. He is self-taught on the djembe. He was a soloist in the Second National Theatre of Senegal 'Sinomeu'. In 2001 he shifted his music activity to Japan and formed a Japanese and Senegal music group called 'Nyun'. Since 2003 he has been a member of the Sadao Watanabe Band and has participated in jazz concerts.