



EUGEN PROCHÁC was born in 1962 in Bratislava. He graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague in the class of prof. Josef Chuchro. Later he studied under such personalities as Daniel Šafran, Erling Blondal Bengtsson, Michail Chomicer, Angelica May. He became the absolute winner of the Premio Valentino Bucchi International Competition in Rome in 1990 and recipient of the Slovak Music Critics' Prize. As a soloist, he has performed in over 40 countries on four continents. Since 1990, he has been a teaching

at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. From 1993 to 1997, he was a professor at the Academia Nacional Superior de Orquestra in Lisbon and the Escola Profissional in Paredes. He regularly teaches at masterclasses, in the Portuguese cities of Porto and Paredes, in Austria, France, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, as well as in Slovakia. He has recorded for national and international radio and television companies, released several CDs and collaborated with world-renowned performers. As leader of the ensemble Pro-mi le, he was a participant in the concert world premiere of Steve Reich's octet version of Cello Counterpoint. He also regularly collaborates with musicians of other genres. He is the founder and artistic director of the International Festival of Fine Music in Banská Štiavnica and the Štiavnica Summer Courses.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CONCERT:

Culture and PR Section of the Embassy of Japan in the Slovak Republic
Hlavné námestie 2, 813 27 Bratislava 1

Phone No.: 02-5980-0101

E-mail: culture@bv.mofa.go.jp, www.sk.emb-japan.go.jp/



EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

PRESENTS

CELLO CONNECTIONS

ĽUDOVÍT KANTA (cello)

KUMIKO KITO (piano)

EUGEN PROCHÁC (cello)



18 / 5 / 2025

18:00 | Dvorana VŠMU (Music Hall of the the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava)
Zochova 1, Bratislava

Admission free

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VEĽVYSLANECTVO JAPONSKA
V SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKE
在スロバキア日本国大使館



♪ PROGRAMME ♪

Georg Friedrich Händel : Sonata for two cellos and piano
(L. Kanta, K. Kito, E. Prochác)

Japanese songs for cello and piano (L. Kanta, K. Kito)

Rentaro Taki : Kojo no Tsuki (Moon over ruined castle)

Kosaku Yamada : Machibouke (Tired of waiting)

Traditional : Itsuki no Komoriuta (Lulaby from Itsuki Village)

Tatsunosuke Koshitani : Hatsukoi (First Love)

Medley of Japanese folk songs (L. Kanta, K. Kito, E. Prochác)

Hamabe no Uta (Song of the seashore)

Nanatsu no Ko (Seven little ones)

Furusato (Hometown)

Aladár Móži : Orava Rhapsody
(Eugen Prochác)

Leonard Bernstein : West Side Story (L. Kanta, K. Kito)

Jet Song

Mambo

Nirvana : Smells Like Teen Spirit
(L. Kanta, E. Prochác)

Giovanni Sollima : Violoncelles, vibrez!
(L. Kanta, K. Kito, E. Prochác)

Encore - Vittorio Monti : Czardas



EUDOVÍT KANTA, a cellist based in Japan, was born in Bratislava. The son of musician parents, he was always close to music and began playing cello at the age of seven. He gained basics in Margita Prochásková's class. He studied at the Bratislava Conservatory in the class of Gustáv Večerný and later at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague

in the class of Alexander Večtomov. He began his professional cellist career as a concertmaster of cellos in the Slovak Philharmonic in 1982. Since 1990 he has served as cello group leader in the Japanese Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa. He is currently active as a freelance artist. During his studies, he was awarded prizes in several national and international competitions. He won the Beethoven's Hradec Award and placed second at the 1980 Prague Spring International Competition. In 2010, he was awarded the Hiroyuki Iwaki Music Award and in 2012 the Gold Plaque of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. In 2018, he received the Goodwill Ambassador Award, which is awarded annually by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic to successful Slovak professionals for spreading the country's good name abroad. In 2023, he was awarded the Japanese national decoration „Order of the Rising Sun - Silver Rays“.

KUMIKO KITO is a Japanese pianist captivating the audience with her warm, expressive tone and wide palette of colours. Born in Nagoya, Japan, she began her musical journey at the age of four studying piano and composition at the Yamaha Music School. At the age of nine, she became a pupil of her aunt Noriko Hikida, a renowned mentor to the jazz pianist Hiromi Uehara. Later, she graduated from the prestigious music program at the Nagoya's Kikusato City School and Ferris University. Years of intensive study in Europe followed. Under the tutelage of Yves Henry, professor at the Paris Conservatory, and Márta Gulyás in Hungary, she honed her technique and artistic expression. She won a special prize at the Nohant Festival's Chopin Piano Competition, as well as the Professional Piano Accompanist Award at the Basel 2025 International Accompanist Competition. She is guided by the belief that "music transcends all boundaries and brings people together."

