

Japanese Consul General, Mr Masataka Tarahara, will officially launch *The Way To Northern Cherry Blossoms*, along with the RGI President Gordon Macpherson at the RGI Kelly Gallery.



The Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts invites you and your friends to a very special exhibition.

The Way To Northern Cherry Blossoms

Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Charity Exhibition

A group of Scottish artists, whose work has been inspired by Japan, are staging an exhibition and events to raise money for the stricken country.

Wednesday 6th April, 11am

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Wednesday 6th April, 5-7pm

An evening event at the Kelly giving those who couldn't make it along during the day a chance to come, see and support this charity event.

Saturday 9th April from 1pm

Saturday get-together at Blair Thomson's studio with demonstrations by the artists at 1pm, including aspects of Japanese traditional art forms.

Exhibition times and locations:

Kelly Gallery, 118 Douglas Street, Glasgow G2 4ET

Wednesday 6th, 10.30am-7pm Thursday 7th, 10.30am-5pm

Blair Thomson's Studio, 143 West Regent Street, Glasgow

Friday 8th & Saturday 9th, 10.30am-5pm Sunday 10th, 12noon-5pm

Artist Blair Thomson came up with the idea for the exhibition which will donate 70% to 80% of sales to the Japan Red Cross to help the people of the Tohoku, the area worst hit by the recent earthquake and tsunami, and also to the Japan Society appeal.

As a painter and Artist Council Member of The Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts, Blair has exhibited in Japan twice in the last two years, including representing the UK at the four yearly ART/X/TOYAMA international show in 2010.

Main image: *Tokyo Skyline*, Blair Thomson

Other participating artists include Campbell Sandilands, glass artist Keiko Mukaide, American photographer Laurel Casjens, and illustrator Stuart Kerr.



Laurel Casjens



Stuart Kerr



Keiko Mukaide



Campbell Sandilands

"As we have all spent time in Japan, it has had a strong influence on our work," explains Blair. "This exhibition is a celebration and general message of support to Japan, whose art, culture and environment (city and landscape) has made such an impact on us, as well as reflecting the wider connection between our two countries."

“We felt that rather than just feeling helpless in the face of such an immense human tragedy, we could turn our feelings around and bring people together to raise money and offer support. We really want to help the Tohoku survivors. We also have a lot of friends and family there, who if not directly affected are fearful and depressed, so we are sending them a positive supporting, colourful message from the UK.”

Please come along and show your support.

Thanks to all who are sponsoring and supporting this event.

