



THE DAIWA ANGLO-JAPANESE FOUNDATION

*in association with the*

CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN IN EDINBURGH

*and*

THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN BELFAST

*presents*

Piano Recitals

*by*

Jason Kouchak

*“Across the Water”*

31st October 1997

7.30 - 9.00 p.m.

The Reid Concert Hall, University of Edinburgh

7th November 1997

7.30 - 9.00 p.m.

The Harty Room, Queen's University, Belfast





# PROGRAMME

1. Kojo-No-Tsuki
2. Reflections\*
3. Yoi Machigusa
4. Watercolours\*
5. Sakura
6. Les Feuilles Mortes



1. Beyond the Clouds\*
2. Hamabe no Uta
3. Sakuragai no Uta
4. Midnight Storm\*
5. Across the Water\*
6. Itsuki no Komoriuta

\*Denotes compositions written and orchestrated by J. Kouchak

## *“Across the Water”*

The unending cycle of life, the changes of the seasons - an ever-changing art form; both timeless and perpetual. Man's need to live in harmony with nature, to understand his surroundings, has been essential to his existence. Popular art forms: painting, poetry and folk songs, provides the bridge between outer realities and the hopes, wishes and fears of our inner dreams.

This adaptation of Japanese traditional music is especially valuable for its use of pure classical piano together with a more basic “folk” melody line. The essence of these pieces is the simple beauty of their melodies - comparable in many ways to the beautiful brushwork on Japanese prints. These melodies reflect upon scenes of sea and landscape providing an ideal source of inspiration, a bridge to express my thoughts, feelings and emotions. I hope you will share this journey with me across the water.

A special thank-you to the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, the Embassy of Japan, the Consulate General of Japan and Julian Lloyd-Webber for their advice in choosing this programme.

Jason Kouchak



# Jason Kouchak



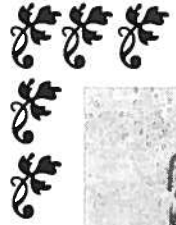
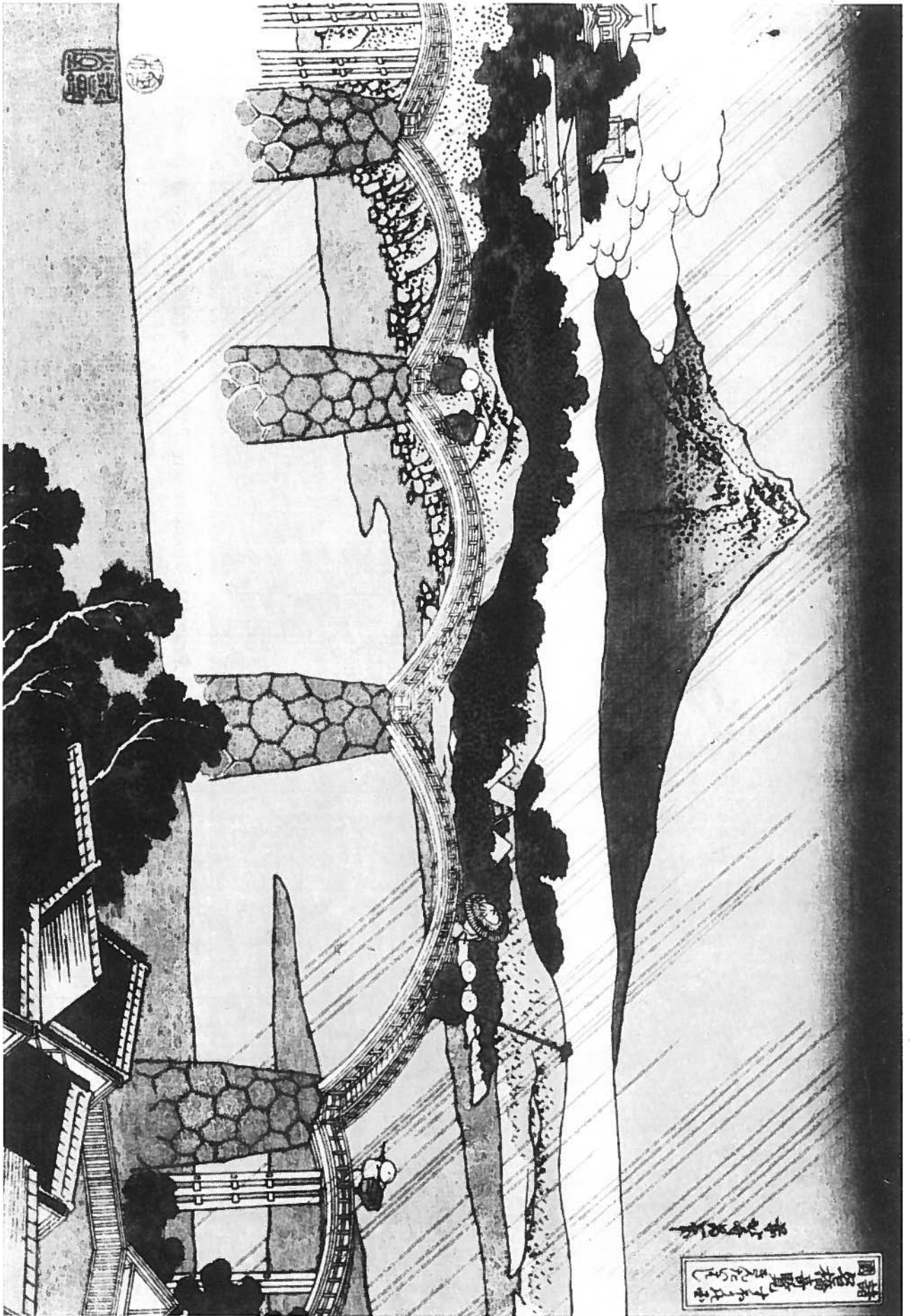
Jason Kouchak was born in Lyon, France. At 12, he won a music scholarship to Westminster school. He has studied at Edinburgh University and the Royal College of Music under Dominic Alldis.

He has performed extensively in the Far East, sponsored by Yamaha in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore. His imaginative interpretation of traditional Japanese music and Western Classical music has been enthusiastically acclaimed world-wide.

Jason Kouchak has performed at the Royal Festival Hall and his numerous recitals at the Edinburgh International Festival have enhanced his universal popularity. He has recorded two albums and has appeared on both British television (BBC) and Japanese (NHK) performing his own musical works.

*His music captures our hearts by combining sparkling energy with a charming delicate touch.*

SCOTSMAN



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