



EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN Outline of the Opening Ceremony

March 2, 2005

Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition

EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN will be held for 185 days from March 25 to September 25, 2005, in the Nagoya Eastern Hills (Nagakute Town, Toyota City, and Seto City) under the theme of "Nature's Wisdom" and with the aim of creating a new culture and civilization. On March 24, 2005, the day before the exposition gets underway, the Opening Ceremony will be held at the EXPO Dome to raise the curtain on the first world exposition of the twenty-first century.

The first part will consist of a formal ceremony that will follow the protocol for world expositions; the second part will feature an orchestra performance of the EXPO 2005 Symphony; and the third part will comprise a special program titled "Welcome to EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN," which will transmit the message of the exposition in a dynamic synergy of music, screen images, and the atrics.

EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN will convey its message and publicize its opening to the whole of Japan and to the entire world through the richly visual and moving performances by the main artists announced today and many others.

For further information, contact:

Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition

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EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN
Opening Ceremony
(Planned Outline)

Venue: EXPO Dome on the site of EXPO 2005

Date and time: Thursday, March 24, 2005, starting 14:00

Outline of program

The Opening Ceremony will consist of three parts. The first part will be a formal ceremony following the protocol of world expositions. The second part will feature an orchestra performance of the EXPO 2005 Symphony. The third part will be special program titled "Welcome to EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN," which will transmit the message of the exposition in a dynamic manner.

Events	Content and proceedings
14:00 Part 1: Ceremony (40 min.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening remarks ● Singing of national anthem of Japan, raising of national flag of Japan ● Raising of flags of the International Exhibitions Bureau and the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan ● Entrance and introduction of participating countries and international organizations ● Speech Shoichiro Toyoda, Chairman of the Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition ● Welcome address Masaaki Kanda, Governor of Aichi Prefecture ● Speech Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan ● Congratulatory address Jianmin Wu, President, International Exhibitions Bureau ● Message by His Majesty the Emperor ● Opening Ceremony by His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince *Honorifics omitted.



<p>14:40 Part 2: EXPO 2005 Symphony</p> <p>A concert will be performed by the EXPO Super World Orchestra. (20 min.)</p>	<p>Program: Holst, Planets (Jupiter) Chopin, Nocturne (Posthumous) Stravinsky, from "Firebird"</p>
<p>15:00-15:40 Part 3: "Welcome to EXPO 2005, AICHI, JAPAN" (40 min.)</p>	<p>In this special program, the message of the exposition will be transmitted to Japan and to the world.</p>

Host: Wataru Abe (NHK announcer)

Conductor: Yutaka Sado

Chorus: Nagoya Youth Choir

Orchestra: EXPO Super World Orchestra



Presentation of the Opening Ceremony

Basic Thinking

The Opening Ceremony will consist of a formal ceremony that will be the biggest official event of EXPO 2005 and at the same time, as befits the first world exposition of the twenty-first century, will call on people to share awareness of global-scale problems and to think together about the ways in which they can be solved. The Opening Ceremony will grandly declare the opening of EXPO 2005 and, in a dynamic manner, will transmit a message from Japan, the host country, calling on people around the world to share an awareness of the problems that the Earth faces and to search together for ways in which to build an affluent future while learning from nature's wisdom.

Part 1: Ceremony

In a formal atmosphere befitting an official event, the ceremony will express respect to the participating countries and grandly declare the opening of the exposition. While maintaining the protocol and formality of the occasion, the ceremony will also create a mood of festivity and fresh surprises that will envelop the entire venue. Events will include the singing of the Japanese national anthem, the raising of the Japanese flag, the entrance of participating countries and international organizations, and addresses by the prime minister and other dignitaries.

Main performers: Shinobu Sato, YOSHIKI, Sadao Watanabe, children, Sony's QRIO (a humanoid robot), Toyota's Partner Robot, Honda's ASIMO (a bipedal robot), and others

Part 2: EXPO 2005 Symphony

Symbolizing the mutual understanding and sympathy of people around the world, a concert will be performed by the EXPO Super World Orchestra comprising invited musicians from many countries. At the same time, profiles of the participating countries and artistic images will be shown on screen in effective coordination with the orchestra performance, and there will be a ballet performance on stage.

Main performers: Ingrid Fujiko Hemming, Mariko Miyauchi, others

Part 3: "Welcome to EXPO 2005 AICHI, JAPAN"

As a special program, Part 3 will transmit to the world the message of EXPO



2005 calling on people to create an affluent future society that is in harmony with the environment. This section will propose various models from the front line for the solution of environment problems, as well as an orchestra performance, chorus, performances, media art, and other attractions, thereby confirming the importance of life and the prayer for peace and exploring the directions of a future world based on global mutual understanding.

Main performers: Ayumi Hamasaki, Sanyo Kanda, KONISHIKI, Ryoko Moriyama, Kazumasa Nishikawa, Kosaburo Nomura, and others

*Listed in alphabetical order