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Moving Forward: Life after the Great East Japan Earthquake **Opens Mar 4 at the Fowler Museum at UCLA**



On March 11, 2011, a devastating 9.0 magnitude earthquake hit the coast of northeastern Japan, triggering a tsunami that sent waves as far as six miles inland. On the occasion of the one-year anniversary of the disaster, *Moving Forward: Life after the Great East Japan Earthquake*—on display at the Fowler Museum from Mar 4–Apr 15, 2012—commemorates the victims and the struggles of the survivors, and highlight the reconstruction and recovery efforts.

Featuring a series of large-scale photographs, short articles, and videos, the exhibition focuses on the stories of the people recovering from the disaster in the Tohoku area, and how the people of Japan are dealing with this difficult situation and helping one another in their day-to-day lives.

Arresting photographs taken by photographers for the local newspaper, *The Kahoku Shimpo*, in the hours and days following the quake and tsunami show the unprecedented destruction in the region. A man and a boy walk their bikes through the tangled mass that was once Otsuchi City. A woman carries an elderly woman on her back as they head out of the now-unrecognizable city Minami-Sanriku-cho. Yet other images captured in the days and months that followed reveal the hope and resilience of the people in this region, and the recovery efforts that are now underway.

Several short articles excerpted from *The Kahoku Shimpo* are reproduced on graphic panels to offer a sampling of astounding stories: an emergency broadcaster who stayed at her microphone to broadcast evacuation warnings yet fled too late herself and perished, “memory search parties” that

have sprung up to reunite loved ones with their keepsakes, and hundreds of thousands of volunteers from across Japan who have come to clear streets thick with rubble and sludge.

The following symposium is planned in conjunction with the exhibition and the anniversary of the earthquake and tsunami:

Sat, Mar 10, 2012 1:30–3:30 pm
Moving Forward: Life after the Great East Japan Earthquake

Moderator: Hitoshi Abe, director of the UCLA Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies and chair of UCLA Architecture and Urban Design

Discussant: Christopher Hawthorne, architecture critic, *Los Angeles Times*

Presenters:

Malka Older, specialist in disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness, Save the Children, "From Relief to Recovery"

Hideya Terashima, editor, *The Kahoku Shimpō*, "Covering the Disaster"

Masashige Motoe, associate professor, department of Architecture and Building Science, School of Engineering, Tohoku University, "The Status of Reconstruction in Sendai and ArchiAid's response: Architects Respond to the Devastation Caused by the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami "

Toshio Hirano, deputy director, Overseas Program Department, JEN (Japan Emergency NGO), "JEN's Emergency Response and Ongoing Recovery Assistance"

Junko Mabuchi, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), "In the Wake of Disaster"

Reception to follow.

Additional Information

This exhibition is co-organized by the UCLA Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies and *The Kahoku Shimpō* newspaper, and guest-curated by Hitoshi Abe, director of the Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies and chair of UCLA's Department of Architecture & Urban Design. It is sponsored in part by the Japan Business Association of Southern California (JBA), the Japan Foundation, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and supported by the U.S.—Japan Council. Special recognition is also extended to the Tohoku Gakuin University Volunteer Station Translation Project team, Mari Ishida, Timothy Unverzagt Goddard, Nathan Smith, and Saran Oki.

This exhibition debuted in Washington, D.C. in November 2011 and is appearing at the Rockefeller Memorial Church in Chicago in January 2012.

The Fowler Museum at UCLA is one of the country's most respected institutions devoted to exploring the arts and cultures of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas. The Fowler is open Wednesdays through Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m.; and on Thursdays, from noon until 8 p.m. The museum is closed Mondays and Tuesdays. The Fowler Museum, part of UCLA Arts, is located in the north part of the UCLA campus. Admission is free. Parking is available for a maximum of \$11 in Lot 4. For more information, the public may call 310/825-4361 or visit fowler.ucla.edu.