

The Japan Foundation presents:



JAPAN FOUNDATION

Meet the Artist!

Shonen Knife

Talk with Alex Hoban

Date: 29 October 2012, 6.30pm

Venue: The Japan Foundation, London

Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5EH

Shonen Knife is a prolific all-girl three-piece pop-punk band hailing from Osaka, Japan, renowned for their cute, infectious and eccentric songs. Formed in 1981, the trio—comprised of founding member **Naoko Yamano** and newer-additions **Ritsuko Taneda** and **Emi Morimoto**—have released 18 albums to date and achieved a cult following across the world. Citing influences as diverse as 60s pop to 70s punk, Shonen Knife have also attracted such high-profile fans as Nirvana, Sonic Youth and even their heroes and foremost influence, The Ramones. Celebrating their 30th anniversary last year, the band continues to entertain fans today with their raw energetic performances and combination of sugar-coated pop-garage rock with quirky lyrics in both English and Japanese.

On the back of their 21-date European tour, The Japan Foundation has invited Shonen Knife to talk about their long-lasting career and current motivation and inspiration when creating music today. Joined by **Alex Hoban**, foreign correspondent for Vice Magazine, NME and The Guardian, they will further explore their position in the music industry as both an all-girl and a Japanese band, and consider how they came to be one of the most iconic Japanese bands of the 90s. In the context of the music scene and industry in Japan and the UK, they will discuss how Shonen Knife has evolved and remained engaged with an ever-changing environment over the three decades.

This event will provide a rare opportunity to hear directly from one of Japan's most exciting, innovative and hard-working bands still captivating audiences across the world.

This event is free to attend but booking is essential. To reserve a place, please email your name and the title of the event you would like to attend to event@jpf.org.uk

If you are interested in this talk, you may also like to try...

Extreme Rituals: A Schimpfluch Carnival – Arnolfini, Bristol (30 November - 2 December 2012)

'Extreme Rituals' is a three-day series of performances, talks and more devoted to the legacy of the Swiss performance group Schimpfluch. This year's carnival will also include a rare UK appearance by Hijokaidan's **Junko Hiroshige**, supported by the Japan Foundation.

Please visit www.soundandmusic.org for further information.