The Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University and the Australian Centre of Asia-Pacific Art, Queensland Art Gallery would like to invite you to the inaugural ‘Australia-Japan Annual Dialogue’ as part of:

Perspectives: Asia

‘Australia-Japan Relations: The current state of the relationship – existing and future challenges’

Jointly presented by His Excellency Mr Shigekazu Sato, Japanese Ambassador to Australia and The Hon Alexander Downer.

‘Australia-Japan Relations: The current state of the relationship – existing and future challenges’ is the first in an annual series of lectures presented under the Perspectives Asia banner to promote discussion and debate about the relationship between the two countries. Drawing on the extensive experience of Alexander Downer and the Japanese Ambassador, this lecture will provide two different perspectives on the bi-lateral relationship within the broader context of the Asia Pacific region.

His Excellency Mr Sato graduated from the Faculty of Law at Tokyo University in 1974 after which he began work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan. Since then, he has held many positions including Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in the USA, Minister, Embassy of Japan in Indonesia and Director-General, Economic Cooperation Bureau. Prior to coming to Australia, Mr Sato was the Consul-General and Ambassador, Consulate General of Japan in Hong Kong.

The Honourable Alexander Downer is Partner of the strategic advisory business, Bespoke Approach as well as the Secretary General of the United Nation’s Special Advisor on Cyprus at the level of Under Secretary. Alexander retired from politics in 2008 after a distinguished career spanning 23 years. During this time, he was Australia’s longest serving foreign minister under the Howard Government from March 1996 – December 2007. He was also Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party from May 1994 to January 1995.

• Cinema A, Gallery of Modern Art, Stanley Place, South Bank
• Wednesday 27 October 2010
• 6:00pm - doors open at 5.30pm

Guests are welcome to join us for refreshments prior to the seminar. Places are limited, please book early to avoid disappointment.

Please RSVP, to Natasha Vary by Friday 22 October on telephone 07 3735 5322 or email n.vary@griffith.edu.au.