MEMORIES and ANTHOLOGY from The 3rd Haiku Pacific Rim Conference in Matsuyama, Japan
HA I K U  I N  M A T S U Y A M A

Jerald Ball
Oh Matsuyama!
The road to your door is lined
With rape blossoms

so small, and blue
tiny flower with no name
by the railroad tracks

Stephen McDonald
ball in the air
ocean of orange
go Tokyo giants!

running barefoot
the sunflowers Sway
as the sun sets

Jack William
Sunbeams
Tickling trees
Silly Buddha

half moon
alone
hot green tea

Patricia A DeCaro
cherry blossoms
victorious
After the rain

the deaf men
listen to the waterfall
under young leaves
Jerome Cushman
Matsuyama home
of cherry blossoms, poets
and my heart

Lily pad
covered with cherry petals
waiting —

Patricia Machmiller
at the waterfall
sometimes I feel an answer
sometimes the wind
top of the castle —
even here the mystery
of cherry blossoms

Angelee Deodhar
camphor wood floor
I follow the path
of neon-green slippers

purple bamboo
through the Shichiku Gate *shichiku means purple bamboo
all these foreigners

Beverley George
the hands
of the deaf haiku poet
warm the air
she rests my chopsticks
on a twig of sakura —
Hanami
* hanami means a cherry blossom —
viewing picnic
Encounter with Prof. Cushman and Visit at Matsuyama Deaf School

I met Prof. Jerome Cushman for the first time when I participated in the first Haiku Pacific Rim Conference at the long beach campus of the California State University. My husband and I took a walk along the beach. Then, we saw him rubbing a small black dog on the head, which was for sale on the sidewalk. We spoke to him for a short time. Later, we heard from Prof. Ikuyo Yoshimura, he supported haiku contests for deaf students. I gave him my bilingual haiku book instead of a name card. In return he gave me a poster on which photos of excellent students are. I saw him again at the second Haiku Pacific Rim Conference which was held in Ogaki, Japan. At the conference party he told me that Kijo and Sugiyama Sanpu were hearing-impaired people. As Kijo is a disciple of Masaoka Shiki, he told me that he would like to visit Matsuyama to study on the relationship between them. Coincidentally, Prof. Jerry Ball wanted to hold the third Haiku Pacific Rim Conference in Matsuyama and Prof. Cushman agreed with him saying, "Matsuyama! Matsuyama!". Other people there also reached a consensus on this matter while I started to think of hosting the conference in Matsuyama.

When I came back to Matsuyama, I asked several questions, from Prof. Cushman, to the staff at the Shiki Museum. However, no staff knew about Kijo well. I went to a library to search about him. Mr. Mitarai gave me some information about Kijo. We found in a book, that there is a Kijo Museum and Kijo's grandson, 'Mikiya', is the director of the Museum. I looked for some more books on Kijo by visiting second hand book stores and found some books about him, which are not found at the Shiki Museum. I ordered two copies of "Haikai Kijo" written by Mikiya from the Kijo Museum. I sent one copy to Prof. Cushman He sent me an e-mail to request any English translation of Kijo’s Haiku. I asked about it to Mikiya and he sent me a brief English pamphlet translated by Tsuruta Kyoko.

Students at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (Rochester, New York) led by Prof. Cushman visited Tsukuba University. I gave them a suggestion, visit the Kijo Museum as well. When they went to see the museum at Takasaki, they drew some haiga and had various