

= Junko Sakurada =

Junko Sakurada (桜田 Junko , born 1958) is a Japanese singer and actress . She was part of a music trio in 1973 , which included Momoe Yamaguchi and Masako Mori . Sakurada then became successful in a solo music career , with 18 top ten singles in the 1970s . Her acting career ran from 1973 to 1993 . She received multiple awards for her acting roles , including the Hochi Film Award , Award of the Japanese Academy , Kinema Junpo Award , and Mainichi Film Concours . Following her marriage , in a Blessing ceremony of the Unification Church in 1992 , she retired from performing .

= = Biography = =

Sakurada was born in 1958 . She is a singer and actress . In 1973 , she was part of " a hit female trio " , which also included musicians Momoe Yamaguchi and Masako Mori . The music trio became popular as part of the television program Producing the Stars (Star Tanj? !) ; they were known as " The Trio of Third @-@ Year Junior High School Students " (" Hana no Chu 3 Trio ") . According to Japan Pop ! : Inside the World of Japanese Popular Culture , after this experience in a music group , she went off on her own to develop a solo music career , and became a megastar . Cruising the Anime City : An Otaku Guide to Neo Tokyo described Sakurada as a 1970s music idol , like Pink Lady and Linda Yamamoto .

Throughout the 1970s she released a string of hit singles ; nine top 5 singles , and in total eighteen top 10 singles of which Hajimete No Dekigoto (First Affair) sold best , grossing over 527 @,@ 000 copies according to Oricon and peaking at number one . After winning the 4th edition of the Star Tanj? ! contest in 1972 , with highest ever points and jury votes , she released her first single in February 1973 called " Tenshi Mo Yume Miru " (The Dreams of an Angel) which was written by Yu Aku , and sold over 120 @,@ 000 copies while peaking at number 12 . With the release of her third single , " Watashi No Aoi Tori " (My Bluebird) , she won the prestigious Best Newcomer award the 15th edition of the Japan Record Award . In the winter of 1973 following 1974 the single " Hana Monogatari " (Flower Fairy Tales) was her first top ten hit single , which sold over 237 @,@ 000 copies . She participated for the first time at the 25th edition of the K?haku Uta Gassen festival in 1974 , with her hit single " Kiiroi Ribbon " (Yellow Ribbon) . She would perform for a total of 9 times at the festival . In that same year she also performed in Finland .

Following the success of her single " Hajimete No Dekigoto " , the song " Hitori Aruki " (Walking Alone) (which was the theme song for her first ever movie production " Spoon Ippai No Shiawase " (Spoonful of Happiness) was released in March 1975 and peaked at number 4 , grossing over 350 @,@ 000 copies . She was the best selling Japanese female musical artist of 1975 , and 4th best selling of 1976 . In the summer of 1975 the single " Juushichi No Natsu " (Seventeen Summers) was released , and became her second best selling single ; grossing over 404 @,@ 000 copies and peaking at number 2 on the Oricon charts . At the 17th edition of the Japan Record Awards " Juushichi No Natsu " won her the award for most popular artist voted by the public . In the fall of the same year she was awarded at the 6th edition of the Japan Music Awards for her single " Tenshi No Kuchibiru " (Lips of an Angel) , which sold over 281 @,@ 000 copies and peaked at number 4 on the charts .

After scoring a string of hits in 1976 and 1977 (most notably " Natsu Ni Giyojin " (Beware of the Summer) which sold 360 @,@ 000 copies , " Ki Ga Tsuite Yo " (I Noticed) which sold 286 @,@ 000 copies and " Kimagure Venus " (Whimsical Venus) which sold 210 @,@ 000 copies) she was again awarded at the 20th edition of the Japan Record Awards for her single " Shiawase Shibai " (Pretending to be Happy) which sold over 366 @,@ 000 copies and peaked at number 3 on the charts (penned by Miyuki Nakajima) with a gold medal . She would score her last top 10 hit single in the summer of 1978 with the disco inspired single " Lipstick " , and would release her last single and album in 1983 .

Several of her singles have also been featured on the Japanese music show " The Best Ten " , which aired from 1978 up to 1989 . These include " Shiawase Shibai " (peaking at no . 3) , " Oi

Kakete Yokohama " (peaking at no . 10) , " Lipstick " (peaking at no . 8) , " Hatachi Ni Nareba " (peaking at no . 11) , " Fuyu Iro No Machi " (peaking at no . 20) , and " Santa Monica No Kaze " (peaking at no . 17) .

Sakurada 's acting career began in 1973 and lasted through 1993 , with roles in 13 films and many television dramas . She received multiple awards for her acting roles , including the Hochi Film Award , Award of the Japanese Academy , Kinema Junpo Award , and Mainichi Film Concours . In 1991 , her memoir , Gift God Gave Me , was published and the media reported that she had become a " movie heartthrob " .

Sakurada is a member of the Unification Church founded by Sun Myung Moon in Seoul , South Korea in 1954 . According to The Washington Times , which is owned by the Unification Church affiliated News World Communications , Sakurada joined the church in 1977 .

In August 1992 , Sakurada took part in a Blessing ceremony of the Unification Church in Seoul , South Korea along with 10 @, @ 000 other couples representing 131 nations . Her husband is a Japanese businessman who is also a Unification Church member and an official within the church . Sakurada said to journalists that she felt " very happy " to have married a husband selected for her by Moon .

According to The Australian , " Ms Sakurada disappeared from public life soon after the ceremony . " One of Sakurada 's last roles as a star was in the television piece Don 't Call Me Auntie (Obasan Nante Yobanai de) on NHK . According to The Daily Yomiuri , " This was one of Junko Sakurada 's last starring roles before she fell out of favor with the public . Since she took part in the Rev. Moon 's Unification Church mass marriage in Seoul in August , it is said that her commercial contracts have evaporated . " In 1999 a church spokesperson said : " Ms Sakurada is living happily with her husband and three children . She does not want to talk to the press . "

In November 2006 , she released a book titled " Aisuru Jun Van Deta " .

= = Works = =

= = = Music = = =

Watashi No Aoi Tori (1973) , winner of the newcomer 's prize at the Japan Record Awards

Hana Monogatari (1973) , rose to the Oricon best ten

Hajimete no Dekigoto (1975) , reached Oricon # 1

Natsu Ni Goy?jin (1976) , prizewinning performance

Kimagure Venus (1977) , nominated for a Japan Record Award

Shiawase Shibai (1977) , gold medal at Japan Record Awards

Lipstick (1978)

Santa Monica No Kaze (1979) , won Producers ' Association award at Japan Song Awards

Kesh? (1981)

K?haku Uta Gassen

Kiiroi Ribbon (??????) (1974)

Hajimete no Dekigoto (????????) (1975)

Natsu ni go Y?jin (?????) (1976)

Kimagure Venus (?????????) (1977)

Shiawase Shibai (?????) (1978)

Santa Monica no Kaze (?????????) (1979)

Utsukushii Natsu (????) (1980)

This is a " Boogie " (1981)

S?r?fuku to Kikanj? (????????? , Sailor Suit and Machine Gun) (1982)

Charted Singles

Studio albums

Live Albums

Greatest Hits Releases

== Film ==

Spoon Ippai no Shiawase (????????? , Spoonful of Happiness) (Shochiku , 1975)
Otoko wa Tsurai yo Katsushika Risshihen (?????? ?????) (Toho , 1975)
Hana no K? ni Torio - Hatsukoi Jidai (???????? ? ?????) (Shochiku , 1975)
Isho - Shiroi Sh?jo (?? ? ?????) (Shochiku , 1976)
Wakai Hito (??? , Youth) (Toho , 1976)
Aij? no Sekkei (????? , Love 's Plans) (Shochiku , 1977)
Ai no Arashi no Naka de (?????? , In the Storm of Love) (Toho , 1978)
By?inzaka no Kubikukuri no Ie (?????????) (Toho , 1979)
D?ran (?? , Turbulence) (Toei , 1980)
Itazu (???) (Toei , 1987)
Umi e see you (?? see you , Across the Sea to See You) (Toho , 1988)
Zennin no J?ken (????? , Good Person 's Terms) (Shochiku , 1989)
Hana no Furu Gogo (?????? , Afternoon of Falling Flowers) (Toho , 1989)
Aurora no Shita de (?????? , Beneath the Aurora) (Toei , 1990)
Shiroi Te (??? , White Hand) (Toho , 1990)
Mandara - Wakai Hi no K?b?daishi (??? ????????? , Mandala - K?b? @-@ Daishi 's Youth) (Toho @-@ Towa , 1991)
Ohikkoshi (??? , Moving) (Kadokawa Pictures , 1993)

== Television ==

Dokkoi Taisaku (?????) (TV Asahi , 1973)
Tentsukuten (?????) (Nippon Television , 1974)
Wakai ! Sensei (?? ! ?? , Young ! Teacher) (TBS , 1974)
Tonari no Tonari (????? , Near to Nearby) (Nippon Television , 1974 ? 1975)
Akogare Ky?d? Tai (????? , Aspiring Collaboration Party) (TBS , 1975)
Edo Professional - Hissatsu Sh?bainin (???????????? ? ????? , Edo Professional - Expert Assassin) opening narrator (ABC (of Asahi) and Shochiku , 1978)
Kataguruma (?????) (Nippon Television , 1978)
Ai no Ky?iku (??? , Education in Love) (TBS , 1980)
Tamanegi Muitara ... (?????? ? , Peeling the Onion ...) (TBS , 1981)
Machi : Wakamono @-@ tachi wa Ima (? ? ????? , Town : Young People , Now) (NHK , 1982)
Hara Peko D?shi (????? , Hara Peko Comrade) (TBS , 1982)
Mito K?mon (??? , Mito K?mon) (TBS and C.A.L , 1982)
Gekai Kido Sh?hei (??? ???? , Surgeon Sh?hei Kido) (TBS , 1983)
?oku (?? , ?oku) (KTV , 1984)
25 @-@ sai @-@ tachi : Ayaui Yokan (25??? ? ????? , We 're 25 : Uncertain Premonition) } (NTV , 1984)
Yurusenai Kekkon (????? , Disallowed Marriage) (TBS , 1985)
Kisetsu Hazure no Shinkir? (????????? , Season 's End Mirage) (NHK , 1985)
Miotsukushi (???) (NHK morning drama , 1985)
Suiy?bi Drama Special (????????? , Wednesday Drama Special) (TBS Telepack , 1986)
Dokuganry? Masamune (?????) as Princess Mego , wife of Masamune (NHK Taiga drama , 1987)
New York Koi Monogatari (????????? , New York Love Story) (CX , 1988)
Ikenaka Genta 80 @-@ kiro (?????80?? , Genta Ikenana , 80km) (NTV , 1989)
Yonimo Kimy? na Monogatari (????????? , Strange Tales of the World) (CX , 1990)
Otoko to Onna no Mystery (????????? , The Mystery of Man and Woman) (CX , 1991)
Yonimo Kimy? na Monogatari (????????? , Strange Tales of the World) - 8 hours 50 minutes (CX , 1991)

Kay? Mystery Gekij? (????????? , Tuesday Mystery Theatre) ? ANB , 1991 ?

Izakaya Ch?chi (?????) (CX , 1992)

Waratte itomo ! (??????? ! , It 's Okay to Laugh !) (four appearances)

= = Awards and nominations = =