



国際演劇年鑑 2023

Theatre Yearbook 2023

Theatre in Japan

日本の舞台芸術を知る

NOH and KYOGEN – KABUKI – BUNRAKU – MUSICALS – CONTEMPORARY
THEATRE – CHILDREN'S and YOUTH THEATRE – JAPANESE CLASSICAL
DANCE – BALLET – CONTEMPORARY DANCE and BUTOH – TELEVISION DRAMAS

公益社団法人 国際演劇協会日本センター
ITI / UNESCO



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Foreword

The Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute is a public interest incorporated foundation and belongs to the international network of National Centres and professional organizations in approximately eighty countries and regions that constitutes the International Theatre Institute (ITI), which is a non-governmental organization under the umbrella of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The preamble of the UNESCO Constitution begins with the famous phrase “since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed.” Article 3 of the standing rules of the Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute stipulates that the purpose of the Centre is “to contribute to the development of culture and realization of peace in Japan by deepening mutual understanding and facilitating the creation and exchange of theatre and dance based upon the purpose of the UNESCO Constitution.”

The Japanese Centre has published the *Theatre Yearbook* since 1972. Starting from 1997, it has been published in two parts: “Theatre in Japan” (English version) for readers outside Japan and “Theatre Abroad” (Japanese version) for domestic readers. The yearbook has been published online since 2014.

Also funded by this program, we have staged readings every year since 2009 to introduce remarkable plays from around the world as part of our research activities to promote international theatrical exchange. In 2022, we continued the “Theatre Born in Conflict Zones” series for the fourteenth consecutive year, this time featuring a play by a Ukrainian author. Unfortunately, as members of the team caught COVID-19, the reading had to be canceled, but the script will be published in Japanese translation for the first time at the same time this yearbook is published.

Although we are still seeing waves of infection in this, the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, signs that the world is moving toward recovery are also apparent. On the other hand, Russia’s onslaught against Ukraine continues and chaos reigns across the globe, against the backdrop of new movements emerging in the countries referred to as the Global South.

I believe this last year has been one in which members of the theatre community have asked themselves a fundamental question: what can the performing arts do in the unstable times of the 21st century? This year’s *Theatre Yearbook* features many contributions demonstrating the ways in which members of the global theatre community have explored this question.

Thus the publication of the *Theatre Yearbook* has laid a firm foundation for activities that seek to gain knowledge of the relationship between Japan and the world, to deepen mutual understanding by positioning Japan within the global network, and to realize cultural development and peace.

We look forward to your continued support and cooperation with the activities of the Japanese Centre of ITI in the years to come.

March 27, 2023

In commemoration of World Theatre Day

Nagai Taeko
President

Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute

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«Editors' Notes»

- The articles in this publication report on the performing arts in Japan from the previous calendar year.
- Names are presented in the respective style of their country/region of origin. For Japanese names, the order is family name, followed by given name. The names in the contributor profiles are presented with a comma and in the following order (except for individuals with only one name): family name, given name.
- Titles for traditional Japanese performing arts (Noh, kyogen, kabuki, bunraku, Japanese classical dance, etc.) are presented in the following order: *Japanese title (English Title)*.
- Other titles of works are presented in the following order: *English Title (Japanese title)*.
- The English play titles, theatre venue names, and other formal names are the official ones or, when no official English name is available, newly translated for this publication.

舞臺芸術
日本
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**Shots from the Performing Arts in Japan
in 2022**

Noh and Kyogen



Special Project Performance [Rediscover Noh and Kyogen] Kyogen **Hakamasaki** (*A Hakama Pair Becomes Two*) Okutsu Kenichiro, Nomura Matasaburo, Okutsu Kentaro (from L to R) Photo provided by National Noh Theater



Special Program of Noh Performance [Rediscover Noh] **Kamo Monogurui** (*The Madwoman of Kamo*) Kanze Kiyokazu Photo provided by National Noh Theater



"All-Japan Noh Caravan!" in Toyota **Hanaikusa** (*The Battle of Flowers*) Photo: Harada Shinji



Revival Noh Viewing Program **Awade-no-mori** (*The Labyrinthine Forest*) Daughter: Kato Shingo, Monk: Komuro Tomoya, Merchant (father): Yasuda Noboru Photo: Shingu Yumi

Noh and Kyogen



Yokohama Noh Theater The 2nd "Three Old Women" Program **Higaki - Ranbyoshi** Otsuki Bunzo
Photo: Ogata Misako, provided by Yokohama Noh Theater



Theatre Noh performance in Tokyo
Dojoji - Hyoshi-nashi no kuzushi Mikata Shizuka
 Photo: Maejima Yoshihiro



Shibuya Noh 2nd night **Nonomiya**
 Uzawa Hikaru Photo: Ishida Hiroshi



Ancestor Festival: The 300th Anniversary of the Birth of Nomura Manzo | Kyogen Furu **Chichi-no-jo furyu yorozu-no-shiki**
 Photo: Akasaka Kumi

Kabuki

Sukeroku yukari no edozakura
(*Sukeroku: Flower of Edo*)
Ichikawa Danjuro Hakuen ©Shochiku



Yoshitsune senbonzakura,
Kawatsura Hogen yakata
(*Yoshitsune and the Thousand Cherry Trees,*
The Mansion of the Priest Kawatsura)

Onoe Kikugoro

Photo courtesy of the National Theatre





Yoshitsune senbonzakura, Tokaiya
(Yoshitsune and the Thousand Cherry Trees, act 2)
 Kataoka Nizaemon ©Shochiku



Furu amerika ni sode wa nurasaji
(The Rains of America Will Never Dampen My Sleeves)
 Bando Tamasaburo ©Shochiku

Kabuki



Tōryū Oguri Hangan (The Modern Story of Oguri Hangan) Ichikawa Ennosuke (L) and Ichikawa Emiya (R) ©Shochiku



Yoshitsune senbonzakura, Kawatsura Hogen yakata (Yoshitsune and the Thousand Cherry Trees, The Mansion of the Priest Kawatsura) Onoe Kikunosuke Photo courtesy of the National Theatre

Bunraku



Musume Kagekiyo Yashima nikki (The Blind Kagekiyo in Exile) Takemoto Chitosedayu (L) and Toyozawa Tomisuke (R)
Photo provided by National Bunraku Theatre



Hana no Ueno homare no ishibumi (The Self-Sacrifice of Otsuji) Toyotake Rodayu (L) and Tsuruzawa Seisuke (R)
Photo provided by National Bunraku Theatre

Bunraku



Genpei nunobiki no taki (The Nunobiki Waterfall) Takemoto Shikorodayu (L) and Tsuruzawa Tozo (R)
Photo provided by National Bunraku Theatre



Kanjincho (The Subscription List) Yoshida Tamasuke, Kiritake Kansuke, Yoshida Tamaka (from L to R)
Photo provided by National Bunraku Theatre



Morimura Kiritake Ningen (Human) Joruri Project ***Shin kyoekitan (New Strange Tale of a Mirror Reflection)*** Morimura Yasumasa (R) and Kiritake Kanjuro (C) Photo provided by the Executive Committee of Morimura Kiritake Ningen Joruri Project ©Fukunaga Kazuo



Bunraku muso keishoden (Bunraku Dreams: A Tale of Succession) ***Ninin Sanbaso (Two Sanbasos)*** Yoshida Tamanobu, Yoshida Minohisa, Yoshida Tamaka (behind the fan), Yoshida Tamayuki, Yoshida Tamao (from L to R) ©Katsura Hideya

Musicals



Hairspray Toho Co., Ltd. Photo provided by Toho Theatrical Division



The Boy and the Beast Shiki Theatre Company Photo: Abe Akihito



Guys and Dolls Toho Co., Ltd. Photo provided by Toho Theatrical Division

Musicals



Before the Flood It's Follies Photo: Iwata Eri



Tokyo Love Story HoriPro Inc. Photo: Tanaka Aki

Contemporary Theatre



hana—1970, The Day Koza Burned HoriPro Inc. Photo: Miyagawa Maiko, provided by HoriPro Stage



Waiting at Rycom Kanagawa Performing Arts Theatre (KAAT) Photo: Hikiji Nobuhiko

Contemporary Theatre



Katabui, 1972 Theatre Office Natori and ACO Okinawa Photo: Sakauchi Futoshi



May 35th P-Company Photo provided by P-Company



Tales of Poverty Komatsuza Photo: Miyagawa Maiko



Leopoldstadt New National Theatre, Tokyo Photo: Miyagawa Maiko

Contemporary Theatre



The Ghost Is Here Parco Stage Photo: Miyagawa Maiko, provided by Parco Theater



The dodo falls Takumi Theater Company Photo: Okamoto Naobumi

Spirited Away Toho Co., Ltd.
Photo provided by Toho Theatrical Division



Harry Potter and the Cursed Child TBS and HoriPro Inc. Photo: Miyagawa Maiko, provided by TBS and HoriPro Inc.

Children's and Youth Theatre



La feuille les feuilles La Strada Company, at Kitakata 21st Century Theatre 2022 Photo provided by La Strada Company



The Twin Stars: Chunse and Pose's Big Adventure in the Sky (Futago no hoshi Chunse to Pouse no daiboken)
Studio Polano, at the 50th Summer Holiday Children's and Youth Theatre Festival Photo: Studio Polano

Uncle and the Big Tree

Theatre Company Nanja Monja,
at the 2022 Great Exhibition of
Performing Arts with Children in Kofu
Photo provided by Theatre Company Nanja Monja



Rudolf the Black Cat Gekidan Tanpopo, at Kids Circuit in Saku 2022 Photo provided by Kids Circuit in Saku

Children's and Youth Theatre



Eleven Hungry Cats La Clarté Puppet Troupe, at the 29th Children's Theatre Festival in Kishiwada
Photo provided by La Clarté Puppet Troupe



Beauty and the Beast Theatrical Group EN Photo: Morita Kozo

Japanese Classical Dance



Shotaro no Kai
Aya no Tsuzumi (The Damask Drum)
Hanayagi Shotaro
Photo provided by Hanayagi Shotaro Buyo Kenkyu Jo



Onoe Kikunojo no Kai
Yamata no Orochi
Onoe Kikunojo
Photo: Kato Takashi

Japanese Classical Dance



Maki no Kai **Kurokami** (**Black Hair**) Shida Maki Photo: Shingu Yumi, provided by Ryukyu Buyo Choyo School



81st Tamamikai, Gojo Tamami Recital **Orphée** (from L to R) Nakamura Kyozeo (Perséphone),
Gojo Tamami (Orphée) and Fujikage Shizue (Eurydice) Photo: Video Photo Saito

Ballet



Les Misérables Tani Momoko Ballet Photo: Haneda Tetsuya



Fukagawa Hideo version of *Don Quixote* Theatre de Ballet Company Photo: Okamura Masao (Osaka Tes)

Ballet



ASUKA Asami Maki Ballet Photo: Shikama Takashi



25th anniversary of New National Theatre **Giselle** (new version) National Ballet of Japan Photo: Shikama Takashi



La Bayadère Tokyo Ballet Photo: Yoshikawa Koujiro



Cinderella Jinushi Kaoru Ballet Company Photo: Obana Aoi (Office Obana)

Contemporary Dance and Butoh



Starting Over Condors Photo: HARU



What Cagliostro Dreamed in the Castel Sant'Angelo Kasai Akira / Tenshi-kan Photo: bozzo



End Dairakudakan Photo: Kawashima Hiroyuki



Opera **Orpheus and Eurydice** Teshigawara Saburo (production, choreography)
© Hotta Rikimaru / New National Theatre, Tokyo

Contemporary Dance and Butoh



Oni NoismxKodo Photo: Murai Isamu, provided by Niigata City Performing Arts Center Ryutopia



Opera ***Einstein on the Beach*** Hirahara Shintaro (direction, choreography) Photo: Kato Hajime



세월 (Sewol) Kedagoro Photo: Kusamoto Toshie



Good Cow-ken Suichu-megane Photo: Maezawa Hideto

Contemporary Dance and Butoh



I Can/Can't See You From Here Now Kurata Midori (direction, composition),
organized by Daimaruyu SDGs ACT5 Executive Committee, bench Co. Photo: Kato Hajime



Formula Moriyama MiraixNakano NobukoxElla Rothschild Photo: Hirabayashi Takeshi