.D THEATRE JOKA 2023



WORLD THEATRE FESTIVAL SHIZUOKA 29 April – 7 May 2023

at Shizuoka Arts Theater, Shizuoka Performing Arts Park, Sumpu Castel Park and more



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https://festival-shizuoka.jp

SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center

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World Theatre Festival Shizuoka 2023

Organized by SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center Approved by Fujinokuni Arts Festival

Supported by Japan Arts Council and Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan









Revel in 7 days of international arts Golden Week in Shizuoka will glitter with wonderful performances So come to the "Capital of Arts and Culture" for World Theatre Festival Shizuoka 2023

Shizuoka Prefecture has been chosen as the Culture City of East Asia 2023, so this year's longstanding annual World Theatre Festival Shizuoka especially features notable works from China and South Korea.

In addition, the acclaimed French director Olivier Py's remarkable play, "Hamlet in the Imperative!", finally arrives here from the playwright's homeland.

Meanwhile, Shizuoka City's city-center Sumpujo Park is the open-air venue both for MIYAGI Satoshi's masterpiece "The Castle Tower" ("Tenshu Monogatari"), which have been staged in 30 cities worldwide, and also a new work by Worry KINOSHITA, who directed the opening ceremony of the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics.

Altogether, World Theatre Festival Shizuoka 2023 will serve up a weeklong feast of cutting-edge programs from around the world, whether your taste is for radical plays and dance, musical story-telling performance in the Pansori style of Korean folk culture — or street theatre and all kinds of stalls selling food and drinks and much besides.

World Theatre Festival Shizuoka

Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC) will hold its annual World Theatre Festival Shizuoka 2023 from 29 April to 7 May, coinciding as usual with the national Golden Week holiday. In line with its slogan of "Fujinokuni (The Mt. Fuji region) and the world are connected through the performing arts," SPAC will introduce a wide range of cutting-edge theatre programs from Japan and abroad at venues in Shizuoka City and the surrounding, wonderfully scenic area. In addition, this festival also features STRANGE SEED, which is to be held from May 4 to 6 May, comprising a wide range of fringe arts events being held around the city in cooperation with Shizuoka City's major project ON STAGE SHIZUOKA. In a nutshell, SPAC aims to present a joyous and inspiring the festival that remains deeply rooted in its home region of Shizuoka while also connecting to the wider world through theatre.

What is SPAC? Shizuoka Performing Arts Center

SPAC was founded in 1995 by the Shizuoka prefectural government and commenced its full-fledged activities in 1997 under the direction of SUZUKI Tadashi, its first General Artistic Director. As a pioneer of publicly funded performing-arts organizations in Japan, SPAC retains its own staff of actors, technical and production staff, who are based at its own venues and facilities. The mission of SPAC is not only to create original pieces, but also to invite progressive artistic companies and creators to Shizuoka and to develop human resources seeking expression through the performing arts. Since April 2007, when he was appointed as the General Artistic Director, MIYAGI Satoshi has led SPAC in a buoyant new phase of development and expansion.



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MIYAGI Satoshi / General Artistic Director of Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC)

Born in Tokyo in 1959, after studying aesthetics at Tokyo University under ODASHIMA Yushi, WATANABE Moriaki and HIDAKA Hachiro, he founded the KU NA' UKA theatre company in 1990 and soon began staging plays overseas as well as in Japan. As a result, Miyagi's work — in which he often fuses contemporary textual interpretations with physical techniques and patterns of Asian theatre — has long been acclaimed both at home and far beyond. Indeed, in 2004 he received the 3rd Asahi Performing Arts Award, and the next year the 2nd Asahi Beer Art Award. Since taking up his position with SPAC in April 2007, Miyagi has staged many of his own works — including "Medea", the Hindu epic "Mahabharata", and "Peer Gynt" — and has invited artists from abroad to present pieces casting a keen eye on the modern world as they see it. In line with his aim to make theatre "a window to the world," he has also started a new SPAC-based project aimed at the youth of Shizuoka. In 2014, Miyagi was invited to the Festival d'Avignon, where he received excellent reviews for his open-air version of the Hindu epic "Mahabharata" staged in La Carrière de Bourbon. Following that landmark achievement, the festival extended the honor of inviting Miyagi to present a Buddhist interpretation he created of the ancient Greek mythological tragedy "Antigone" as its super-prestigious opening program for 2017. On that occasion, which was the first time an Asian play had ever been selected to launch the festival, Miyagi's exalted "stage" was the open-air Cour d'honneur du Palais des papes (the Honor Court of the Palace of Popes). By the play's end, those towering medieval stone walls were ringing out with long and splendid standing ovations welcoming the work's director and creator along with SPAC's actors and staff — while more than 60 European media all gave great reviews. In 2018, he received the 68th Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Art Encouragement Prize of Drama. Also he recieved "Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" from the Ministry of Culture of France in 2018.



About Culture City of East Asia

The Culture City of East Asia project is based on an agreement reached in 2022 at the 13th Japan-China-ROK Culture Ministers' Meeting to select cities from each of those countries to further the growth of arts and culture and carry out cultural exchange events in the region.

As a result, in 2023 Shizuoka Prefecture was chosen to be a Culture City of East Asia along with Chengdu and Meizhou in China and Jeonju in South Korea. So now, as an internationally designated cultural capital, Shizuoka is set to hold a wide range of events across the prefecture during 2023 — events that will promote the charms of Shizuoka and Japanese culture to the East Asia region and the world.



Introduction video:

https://youtu.be/yYu75wsVJoM

SPAC and SHIZUOKA — the land of Mt, Fuji and Art" https://youtu.be/qclks62hhyk We introduce sightseeing spots in Shizuoka and Nihondaira area besides the video of "Antigone" performed in 2021.







We don't need to blame somebody else!

MIYAGI Satoshi / General Artistic Director of SPAC

History shows that societies accommodating diverse values are likely to be healthier for longer. It's the same as biodiversity being essential to the wellbeing of the Earth. Despite that, why are some people inclined to exclude others in our society who have different values? As I thought about this, I realized that the drive for unified, "exclusive thought" actually stems from a deeply felt lack of self-confidence.

Today, many Japanese have lost their selfesteem as the income per capita in this country has stagnated for 30 years. However, viewed in a global perspective of suffering and hardships in so many places, I wondered what happened to the basic self-confidence of people here. Well, I believe they have got stuck because they can't resolve the fundamental question: "What do I use my life for?"

From the postwar period of high economic growth through the so-called economic bubble of 1985-90, most Japanese probably had the idea of becoming rich through working — exactly as the government led them to believe. But even now, more than 30 years since that bubble burst, little seems to have changed and the idea of people finding their own purpose in life and choosing their own way of living has still not taken root.

This is probably because "the top" didn't decide how we should live, so ordinary people just drifted along with those around them.

For Japanese people to regain their selfconfidence and self-esteem again, I believe they need to decide by themselves what to use their lives for. So if a person finds someone close to them is having a hard time, but still pressing on, that too can be an encouragement to them.

In today's society, this is a role that artists should carry out by fostering the basic realization that everyone can decide in their own way how to use their life, and by spreading that idea to help make this country's civil society more active, diverse — and healthy.



WORLD THEATRE FESTIVAL SHIZUOKA 2023



Programs

Shizuoka Arts Theatre

Einstein's Dream

Japan premiere Theatre | Beijing Direction: MENG Jinghui

29 April at 13:30, 30 April at 13:30 [Duration: 75 min. / In multiple languages with Japanese subtitle]

XXL Leotard & Anna Sui Hand Mirror

Japan premiere Theatre | Ansan Direction: JUN Inchul Playwright: PARK Chan-gyu

3 May at 14:00, 4 May at 13:00 [Duration: 90 min. / In Korean with Japanese subtitles]

Dancing Grandmothers

Japan premiere Dance | Seoul Choreography and artistic direction: AHN Eun-Me

7 May at 14:00/19:00 [Duration: 90 min.]

Shizuoka Performing Arts Park

Hamlet in the imperative!

Japan premiere Theatre | Avignon Translation and direction: Olivier Py Text based on William Shakespeare 29 April at 17:00, 30 April at 17:00 [Duration: 140 min. (without intermission) / In French with Japanese subtitles]

Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori: Munjeonbonpuri

Japan premiere Musical Theatre | Seoul Direction, playwright and musical direction: PARK In-hye 5 May at 12:30, 6 May at 13:00 [Duration: 95 min. (without intermission) / In Korean with Japanese subtitles]

Open-air Performing Arts Festival under Mt. Fuji 2023

The Castle Tower

SPAC Repertoire Theatre | Shizuoka Direction by MIYAGI Satoshi, Written by IZUMI Kyoka, Music by TANAKAWA Hiroko 3-6 May at 18:45 at Momijiyama Garden Square, Sumpujo Park

[Duration: 65 min. / In Japanese with Chinese, Korean and English subtitles]

Strange Seed Shizuoka 2023 / Core Program

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World premiere Theatre · Performance | Shizuoka Direction: Worry KINOSHITA

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4-6 May at 11:00 at Higashi Gomon- Square, Sumpujo Park [Duration: 40 min. / In Japanese]

Strange Seed Shizuoka 2023 / Core Program

Woman with Flower

Japan premiere Vertical Dance | Seoul Direction: AN Euisuk

4-6 May at Mainichi Ezaki Building [Duration: 30 min.]

STRANGE SEED SHIZUOKA 2023

4-6 May at Sumpu Castle Park, Shizuoka City Hall and Aoi Ward Office, and other places in the city



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Japan premiere Theatre | Beijing

Einstein's Dream

29 April at 13:30, 30 April at 13:30

At Shizuoka Arts Theatre

Reserved seating / Duration: 75 min.

In multiple languages with Japanese subtitle

Direction: MENG Jinghui

Pre-performance talk: Starting 25 minutes before each performance

Special Talk "Viewpoint of Asian Directors": 30 April, 10:45-11:45



Urged by a lovely singing voice "Go to sleep now," they dozed off and fell in love while inspired by lofty worlds — and danced!

"Einstein's Dream," which has its Japan premier at the festival, is a delightful avant-garde physical-theatre play that uses recorded voices and draws on letters written by the physics genius Albert Einstein, Franz Kafka's novels "The Castle" and "A Country Doctor," and excerpts from works by the Italian writer Italo Calvino.

Here, Einstein falls in love with a woman playing the violin, and a traveler leading a horse falls in love with a doctor's assistant; while Kafka is drunk and lost in memories of his lover, who has been given too much coffee and is trapped by the singing of her family ...

Staged with trailblazing creativity by Chinese director MENG Jinghui, this experimental work uses diverse artistic styles including installations and video as it travels around its characters' dream worlds. The stage is a splendid harmony of humorous, exciting drama with a bit of satire. Together with its dance, visual images and music, "Einstein's Dream" is sure to make its audiences very happy in their time and space.

MENG Jinghui

A theatre director. His theatre creations extract the reality entanglement, emotional confusion, and human dilemma in ordinary life through different perspectives. His creations include expression-istic ego involvement, new objectivity's sober rumination, the wanderings in the aesthetic of an absurdist. He has a unique style, and revolutionized contemporary theater by sending a torrent of diverse new voices onto the stage. His idiosyncratic and diverse artistic style have developed into a cultural phenomenon.

His notable stage productions include: Rhinoceros in Love, Opinions about Life from Two Dogs, Teahouse, To Live, Red and Black, The Seventh Day, Linchuan Four Dreams, Amber, The Murder of Hanging Garden, Soft, A Letter From A Woman Unknown, Bonjour Tristesse, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, He Had Two Pistols with Black and White Eyes, The Bedbug, The Good Person of Si-chuan, Guns Lies and Roses, I Love XXX, Newest Concept of the End-result of Love, Mermaid in the Backwater.

Wrote Meng Jinghui's Avant-Garde Drama and New Avant-Garde Archive.

Meng Jinghui's works has presented in many international art festivals, also toured in Germany, the United States, Japan, France, the United Kingdoms, Italy, Spain, Australia, Brazil, Egypt and so on.

In recent years, Meng founded and served as the artistic director of the Beijing International Fringe Festival, Wuzhen Festival, Hangzhou International Theatre Festival, Aranya Theater Festi-val, Shenzhen Contemporary Theatre Biennale, and other major theatre festivals.

Production: North Park Theatre, MENG Theatre Studio Under the auspices of Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan







© Meng Theatre



D THEATRE OKA 2023



Japan premiere Theatre | Ansan

XXL Leotard & Anna Sui Hand Mirror

3 May at 14:00, 4 May at 13:00

At Shizuoka Arts Theatre

Reserved seating / Duration: 90 min. In Korean with Japanese subtitles

Direction: JUN Inchul

Playwright: PARK Chan-gyu

Pre-performance talk: Starting 25 minutes before each performance

Post-performance talk by the artists: 3 May

Special Talk "Viewpoint of Asian Directors": 30 April, 10:45-11:45



They hide their individuality in their school uniforms.

This South Korean contemporary play depicts high-school students' small, but great, stands against conformity.

Jun-Ho, whose university entrance exam is imminent, feels happy when he wears a leotard. But he can't tell that to anyone. His mother is always worrying about what other people think, and his girlfriend Min-Ji always expects him to be her ideal boyfriend.

Then one day, a picture of a boy in a leotard spreads online and he's afraid he will be shunned by other students if they realize it's him.

Since the sinking of the ferry Sewol in 2014, there has been a lot of focus on the young people in South Korea. This play was created in cooperation with Ansan City, where that tragedy's student victims lived, and it has been staged again and again since it premiered in 2015. Along the way it has also added other social issues such as the MeToo movement, LGBTQ, and contemporary views on today's South Korea undergoing rapid change due to the pandemic. Though it is about high-school students in that highly competitive society, this play that was a hit in London in 2022 could give people anywhere the courage to be themselves.

JUN Inchul

JUN Inchul is recognized with his signature style of detailed portraits of Korean social contextsand unconventional construction of spaces in his plays. He founded Theatre Company Dolpagu with his colleagues in 2015 and has been focusing on topics of 'class', 'youth' and 'gender'. With its statement 'We are All Connected', Dolpagu is connecting 'generation', 'places' and 'actors' through its plays.

Recently Dolpagu majorly develop works on SF genre and by Korean new playwrights. It has been working on adapting SF novels on 'science', 'space' and 'ageing' into plays and produced 'Space Theatre' series in collaboration with Science Contents Group GALDA. The company also actively collaborate with rising Korean playwrights and produced 'Today's Play' series with Sinchon Arts Space.

Production: Theatre Company Dolpagu



Under the auspices of Korean Cultural Center, Korean Embassy in Japan













.D THEATRE UOKA 2023



Japan premiere Dance | Seoul

Dancing Grandmothers

7 May at 14:00 / 19:00

At Shizuoka Arts Theatre

Reserved seating / Duration: 90 min.

Choreography and artistic direction: AHN Eun-Me

Pre-performance talk: Starting 25 minutes before each performance



Good fortune attends a lively dance! Shizuoka Arts Theatre will be a splendid ballroom for grandmas!!

Take a mix of flowery patterns, stripes and polka dots. Conjure together the modern urban world, Korea's countryside and folklore. Then add electro, movement and video, youngsters and oldies, and serve it all up on a giant dancefloor. Surely the result is a kind of a magic potion like nothing seen before; one with the power to turn heads and rouse the spirits.

France discovered Korean choreographer AHN Eun-Me, aka "the Pina Bausch from Seoul," in 2013 through her pop epic "Princesse Bari."

Then the following year she was invited back by Festival Paris Quartier d'Eté to present "Dancing Grandmothers" at the Théâtre National de la Colline. This time, too, she again wowed her audiences as she turned the prestigious venue into a giant ballroom with this no less crazy show based on the indestructible energy of Korean grandmothers that puts her company's young dancers in the spotlight of a journey through time and movement that turns into a collective trance.

AHN Eun-Me

Ah, the famous custard pie that is the confrontation ""between tradition and modernity""... How many creators have struggled to find the way to describe what is finally the lot of every artist: one the one hand to know, understand, integrate what the ancients did; on the other to forgot them, overcome them and hope to find something new. Quite a vast program...

On this level, AHN Eun-Me has found new, unexpected and exciting ways. This first comes from her itinerary, marked as much by the learning and exploration of shamanistic tradition as by the many years spent in New York or a profound friendship with the missed Pina Bausch (who invited her many times in Wuppertal). Korean and cosmopolitan, figure of the avant-garde but also choreographer of the very official 2002 FIFA World Cup opening ceremony in Daegu and presented in the most important international festivals, she knows how to improve the beauties of contrast, mow polka dots, stripes and flower, how to play with the most pop colors before switching to the most solemn austerity, how to play with the most subtle shades of androgyny or une slowness to make trance rhythm burst...

Educated at the school of rigor, precise, demanding and of a all Korean discipline, AHN Eun-Me is also a daredevil performer, ready for all kind of piracies. One have seen her jump from the top of a crane to attack a piano with axe and scissors, rip off herself her fairy dress made of white ties to distribute the pieces to the audience while performing a teddybear dance, bury herself with a clown costumes under a rain of baloons, locked up behind bars in a duet with a chicken, or dressed up as a mushroom... But one would be wrong thinking it is provocation. It is rather the affirmation of a curiosity and a freedom held by work and style pushed to their most unexpected limits.

















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Japan premiere Theatre | Avignon

Hamlet in the imperative!

29 April at 17:00, 30 April at 17:00

Open Air Theatre "UDO", Shizuoka Performing Arts Park Non-reserved seating / Duration: 140 min. (without intermission) In French with Japanese subtitles

Text based on William Shakespeare Translation and direction: Olivier Py

©Pre-performance talk: Starting 25 minutes before each performance



Enter this unparalleled adventure exploring Hamlet's fate and witness a "miracle" created by the dramatic poet, Olivier Py.

"Hamlet" is a great tragedy play by William Shakespeare that has long captivated millions of theatre lovers. Here, the leading French playwright and director Olivier Py has adapted and directed this classic as a citizens' participation program that he premiered to great acclaim at the Avignon Festival in the South of France in 2021. Performed as a reading performance by actors, members of the public and students from acting schools, that production comprised 10 different works in which Py separately focused on various philosophical themes from Shakespeare's play, such as "good and evil"; "the ego"; and "time." In addition, Py has also created an 11th episode — a compilation of those 10 works titled "Hamlet in the Imperative" — which will be performed in Shizuoka this time.

Py believes that the power of words can change the world. So this new drama was born, and poems poured out, once the playwright introduced Hamlet — who had pursued revenge with little thought — to great Western thinkers and entered into discussions with them.

On stage, the Kaleidoscopic company's four actors and musicians will invite audiences into an exciting and challenging world. So please expect to see something rather special when you hear the famous line "To be, or not to be" in SPAC's open-air site.



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Olivier Py

Born in Grasse in 1965, Olivier Py came to Paris after secondary school. After a year of khâgne at the lycée Fénelon, he joined the Conservatoire national supérieur d'art dramatique in 1987 while also studying theology. The next year, he wrote his first play, Des Oranges et des Ongles (Of Oranges and Nails), and founded the company L'inconvénient des boutures. In 1995, he made his mark on the Festival d'Avignon with his direction of his text The Servant, a cycle of plays lasting twenty-four hours.

In 1997, he became director of the Centre dramatique national d'Orléans, which he left in 2007 for the Odéon-Théâtre de l'Europe. In 2013, he became the first theatre director to be named director of the Festival d'Avignon since Jean Vilar.

A director for the theatre, the opera, and the cinema, but also an actor and poet, Oliver Py is a prolific author. As a politically-minded artist, he has directed many plays at the heart of which lies the political word, like Aeschylus's Seven Against Thebes, The Suppliants, and The Persians, William Shakespeare's King Lear, as well as personal texts like Les Vainqueurs (The Victors), Orlando, or the Impatience, or Die Sonne for the Volksbühne. Every since Le Cahier noir (The Black Notebook), a first novel written when he was seventeen and published in 2015, he has written many texts in many different genres: plays, children's fiction, essays, introductions, translations, screenplays, etc.

In 2017 he adapted one of his novels for the stage for the second time after Excelsior (Hacia la alegria) with The Parisians; he also showed the audience of the Festival d'Avignon a little-known aspect of his work with Hamlet and Antigone, two plays performed by inmates from the Avignon-Le Pontet prison in which he has led a drama workshop for over five years.

In 2018, he wrote and directed Pure Present, a tragic and contemporary trilogy which, for the first time in his career, directly tackled the question of the world of finance and of the dehumanisation of markets. As a follow-up, he started writing an operetta based on a fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm, a show aimed at children telling them to believe in their desires.

Love Triumphant will be performed at the 73rd edition of the Festival d'Avignon with very little technical means, a theatre at once uncompromising and full of lyricism and hope. Regardless of the place, regardless of the stage, Olivier Py regularly speaks about cultural policy in France and throughout the world, against the rise of extremism and the restriction of liberties, and for greater social justice as well as a renewed sense of hospitality.

In 2021, the Hamlet in the Imperative! adventure fulfills two of Olivier Py's dreams: to stage a free outdoors dramatic series in the garden of the bibliothèque Ceccano, with both amateur and professional actors; and to present a radically new reading of the ""Hamlet continent"".

In 2022, for his last creation as artist-director of the Festival d'Avignon, Olivier Py returns to the epic. My exalted youth serves as a mirror to La Servante which, in 1995, marked the beginning of his adventure with this exceptional institution. Lasting over 10 hours, My exalted youth is a show of trust in the audience of the Festival, always ready to experience great epics. Since February 2023, Olivier Py is director of the Théâtre Châtelet in Paris.

Production: Festival d'Avignon

Show created in July 2021 as part of the 75th Avignon Festival



Japan premiere

Musical Theatre | Seoul

Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori: Munjeonbonpuri

5 May at 12:30, 6 May at 13:00

Ellipse Theatre "DAENDO", Shizuoka Performing Arts Park Non-reserved seating / Duration: 95 min. (without intermission) In Korean with Japanese subtitles

Direction, playwright and musical direction: PARK In-hye Dramaturg: LEE Kyeong-hwa

Pre-performance talk: Starting 25 minutes before each performance





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A Jeju Island myth comes alive as a family's dreams and divisions are revealed through the musical storytelling of South Korea's emotional Pansori folk tradition.

"Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori: Munjeonbonpuri," which features a Pansori-style vocalist and a drummer, is based on shamanistic beliefs about the roles of traditional Korean household spirits, including Munjeonsin (gate gods) and Toshin (land gods).

The myth deals with the conflict between a wife and a concubine, and a weak father's role in family relationships. It ends with its main character, the youngest son, Nokdisaengin, saving his dead mother and going on to be her Jowangsin (kitchen god).

However, although the logs and pillars of traditional Jeju Island house gates appear in the sets, "Munjeonbonpuri" refreshes the myth by updating the characters of both the father, Nam Seonbi, and the villain, Noiljeodae — and by adding a new strand in which the mother revives and solves the family's problems.

So, while showing how this family overcomes poor communication between its members, the production examines each one's role and highlights both the father's and mother's characters as they evolve.

PARK In-hye

PARK In-hye is the master of Pansori, a National Intangible Cultural Heritage No.5.

Her main works include "Pilgeyongsa Bartleby", "Pansori Othello", musical "Aranga", changgeuk "Beauty and the Beast", "Gunjung Yeonhwa", drama "Gumiho Recipe" and "Yeokjeok". "Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori: Munjeonbonpuri" is the first production of Park In-hye, who has worked as an actor, writer and a music director and held recitals at the Doosan Arts Center in March 2021. The production was selected as the best work of 'Next Wave,' a creative music performance showcase for the Uijeongbu Music Theater Festival in May 2021.

2011-2012 Selected as the Next Generation Artist (AYAF) of the Korean Culture and Arts Committee

2012 The Forest of Anyksciai won Lithuania International Theater Festival's Grand Prix

2013 Monthly magazine Auditorium selected 'Young artist to lead the next generation'

2014 Won Forest Cultural Foundation's Forest Culture Award

2018 Pilgyeongsa Bartleby won E-Daily Culture Awards' Best Korean Traditional Music Award

Lectures and demonstrations on traditional Pansori

Pansori is a traditional Korean music and play (monodrama) in which one singer performs with one Buk player. It presents the original version of Pansori, which is loved the most among traditional Korean art. If you participate in the workshop after watching "Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori", you will be able to understand Pansori more deeply.

Date&time: 7 May, 10:30-12:00

Venue: Ellipse Teatre "DAENDO", Shizuoka Performing Arts Park

Fee: ¥1,000 (Reservation required, up to 20 people)

Production: Pansori Azit Nohlaebox

Supported by Uijeongbu Cultural Foundation, Korea Arts Management Service Under the auspices of Korean Cultural Center, Korean Embassy in Japan













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Open-air Performing Arts Festival Shizuoka

Organized by the Committee of the Open-air Performing Arts Festival under Mt. Fuji, Shizuoka Prefecture



During the Open-air Performing Arts Festival under Mt. Fuji people can encounter arts of all sorts in squares, parks, streets and other everyday places. Held every year since 2013, the open-air festival includes events in Shizuoka City's central Sumpjo Park, the Marine Park in Shimizu-ku, and in the cities of Fujinomiya, Hamamatsu, Izunokuni, Mishima, Fujieda, Kakegawa, Fukuroi, Gotenba and Ito.

Presented at open-air venues, it features site-specific performances by Japanese and foreign artists. Since 2016, when the World Theatre Festival Shizuoka and the Openair Performing Arts Festival under Mt. Fuji have been staged together, more than 2,000 visitors from all over Japan have enjoyed this open-air events in this fresh season of renewed growth.

As a part of Shizuoka City promoting the On Stage Shizuoka projects, SPAC's streettheatre festival STRANGE SEED SHIZUOKA, which has run during Golden Week since 2016, will be held again this year — once more featuring three different programs: the Official Program, Core Program and Open Call Program.

SPAC Repertoire Theatre | Shizuoka

The Castle Tower

3-6 May at 18:45

at Momijiyama Garden Square, Sumpujo Park

Reserved seating / Duration: 65 min.

In Japanese with Chinese, Korean and English subtitles

Direction by MIYAGI Satoshi Written by IZUMI Kyoka Music by TANAKAWA Hiroko



Performed by SPAC / Micari, ABE Kazunori, OOTAKA Kouichi, HONDA Maki

ISHII Moemi, KIUCHI Kotoko, KIJIMA Tsuyoshi, SAKAKIBARA Yuumi SAKURAUCHI Yu, DAIDOMUMON Yuya, TATENO Momoyo, TERAUCHI Ayako

NAGAI Kenji, YAMAMOTO Miyuki, YOSHIUE Soichiro, YOSHIMI Ryo

Costume Designer: TAKAHASHI Kayo

Lighting Designer: OSAKO Koji Prop Design: FUKASAWA Eri Original Set Design: KIZ Junpei

Special Talk "Viewpoint of Asian Directors": 30 April, 10:45-11:45

Production: SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center



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Once upon a time, there were spiritual demons living on the fifth floor of the White Heron (Shirasagi) Castle Tower at the heart of this tale of true love between Tomihime, an ethereal and beautiful princess, and a young samurai named Zushonosuke. Now, though, you can watch all this come dreamily alive in Sumpujo Castle's destroyed tower as this beautiful performance blends the strange fantasy world of playwright IZUMI Kyoka and live percussion played by the actors.

"The Castle Tower" ("Tenshu Monogatari") directed by MIYAGI Satoshi had its world premiere at the open-air theatre in Toga, Toyama Prefecture, in 1996. Since then this production — now one of Miyagi's signature works has been widely staged around Japan as well as in more than 30 cities in India, Pakistan, China, Egypt, South Korea, the USA, France and Taiwan.

Miyagi, who is now SPAC's general artistic director, has created numerous contemporary plays drawing on traditional Asian theatre elements, and "The Castle Tower" has many such influences. In addition, it features cast members playing music on stage; the use of the logos and pathos (speaking and moving) method; and roles being played by two actors.

Story

Set in the Warring States period of 15th- and 16th-century Japan, the drama has spirit beings living on the fifth level of the White Heron (Shirasagi) tower of Himeji Castle, from where it's believed no one entering ever returns. When Kamehime visits her sister Tomihime, the demons' leader, she is given the Lord Takeda Harima no Kami's favorite white hawk as a souvenir. Later, the lord orders a young hawker named Zushonosuke Himekawa to find the bird, and he enters the fifth level prepared to die. However, Tomihime is impressed by his bravery and lets him return to the world of humans. But when he appears empty-handed, the lord is angry and orders him back to the spirit beings' world again ...

World premiere Theatre · Performance | Shizuoka

Strange Seed Shizuoka 2023 / Core Program

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4-6 May at 11:00

at Higashi Gomon- Square, Sumpujo Park

Non-reserved seating / Duration: 40 min.

Playwright, direction, construction, and design: Worry KINOSHITA

Choregraphy, direction and cast:

IIMURO Naoki, KANAI Keisuke, KUROKI Natsumi, TOMITA Masanori

Music: YOSHIDA Takashi

The following are the core programs of STRANGE SEED 2023 organized by its director, Worry KINOSHITA. Among them, various kinds of artists will invite performers from the public and create colorful theatre programs that can be enjoyed together with the audiences.



THEATRE OKA 2023



Japan premiere Vertical Dance | Seoul

Strange Seed Shizuoka 2023 / Core Program

Woman with Flower

4-6 May

at Mainichi Ezaki Building

Non-reserved seating / Duration: 30 min.

Direction: AN Euisuk



Production: Creative Dandi



STRANGE SEED SHIZUOKA 2023

Dates: 4-6 May 11:00-21:00

Venues: Sumpu Castle Park, Shizuoka City Hall and Aoi Ward Office, and other places in the city.

Admission: Free, no reservations required (with some exceptions)

What is Street Theatre?

Imagine a play with actors lying on the grass in a park performing before a backdrop of spring green or a parade of dancers in a shopping street with audiences invited to join. Even sudden raindrops and winds can become stage effects in "Street theatre."

"Strange Seed Shizuoka" started in 2016 as a unique street theatre festival found nowhere else and has been the producer of such situations in the city of Shizuoka. In other words, it is a project to develop new narratives and scenes through the power of performing arts to uncover the inherent charm of the city.

But what is street theatre? In Japan, very few can discuss this still unfamiliar genre.

Festival Director: Worry Kinoshita Illustration: Kotobuki Shiriagari

https://strangeseed.info/





WORLD THEATRE FESTIVAL SHIZUOKA 2023

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FESTIVAL
SHIZUOKA

Events and more

Special Talk "Viewpoint of Asian Directors"

30 April, 10:45-11:45 at Café Cinderella, Shizuoka Arts Theatre

Admission free, reservation required

Panelists:

MENG Jinghui (Director)
JUN Inchul (Director)

MIYAGI Satoshi (Director, General artistic director of SPAC)

MC: NAKAI Miho (Announcer)



5 May, 16:30-17:30 Admission free, no reservation required at Festival garden, Higashi-gomon Square, Sumpujo Park

At an open-air symposium being held in the city-center Sumpujo Park as part of the festival, SPAC's General Artistic Director MIYAGI Satoshi, along with various artists and theatre experts, will hold a discussion about the performing arts in Japan and the world.



MAYUZUMI Madoka (Haiku poet) PARK In-hye (Director, Pansori actor)
Worry KINOSHITA (Director, Playwright, Festival Director of STRANGE SEED SHIZUOKA)
MIYAGI Satoshi (Director, General artistic director of SPAC)

MC: NAKAI Miho (Announcer)

The Mini Museum of World Theatre in Shizuoka THEATRON

10:00-18:00 (No closed days during the festival period)

Admission free, reservation required

In April 2023, we will open in Shizuoka Performing Arts Park.

Mini Museum TEATRON introduces the histories of various theatres around the world in detail.

Try tea-picking in Shizuoka Performing Arts Park!

6 May, 9:30-11:30

at Shizuoka Performing Arts Park

¥700 (under-18s: ¥500), free for under 7s. Reservation required

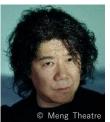
Festival bar (Shizuoka Performing Arts Park)

29-30 April (15:00-21:00)

OFestival garden (Sumpujo Park)

3-6 May (11:45-18:30)

"Festival bar" and "Festival garden" are produced by YUNOKI Yasuhiro (office snood Inc. CEO)























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Tickets

*All ticket prices include consumption tax.

Festival Passport Limited sale Regular: \(\frac{\pman}{20,000}\) \(\text{SPAC Membership: \(\frac{\pman}{2}\) SPAC Membership: \(\frac{\pman}{2}\)

Individual ticket price: ¥4,200

Pair discount: ¥3,700 (per adult, one performance)

Group discount: ¥3,300 (per adult in group of three or more, one performance)

Seniors discount*: ¥3,500 (per adult over 60, one performance) *Please present ID at door

Student discounts University students*: ¥2,000

High school students and under*: ¥1,000 *Please present student ID at door

¥2,900 (for those with a handicap passbook) *Free for One attendant. Please present ID at door. Handicap discount:

**More than one discount cannot be claimed per purchase. Please claim any discount when making a reservation.

"χορός" Seating ticket ¥1,000, ¥850 for SPAC membership discount. *Free for non-seating audiences.

"Over the Crowd-singing of Pansori: Munjeonbonpuri"

Lectures and demonstrations on traditional Pansori ¥1,000 *Excluded from passport

How to Purchase Advance tickets go on sale 25 March at 10:00

Phone reservations from 10:00-18:00 at SPAC ticket center TEL: 054-202-3399

Online reservations can be made at https://festival-shizuoka.jp

Purchase at BOX Office SPAC ticket center (10:00-18:00)

Day Ticket Available at the entrance counter for leftover seats, from one hour prior to each performance.

*Please confirm ticket availability on the day by phone or by visiting Twitter (@_SPAC_)

*Ticket reservations will finish at 18:00 on the day before the performance.

Location of Venues

Shizuoka Arts Theatre/GRANSHIP 2-3-1 Higashishizuoka, Suruga-ku Shizuoka City, Shizuoka

SPAC Tel. (+81)54-203-5730 / Fax (+81)54-203-5732

Shizuoka Performing Arts Park 100-1 Hirasawa, Suruga-ku Shizuoka City

Tel. (+81)54-208-4008 / Fax (+81)54-208-4014

Sumpujo Park 1 Sumpujokoen, Aoi-ku Shizuoka City

More information

https://festival-shizuoka.jp

SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (+81) 54-202-3399

Press release translation: TANAKA Nobuko (www.jstages.com)





