



Monzaemon Chikamatsu (1653-1725) is often called the Shakespeare of Japan. His work - over 130 plays for the Bunraku puppet theater and the live Kabuki stage - form the core of the Japanese stage tradition even today. Ako has translated and adapted three of Chikamatsu's moving double-suicide plays, 'Courier of Hell' 'Double-Suicide at Sonezaki' and 'Love Suicides at Amijima' into one play, 'Courier of Love'.

**AMATERASU ZA**

**Board of Directors:**

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**Thank you to:**



**OTOKO YAMA** **TAN TAKA TAN**  
Minoru's Sake Shop 167 West 23rd Street

**AMATERASU ZA** work-in-progress  
**'Courier of Love'**



**April 1<sup>st</sup>. 2019 7pm**  
**Five Angeles Theater**  
**789 10th Avenue New York, NY 10019.**

## Work-in-progress 'Courier of Love'

By Monzaemon Chikamatsu

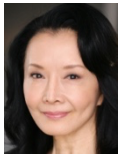
Translated/Adopted by Ako

Directed by Ako & Ron Nakahara

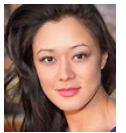
Music by Tsugahana Tsuruzawa



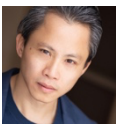
Gidayu Shamisen Player. Graduated from Music department Musashino Music University. Gidayu Society Rookie award, Seiei Club encouragement award and Matsuo Entertainment Rookie award recipient. Playing with National Treasure Ms. Komanosuke Takemoto. Living in Kawasaki city, Japan.



Ako. Oume. Founding Artistic Director, Translator/Adopter, co-director. Ako is a former member of the world-famous Takarazuka Theatre Company in Japan. Selected Plays: GOD SAID THIS, THONE OF BLOOD, JULIUS CAESER, KENTUCKY, SAYONARA, TAMAR OF THE RIVER, TEA HOUSE OF THE AUGUST MOON, TEA and KOKORO. 3 seasons at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. TV/FILM: Snow Falling on Cedars, I Origin, 30 Rock, Mercy. [www.ako-actress.com](http://www.ako-actress.com)



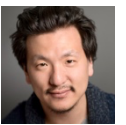
Satomi Blair. Oen. Off Broadway: GOD SAID THIS, KENTUCKY, SHE KILLS MONSTERS, SOLSTICE PARTY, LAND O'FIRE. Regional: GLORIA (Woolly Mammoth, DTC), GOD SAID THIS I NOWPRONOUNCE (ATL). TV: MADAM SECRETARY, THE VILLAGE, RESCUE ME. Founder of 4Hawk Productions. [4hawkproductions.com](http://4hawkproductions.com), [satomiblair.com](http://satomiblair.com)



Dinh James Doan. Myokan/Magoemon. Selected NY credits: *The Emperor's Nightingale*, *Incident at Hidden Temple*, *Film Chinois*, *No-No Boy* (dir. Ron Nakahara), *Dojoji: The Man Inside the Bell*, *Trial By Water*, *The Play's The Thing*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander) and *As You Like It* (Touchstone), *Birdbath*; *Kill Othello* (Iago); *Waiting for Godot* (Lucky); *The Tempest*.



Chris Doi. Chubei/Fisherman. Chris Doi is originally from Honolulu, Hawaii. He has been in numerous Off-Broadway productions, including NO-NO BOY with Pan Asian Rep. He can also be seen in the tv MADAME SECRETARY (CBS), and THE GOOD COP (Netflix). He is thrilled to be working with Amaterasu-za.



Brian Kim. Hachiemon/Bunkichi/Audience Aubergine, The Emperor's Nightingale, Labour of Love, Dinner with Georgette, The Korean Drama Addict's Guide to Losing Your Virginity. The Ordway, NAAP, Prospect Theatre Company, The Guthrie Theatre. FILM/TV: We Be Nurses, The Beach House, Pokemon: Sun and Moon, Last Man, and more. His next project is Lin Bo in CAUGHT at The Guthrie Theatre.



Karen Lee. Stage Direction. Pan Asian Rep: NO-NO BOY, TEA, A DOLL'S HOUSE, Ma-Yi: TRIAL BY WATER, NO FOREIGNERS BEYOND THIS POINT. Elsewhere: GOLDEN CHILD- Seattle Rep, JOY LUCK CLUB-Long Wharf, MACBETH-Shakespeare Theatre. Film:The Lennon Report as Yoko Ono. Film: Rock the Paint, Contours TV:All Law & Orders, House of Cards. Dedicated to Glenn Bruner.



Shio Muramatsu. Tsuke & Ki/Takase /Street Prostitute. Shio Muramatsu is a bilingual actor and MC, who grew up in Tokyo and the U.S. Shio starred in the film "Himitsu" which has screened in several important film festivals including Asian American International Film Festival. She was also the main MC for "Age of Enchantment" at the Symphony Space. She enjoys practicing shamisen in her spare time.



Ron Nakahara. Monzaemon Chikamatsu/co-director. Selected plays: *Man In Snow* (LaMama,) *Ping Pong* (The Public Theatre,) *Ching Chong Chinaman*, *Rashomon* (Pan Asian Repertory Theatre,) *Earth and Sky* (Second Stage.) *Wild Swans* (Young Vic, London, and A.R.T., Boston,) *Snow Falling on Cedars*, *The Merchant of Venice* *Comedy of Errors*, *The Screens*. <http://www.ronnakahara.com>



Taiju Nakane. Drum/Messenger/Kisuke. Taiju graduated from Nihon University College of Art and belonged to "Maimu Pro" talent agency. He appeared in drama, movie and commercial projects in Japan including Taira no Kiyomori (NHK Saga drama), High School Restaurant (NTV), Yowakutemo Katemasu (NTV), short film "A Warm Spell" by NYU.



Toru Eddy Ohno. Jinnai/Retainer. Films/TV, Iron Fist, Gotham, Pan Am, 13, Pistol Whipped, Bashira(2020) Theater: A Midsummer Night's Dream at BAM, Twelves Night at Brooklyn Band Shell, HIROSHIMA(music by Yoko Ono) at TNC, Japanese Kabuki Theater Heisei Nakamuraza's Natsu Matsuri Naniwa Kagami at Lincoln Center. Eddy wrote/directed/produced Tokyo Desert(2017) as the launch of his life project.



Yuuka Taga. Momiji/Tama/Apprentice. New York Native. Graduated from NYU. A member of Julliards' program, Artist Striving to End Poverty. Winner of 2017 Best Performance in NPP Reading at Kennedy Center American Collage Theatre Festival. She recently played the role of Eiko, a love interest of Indya Moore, in a television pilot produced by Oscar winner Gigi Dement. She is a member of Amaterasu Za.



Henry Yuk. Tahei/Ihei. Selection from Henry's work: Theatre: No Foreigners Beyond This, Mom, Dad, I'm Living, The Cherry Orchard, Yellow Fever, Teahouse. Film/TV.The Good Heart, Brooklyn Lobster, KunDun, Radio Days. The Sopranos, Cosby, Law and Order, Saturday Night Live, [www.henryyuk.com](http://www.henryyuk.com)

Sabrina Morabito, Stage Manager. Sabrina Morabito: She is Production Coordinator/ Stage Management for Pan Asian Rep since 2016. Is happy to be part of this Stage Reading. Many Thanks to Ako and Cast.