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:
James Brumm, Ako Dachs, Joshua Dachs, Bridget Jones.

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Jules Fisher, Rob Melrose, Bill Rauch, Yoko Shioya.

Contributors:

Thank you to:

AMATERASU ZA
work-in-progress
‘Courier of Love’

April 1st, 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 Tsugaharu Tsuruzawa


Dinh James Doan. Myokan/Magoemon. Selected NY credits: The Emperor’s Nightingale, Incident at Hidden Temple, Film Chinois, No-No Boy (dir. Ron Nakahara), Dojiji: 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), Bird bath; 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.


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/Kliske. Taiju graduated from Niho 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), Yowakutomo Katemasu (NTV), short film “A Warm Spell” by NYU.


Yuuka Taga. Mommij/Tama/Apprentice. New York Native. Graduated from NYU. A member of Juilliard’s program, Artist Striving to End Poverty. Winner of 2017 Best Performance in NPR 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.


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.