

From Ako, Founding Artistic Director.

When I lived in Japan I had opportunities to see Mishima's plays and I fell in love with his beautiful and powerful language. Yui Kitamura kindly asked Amaterasu Za to be a part of Multicultural Sonic Evolution's SOUNDS OF ARTS FESTIVAL I told her immediately I'd like to do two of Mishima's Modern Noh Plays, 'HANJO' and 'AOI NO UE', in the original Japanese with English subtitles. I hope that you enjoy the many layers of Mishima's world.

My goal in founding Amaterasu Za was to bring powerful works from the rich tradition of Japanese live performance – Kabuki, Noh, Bunraku, and traditional music and dance - to English and Japanese-speaking audiences, and to develop theater, film, and video projects which are influenced by Japanese traditional forms. We work in both English and Japanese.

Amaterasu Za is a non-profit theater company and is committed to values of equity, diversity, inclusion and fighting discrimination based on age, race, and gender identification.

Amaterasu Za is 501 (c) (3) not-for profit organization.
Your all contributions are tax deductible.
Please give us your support. www.amaterasuza.org

AMATERASU ZA

Board of Directors:

James Brumm, Ako Dachs,
Joshua Dachs, Bridget Jones

Artistic Advisory Board:

Jules Fisher, Rob Melrose
Bill Rauch, Yoko Shioya

Thank you for your contributions.

Joshua Dachs, James & Yuko Brumm,
Ken Hitz, Jules Fisher, Hiromi Okawara,
Jay Patterson, Julie Azuma, John Gillespie,
Kyo Kasumi, Toru Eddy Ohno, Carl Tausch



AMATERASU ZA
presents

by Yukio Mishima
directed by Ako

近代能楽集
MODERN
NOH
PLAYS



Nov. 22nd Fri. 8pm 23rd Sat. 7pm 25th Mon. 8pm
General Admission \$15 advance/\$20 at the door.
Seniors & Student with ID \$12 advance/\$14 at the door.
Tickets: <https://soaf2019c.bpt.me/>

The secret Theatre
4402 23rd St Long Island City, NY 11101

This is a part of Multicultural Sonic Evolution's
SOUNDS OF ARTS FESTIVAL

* These plays are performed in Japanese with English subtitle.

PROGRAM

HANJO by Yukio Mishima

Jitsuko - Ako

Hanako - Asuka Morinaga

Yoshio - Norihiro Maruta

-Intermission -

AOI NO UE by Yukio Mishima

Rokujo - Ako

Nurse - Rina Maejima

Aoi - Asuka Morinaga

Hikaru - Taijyu Nakane

Directed/Costume/Set by Ako Lighting Design by Hao Bai
Stage Manager: Koji Ono Subtitles Operator: Maya Hayashide



Ako. Founding Artistic Director of Amaterasu Za: translated/adapted/co-directed Monzaemon Chikamatsu's 'Courier of Love'. Ako is a former member of the world-famous Takarazuka Revue Company in Japan. Selected Plays: GOD SAID THIS (Lucille Lortel Award Outstanding Lead Actress Nomination), THRONE OF BLOOD, JULIUS CAESER, WHITE SNAKE, KENTUCKY, MOSCOW x6, SAYONARA, TAMAR OF THE RIVER, TEA HOUSE OF THE AUGUST

MOON, TEA and KOKORO. Three seasons at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. TV/FILM: Snow Falling on Cedars, I Origin, 30 Rock, Mercy, Twelve, No Reservations, These Birds Don't fly South in Winter. www.ako-actress.com



Rina Maejima



Asuka Morinaga is from Hiroshima, graduated from the Toho Gakuen drama department and was a member of the Haiyuza Theater Company in Tokyo. Japan credits include: Seagull (Nina) at Haiyuza Theater, Chidori(Chidori) at Kinokuniya Southern Theater, Ino Tadaka Story (Ino Shino) at the New National Theater. She was in MITO-KOMON and OOKA-ECHIZEN at TBS. She was trained at HB Studio as a scholarship student from the Japanese Government. NYC : HERE, Flea Theater, Theater@DNA and others. Voice over work at FCI and USN.



Norihiro Maruta Born in Miyazaki, Japan, Norihiro started break dancing when he was 18 years old and was selected as one of the best eight dancers in the UK-B Boy Championship Competition, Kyushu division. Norihiro performed leading roles in DOWNTOWN HERO BOTTERERS, and SAKURA with Kukan Engine, in Japan. New York, he has appeared in IN THE LINE (off Broadway), URASHIMA TORO: A FISHERMAN'S TALE and MOMOTARO: SPIRIT OF PEACH. Most importantly, he studies Japanese sword fighting at Tate-Hatoryu NY Dojo.



Taiju Nakane Born in Tokyo, Taiju Nakane is a New York and Japan based actor. He graduated from Nihon University College of Art. Film festival credits: Tehran International Short Film Festival (Iran), Queens World Film Festival (USA), Sapporo Short Film Festival (Japan), Raindance Film Festival (UK), Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival (France). Acting: A Warm Spell, After the Rain, Taira no Kiyomori (NHK Saga drama), High School Restaurant (Series Regular). Stage: JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (The Secret theater), COURIER OF LOVE (Five Angels Theater).



Hao Bai (Lighting Designer) works as a designer & tech in lights, sound & projection. Hao is a resident visual/audio designer at La Mama and has just won an IT Award in Outstanding Innovative Design. Selected design credits: Lighting: Martha Graham (Texas); Waterboy and the Mighty World (Bushwick Starr); *The Tempest* (The Gallery Players); *I Wanna Be With You* (Performance Space New York); *Go Forth* (Stanford Live, CA); *Asian Zombie Moms* (LaMama). Projection: *Electronic City* (New Stage Theatre). Music & Sound: *Don Quixote Takes New York* (Loco7); *The Violin* (59E59), *Gemini Stars/Scorpio Stars* (PGEC). Projection & Sound: *CowboysCowgirls* (@JACK); *American Mill #2* (A.R.T./New York Theatres).



Koji Ono (Stage Manager) is an actor, singer and dancer/director based in NYC. Originally from Tokyo, Japan. Koji spent 11 years as a member of the SHIKI theatre Company. He played Don in the Japanese production of *A CHOLUS LINE* directed by Keita Asari. As a member of SHIKI, his credits included *Lion King*, *West Side Story* (Nibbles) and *Evita*, *AIDA*, *Crazy for You*. He participated in about 2500 performances with the company.