

Japanese Centre / Centre japonais



Yoko ODAGIRI

Born in Tokyo, 1942

Member of the Japanese Centre of the ITI, Secretary General since 1995

Profession : Scenographer, Painter

Education --- graduated from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music and the Post Graduate Course of the said University. Scenography section of Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Decoratifs. (scholar of the French government from 1972 to 1975. Research in France in 1993, supported by the Japanese Government)

Scenography and costume design --- member of the scenography group of the film "Molière" directed by Arianne Mnouchkin (1976), "Minamata & Co." directed by Roger Blin (1979 Paris), Operetta "Phi-Phi" (1979 Maison de la Culture de Rennes), "Gone with the Wind" (1987 Tokyo), Opera "Simon Boccanegra" (1988 Tokyo), "Story of a Soldier" by Stravinski (1989 Fukuoka), Opera "Ada(enemy)" adapted from kabuki piece (1991 Hamamatsu and Tokyo), "Eumenides-Goddesses of Mercy" (1996 Saitama), "The Merchant of Venice" (1997 National Theatre), Opera "Shuzenji Story" (1999 New National Theatre).

Scenography for children's theatre --- "Clever Princess" (1994), "Anne of Green Gables" (1997), "Our Forest is Alive" (2000)

Others --- Platform graphics for metro stations, Wall paintings of Tokugawa Museum, Interior wall paintings of Edo Castle for NHK TV's year-long drama, Interior design of "Rainbow Express" of Japan Railways, and so on.

Lecturer at Tokyo Gakugei University Department of Arts and Drama (1992-1996)

CENTER'S ACTIVITIES 2006-2008

2006

- Publication of "Theatre Year-Book 2006" – 2 volumes (Theatre in Japan, Theatre abroad)
- World Contemporary Short Pieces Festival vol.1. "short pieces in France"
Selected 5 French pieces were all world premieres, performances and symposium with 2 invited authors (M.Azama, J.P.Alegre) , workshops about "Between Translated Words and Acting".
- International Workshop of Traditional Performing Arts vol.18 "Nihon Buyo (dance of kabuki)"
- Program for the Education of Theatre Audiences – this program for students has been launched since 1999 to make future theatrical creation more fascinating. It helps audiences develop universal judgment and critical thinking through the viewing of high quality works. The Program takes a theme and selects works (6-8 performances per year) that are suitable for the purposes. The theme of the year 2006 was "Around the Dramatists".

2007

- Publication of "Theatre Year-Book 2007" – 2 volumes (Theatre in Japan, Theatre abroad)
- The 3rd Asian Dance Conference – event organized every 2 years. The goal is to find out more about the roots of dance in Asian countries, to see if its commonality exists or not and to present originality and diversity by showing dance performances, which are in dialogue with each other in Japan. We are hoping that the conference will help to develop future creation and exchange. Invited countries since the first edition in 2003 have been: India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Philippines, Korea, Turkey, Israel, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, etc.
The reports on each edition will constitute a great archive of an entire epoch of dance in Asia.
- International Workshop of Traditional Performing Arts vol.19 "Kabuki".
- Program for the Education of Theatre Audience. The theme of the year 2007 was "Classics and Modern Times".
- An event for Kazuo Ohno 100th anniversary. Conference and Exhibition "From the origin of Butoh to the Future of the Body" with performance by Yoshito Ohno.
- Besides these activities, the Japanese Centre administers the Uchimura Prize.