

Press release

DANCE × MUSIC × MOVIE !

— **JCDN Contemporary Dance Creation Series vol.5**—

“ASYL”

<http://www.jcdn.org/dmm5/index.html>

Performace in Temple (KYOTO and TOKYO)

Shamisen, singing, dance and motion pictures.

Japan Contemporary Dance Network

503 Opasu Shijo, 241 Shinmei cho, Shimo gyo ku,

Kyoto city, Kyoto, 600-8092

TEL075-361-4685 FAX075-361-6225

jcdn@jcdn.org / www.jcdn.org/

Project concept

History

The DANCE X MUSIC! Project started in 2005. It is a new approach to the relationship between choreography and music when a new dance work is created. It is not the choreographer's roll to choose existing music for his/her dance; a choreographer and a musician stand on the same start line to create a collaborative performance. There have been seven creations in four seasons.

When you use existing music for your dance performance, it is almost impossible to release the performance anywhere other than live on stage because of the extremely expensive master recording rights for secondary use, or the difficulty of getting the permission to use the music. This project solved the problem, selling dance performances on DVDs and other media, and developed a new market in the dance industry.

In 2008, we produced a DVD set, one disc was filmed from a live performance on stage: "The Theatrical Version", the other one filmed the performance scene-by-scene, and added movie effects: "The Video Dance Version". This unusual combination of the dynamism of a live performance and interesting film effects created a new way of enjoying dance at home.

As the DANCE X MUSIC! Project continues to develop, the attraction of dance as live performance is widened, and the relationship between dance and media has stepped into a new stage.

This year's approach

Based on these results, we are now launching a new series: DANCE X MUSIC X MOVIE! In this new series, we have added a filmmaker's point of view to DANCE X MUSIC!

What is so special about this is that we expect this to take a totally new turn in dance performances. Films have been used in other art forms such as fine arts exhibitions or installations, but in this DANCE X MUSIC X MOVIE!, film is used as choreography and direction with pictorial interpretations together with live performance, And the film itself is a dance movie behind the performance. It is an epoch-making technique.

In recent years, there has been a lot of experimentation with dance and film. In the western world, "Video Dance" is gaining popularity, and exclusive festivals are held in many places. Adding film making technique and method to dance performance widens the interpretation as well as the direction, adding to the entertainment value, generating a lot of attention as a cutting-edge art genre.

Our creation has the excitement of both a live performance and a dance movie; this is a pioneering dance performance.

In order for Japanese contemporary dance to be high quality and a major art globally, a musician, a choreographer and a filmmaker are collaborating with their particular ways of making art, bringing a totally new and fascinating art piece to you.

Project details

Cast

[Naoto lina](#) was a cinematographer, editor, and director for “The Video Dance Version” of DANCE x MUSIC! in 2008. This time, he will be the writer, director, and film director for this new creation called “ASYL”.

lina is the founder of Dance and Media JAPAN, has organized DMJ International Video Dance Festival for seven years, which has attract major attention and received many international entries.

In addition to his work as a producer, in 2009, lina began earnestly on his artistic work as a director and writer. His realistic sense of portraying what is happening in the present gives him a unique perspective on dance, and his point of view as a filmmaker makes him the best choice as director/writer/film director for this DANCE x MUSIC x MOVIE! creation..

[Fuei Nishimatsu](#), headmaster of Nishimatsu School of Japanese Traditional Music will be in charge of the [MUSIC](#) for this piece. Her shamisen work is not limited to the traditional music scene; she also collaborates with Butoh dancers and contemporary poets. She has set avant-garde poet Katsue Kitazono’s poems to music, and she is also singer-songwriter herself. She is an evangelist of culture and life from the Edo period, singing Edo girls’ love songs in her own style of Kouta and Hauta, bringing the spirit to the present day.

[Dance](#) is by [Misako Tearda](#) who has an excellent reputation for her technique and originality in movement. She is a choreographer/dancer who has opened up a new era in the Japanese contemporary dance scene. Her dance will certainly charm you with its beauty, and sting you so you will never forget.

This best combination of the three artists will open a new page in the history of performance art.

Venue

We chose temples that have the atmosphere of “*en kiri*” which means a temple you visit to get rid of an unwanted relationship.

Dance movie is projected on four huge *Sho-ji* (paper doors) on the stage, giving a dynamic movie effect for the performance. Imaginative film, Edo songs and the sound of the shamisen, and dance, surrounded by burning red autumn leaves in an eerie temple (Eiun-in in the ancient capital of Kyoto, and historical Ikegami Jisso-ji in Tokyo) will bring you through a labyrinth of entertainment impossible to experience in a theater.

Performance

ASYL

-Past is smoke. Burning is now. Why did I run away to come here? -

An *en kiri* temple was a shelter for women who had to run away from their men during the Edo period. = ASYL

The past and the present of a woman who came to this ASYL.

Her visionary story will be presented in layers accompanied by shamisen, singing, dance and motion pictures.

Written, directed, and filmed by: Naoto Iina

Shamisen and singing by: Fuei Nishimatsu

Choreography and dance by: Misako Terada

Story

The performance starts with Fuei Nishimatsu's singing and shamisen playing. She talks to the audience in the style of a traditional dinner show during the Edo period. By discussing the lyrics of the songs, current issues of the world and gradually mingling the story with the movie on the screens and the dance, takes the audience into a fictional world. The story of a temple that will sever relationships with men, the story of a woman who visited the temple begins.

The fleeing woman is a victim of terrible violence from a man. This is how it appears to the audience in the beginning, but the truth is that she is the evil one, one who has killed a man and burned a house down and come to hide in this temple.

Why did she kill the man? Why did she run away here?

What does the cigarette smoke mean that often appear on the screen?

Description of the piece

The title "ASYL" (asylum) means places of refuge or sanctuary in a historical/political sense, it also refers to temples and churches. In the Edo period, there were temples that worked as shelters for wives who held a weaker position in the family during these times, and assisted these women in divorcing their husbands. There were practical and systematic ways of dealing with divorce process, however the women who came to these temples were not always victims of the relationship, some just simply wanted to get rid of their men. It appears somehow similar to modern women's attitude towards love.

The music by Fuei Nishimatsu on shamisen together with kouta singing is considered a traditional high art now, but in the Edo period, it was seen as pop music for ordinary people.

Love is universally always on people's mind. In this performance, in a refuge from love, a story of love will be told.

What is ASYL for us now? A sanctuary that protects you and purifies you. We are looking for our own ASYL not only for the sake of love.

On the second day of the Tokyo performance, we will invite Mr. Tadashi Takagi, manager of the museum into the Mantokuji *en kiri* temple. He will give a talk session after the performance: "How to get rid of unwanted relationship – *en kiri* manner between man and woman" Secrets of success for the modern woman's love life!

Outline

DANCE × MUSIC × MOVIE ! — JCDN Contemporary Dance Creation Series vol.5—
"ASYL"

Written, directed, and filmed by: Naoto Iina
Shamisen and singing by: Fuei Nishimatsu
Choreography and dance by: Misako Terada

The holding date and time and Venue :

■ Ei un-inn , (temple) KYOTO / 永運院 京都

NOV 18 Fri start 19:30 / 19 Sat start 17:30

Address: 33 Kurodani cho, Sakyo-ku, KYOTO / 永運院 京都市左京区黒谷町 33

TEL 075-201-4176 (performance day only)

■ Ikegami Jisso-ji , (temple) TOKYO / 池上實相寺 東京

DEC 10 Sat start 17:30 / 11 Sun start 17:00

Address: Ikegami, Ootaku, TOKYO / 池上實相寺 東京都大田区池上 2-10-17

TEL 03-3751-4056 (performance day only)

Ticket : 3.500yen (adv)4.000yen

For inquiries please call us at 075-361-4685 JCDN

Japan Contemporary Dance Network (JCDN)

503 Opasu Shijo, 241 Shinmei cho, Shimo gyo ku,

Kyoto city, Kyoto, 600-8092

TEL075-361-4685 FAX075-361-6225

jcdn@jcdn.org / www.jcdn.org/

Credit

Presented by Japan Contemporary Dance Network (JCDN)

Co-produced by Hatsune-kan Studio

Supported by Asahi Beer Arts Foundation / SHISEIDO

Cooperated by the Saison Foundation

Profile

Misako TERADA / Choreography and Dance (Kyoto)

Associate Professor, Kyoto University of Art and Design (Department of Performing).

Belong to Ishii Academie de Ballet since 1987. Organized a unit with Osamu Jareo in 1991 and awarded in "The 1st TORII AWARD" in March 2002. Also awarded the grand prize and the Audience prize in "TOYOTA CHOREOGRAPHY AWARD 2002". Started solo work since 2006, choreographed by Setsuko Yamada, Zan Yamashita, Tsuyoshi Shirai. In 2007, the first solo piece "AION" was performed at Theatre Tram and Biwako Hall.

Fuei NISHIMATSU / Shamisen and Singing (Tokyo)

Fuei Nishimatsu. Nishimatsu is *iemoto* (head) of the Nishimatsu school of shamisen and vocals and has given recitals at the National Theater and elsewhere in Tokyo, and in Rome, Budapest and Bangkok; she has performed at the Berlin Opera House, the Royal Academy of Arts in London and the Chamber Music Festival in Kuhmo, Finland.

Naoto IINA / Written, Directed, and Filmed (Tokyo)

Born in Kawasaki 1974, working in Tokyo, producer, curator, director (performing arts & cultural events), media artist, film maker. A producer of organization for Dance and Media Japan (since 2003) aiming at fusion of a performing arts and digital art. He administers various plans such as "Dance and Media" to introduce foreign artists to Japan, "international dance video festival", workshop "media farm" of the digital media technology. Now he works increasingly as an artist (director, film maker, sound maker, lighting designer....). and built up the performance group "marga" 2009.

1993 graduated at Meiji Gakuin University / Courses in Visual Arts and Film , 1997 worked at Japan Laim Products (video production company), 2001- started as director & producer, 2003- established Dance and Media Japan, 2008- Tokyo Zokei University / teacher, Nagoya University of Arts and Sciences / teacher, 2009- Za Koenji Theater Academy / teacher, 2010- Kyoto Seika University / teacher.

<http://dance-media.com/>

<http://performative-performance.com/>