

The Japan Foundation *Performing Arts JAPAN* 2003-2004

LIST OF AWARDEES

The Japan Foundation is pleased to announce the grant awards of \$300,000 to 13 presenters and artists in the United States through the *Performing Arts JAPAN* (PAJ) Program for fiscal 2003-2004. The awards are made in the following two categories:

1. Grants to support touring projects of Japanese performing arts in the United States (and Canada) organized by American presenters.
2. Grants to support collaborations between American and Japanese performing artists.

The *Performing Arts JAPAN* (PAJ) Program, created in 1994, seeks to facilitate better understanding of Japanese culture in the United States by providing geographically diverse American audiences with greater exposure to Japanese performing arts. PAJ also encourages collaborations between American and Japanese artists, which will enhance the understanding of Japanese culture when presented to American audiences.

The 2003-2004 grantees are listed below. (Please contact The Japan Foundation New York Office for further information about finalized tour dates.)

PAJ Touring Grant awards 2003-2004

Total projects: 7

Total funds allocated: \$224,000

American Dance Festival (Durham, NC) for a three-city tour of the legendary Japanese *butoh* company, Dairakudakan, founded by Akaji Maro. The tour will introduce a new generation of *butoh*, by presenting the *Kochuten* series created and performed by young members of the company. Excerpts from Akaji's own piece, *Ryuba*, will also be performed. While in residence at ADF, the company members will conduct master classes and seminars for the community.

Tour Dates: June 24 - July 19, 2003

Tour Locations: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco, CA); American Dance Festival (Durham, NC); Japan Society (New York, NY)

Arts Midwest (Minneapolis, MN) for a five-city tour of the Japanese ensemble, The Bamboo Orchestra. Through week-long residencies in each community, the orchestra will conduct public and school performances, multiple workshops, as well as a number of outreach activities, thus enabling local audiences to experience Japanese culture in an intensive way. The tour is part of the Midwest World Fest, a global education and outreach program of Arts Midwest.

Tour Dates: February 19 - April 2, 2004

Tour Locations: Eau Claire Regional Arts Center (Eau Claire, WI); Fairmont Opera House (Fairmont, MN); Sioux City Orpheum Theatre (Sioux City, IA); Aberdeen Community Theatre (Aberdeen SD); Jamestown Fine Arts Center (Jamestown, ND)

California Institute of the Arts (Valencia, CA) for a three-city tour of the Kyoto-based multi-media performance ensemble, Dumb Type, one of the world's most influential and popular contemporary companies, known for its innovative mixture of dance, theatre, mixed-media projection, and electronic music. Although the group has held performances in several cities in the U.S., this is the first time they will be presented to a Los Angeles audience.

Tour Dates: October 16 - November 16, 2003

Tour Locations: REDCAT/CalArts (Los Angeles, CA); Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco, CA); Byham Theater/Pittsburgh Dance Council (Pittsburgh, PA)

The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago (Chicago, IL) for a six-city tour of *Fagaala* (formerly known as *The Human Tragedy of Genocide, Rwanda and Tomorrow?*), a dance production resulting from a two-year collaboration between Japanese choreographer Kota Yamazaki and Germaine Acogny, artistic director of Compagnie Jant-Bi of Senegal. Taking the Rwandan genocide as a point of departure, the piece looks at all tragic historical events and the need to take measures to prevent the occurrence of further genocide.

Tour Dates: January 19 - May 1, 2004

Tour Locations: University of California, Riverside (Riverside, CA); California State University, Monterey Bay (Seaside, CA); New Jersey Performing Arts Center (Newark, NJ); Miami-Dade Community College (Miami, FL); Arizona State University (Phoenix, AZ); The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago (Chicago, IL); Cuyahoga Community College (Highland Hills, OH)

Japan Society, Inc. (New York, NY) for a seven-city tour of Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo Puppet Theatre Company, accompanied by live Japanese traditional narrative songs featuring the *shinnai* master Wakasanojo Tsuruga, the 11th Iemoto of the Tsuruga School of Shinnai Music and Living National Treasure. Following the success of the U.S. debut tour in the fall of 2002, the company will make another tour focusing on the East Coast.

Tour Dates: September 20 - October 14, 2003

Tour Locations: Towson University (Towson, MD); Japan Society (New York, NY); Copley Theatre/Japan Society of Boston (Boston, MA); Dartmouth University (Hanover, NH); Hamilton College (Clinton, NY); University of West Florida (Pensacola, FL); Florida International University (Miami, FL)

The New York Foundation for the Arts (Maureen Fleming) (New York, NY) for a seven-city tour of a multi-disciplined performance work entitled *Decay of the Angel*, involving choreography by Maureen Fleming, photography by Tadayuki Naitoh and Lois Greenfield, video by Jeff Bush, and light, set, and visual design by Chris Odo, with stage art by *ikebana* artist Gaho Taniguchi. The tour is the outcome of their collaboration funded by PAJ 2002-2003.

Tour Dates: July 12, 2003 - April 4, 2004

Tour Locations: Roxbury Arts Center (Roxbury, NY); Flynn Center for the Performing Arts

(Burlington, VT); University of Minnesota/Minnesota Dance Alliance (Minneapolis, MN); Emerson Majestic Theatre/Japan Society of Boston (Boston, MA); University of Massachusetts Amherst (Amherst, MA); Vancouver International Dance Festival (Vancouver, BC); La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club (New York, NY)

Theatre of Yugen (San Francisco, CA) for a three-city tour of one of Japan's most celebrated *kyogen* companies, Mansaku Nomura and Mansaku-no-Kai. The company of Mansaku Nomura, an outstanding leader in the world of *kyogen* and a designated Living National Treasure, will perform two programs including the debut appearance of Mansaku's grandson and the three generations of Nomura family members in *Utsuozaru* (The Monkey Skin Quiver)

Tour Dates: December 6 - 14, 2003

Tour Locations: Theatre of Yugen (San Francisco, CA); Japan Society (New York, NY); Copley Theatre/Japan Society of Boston (Boston, MA)

PAJ Collaboration Grant awards 2003-2004

Total projects: 6

Total funds allocated: \$76,000

Bang on a Can (New York, NY) will commission a 45-minute work from the acclaimed Japanese composer and DJ, Nobukazu Takemura, for their ensemble, the Bang on a Can All-Stars. The project will include a New York workshop with Takemura and the All-Stars, recording, an open rehearsal, and a panel discussion on emerging musical genres in Japan.

Project Period: May 2003 - March 2004

Berkeley Symphony Orchestra (Berkeley, CA) will commission a new cello concerto from the acclaimed Japanese composer, Karen Tanaka, to be performed by cellist, Joan Jeanrenaud and the BSO under the direction of Maestro Kent Nagano. To further understanding of contemporary Japanese composition, the artists will offer a master class for college students.

Project Period: January - March 2004

Headlong Dance Theater (Philadelphia, PA) in collaboration with Arrow Dance Communication (Kyoto) will create an evening-length dance theater work, *Grasp*, exploring both meanings of "grasp": to understand, and to hold physically. The two companies plan outreach activities in Philadelphia and Kyoto, including residencies, workshops and lectures/demonstrations.

Project Period: June 2003 - January 2004

Inta, Inc. (Eiko & Koma) (New York, NY) will collaborate with Sharon Wyeth (writer/actor/singer) and Irene Oppenheim (writer/scholar/playwright) on an outdoor work that follows organically from Eiko & Koma's *Offering*, their previous work funded by PAJ 2002-2003. The artists will gather narratives about trees in which themes and images of rejuvenation resonate.

Project Period: April 2003 - March 2004

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (Los Angeles, CA) will invite two percussion artists, Kiyohiko Semba and Kenny Endo, exceptional artists who share a high level

of training in both traditional Japanese and contemporary Western percussion, to compose original music and engage in creative collaborations across disciplines and cultures.

Project Period: February - March 2004

June Watanabe in Company (San Francisco, CA) will conduct *The Noh Project II* (working title), a collaboration among Anshin Uchida (*noh* master, Intangible Cultural Asset), June Watanabe (choreographer), and Pauline Oliveros (composer), to create a work through *noh* and modern dance that speaks of man's fate with destiny from a contemporary perspective.

Project Period: June 2003 - March 2004

The grant applications for fiscal 2003-2004 were reviewed by the PAJ Advisory Committee, comprising 10 distinguished specialists in the area of the performing arts around the United States and 2 Japanese consultants. The committee made its recommendations for awards to the Japan Foundation's Headquarters in Tokyo.

PAJ Advisory Committee Members (as of December 2002)

- Dr. Michael Blachly (Director, University of Florida Performing Arts, Gainesville, FL)
- Ms. Susan S. Farr (Executive Director, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD)
- Ms. Olga M. Garay (Program Director for the Arts, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, New York, NY)
- Ms. Margaret A. Lawrence (Director of Programming, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH)
- Ms. Cora Mirikitani (President & CEO, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, Los Angeles, CA)
- Mr. Phillip Reynolds (Executive Director, The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL)
- Dr. Michael Ross (Executive Director, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL)
- Ms. Rena Shagan (President, Rena Shagan Associates, Inc., New York, NY)
- Ms. Julie Voigt (Program Administrator, Performing Arts, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN)
- Ms. Pebbles Wadsworth (Director, University of Texas Performing Arts Center, Austin, TX)

PAJ Advisory Committee Consultants (as of December 2002)

- Prof. Shuji Sota (Faculty of Management, Atomi University, Saitama, Japan)
- Ms. Noriko Sengoku (Executive Director, Japan-US Partnership for the Performing Arts, Inc., New York, NY)