



Tokyo Festival 2017 to be held this fall

With a brand new logo symbolizing a spotlight

**A performing arts festival to be held this year in the Ikebukuro area of Toshima City
A place for participation, interaction, and opportunities to create new value**

The Tokyo Festival Executive Committee (Chairman: Shigeo Fukuchi) is proud to present the Tokyo Festival, to be held principally around the Ikebukuro area of Toshima City for 74 days from Friday, September 22 to Monday, December 4, 2017.

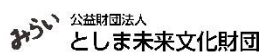
What is the Tokyo Festival?

This is an urban multidisciplinary arts festival that aims to connect with the world through Tokyo's deep and diverse arts and culture. The Festival aims to showcase the appeal of Tokyo's artistic culture in an easy-to-understand manner, and enhancing Tokyo's own artistic creativity at the same time. In the mid-to-long term, we will continue to work on resolving social issues, developing human resources, developing urban areas, and tackling globalization.

Mr. Satoshi Miyagi (Director / Producer of Asian Performing Arts Forum / General Artistic Director of Shizuoka Performing Arts Center [SPAC]) has been appointed as the festival's General Director from 2018 to 2020.

Outline

- Name: Tokyo Festival 2017
- Festival dates: September 22 (Fri.) - December 4 (Mon.), 2017 (74 days)
- Sites: Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Owlspot Theater, Minami Ikebukuro Park and others
- Participating projects: Festival/Tokyo 2017,
Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre Autumn Selection,
TOSHIMA International City of Arts & Culture Program,
Asian Performing Arts Forum
- Organizers: Tokyo Festival Executive Committee
Arts Council Tokyo & Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre
(Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture),
Toshima City,
Toshima Mirai Cultural Foundation,
Festival/Tokyo Executive Committee,
Asian Performing Arts Festival Executive Committee



*All programs are subject to change without notice.

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The Tokyo Festival 2017 logo is a symbol of spotlight

The Tokyo Festival 2017 logo has been finalized. The art director is emerging designer Masashi Murakami. This will lead an even more exciting edge to the Tokyo Festival.

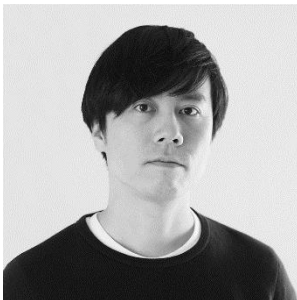
● Logo concept

The shape of the logo symbolizes a spotlight illuminating a stage. Symbolic of the performing arts, this spotlight consists solely of circles and lines, while the logo itself expresses the light that illuminates the existence of the Tokyo Festival. It was thought and designed to impart a sense of the festival's presence by illuminating the world brightly with art.



● Art Director

Masashi Murakami



Born in Kanagawa prefecture, 1982. Graduated from Design Department, Tokyo University of the Arts, then graduated with Master's degree from the Graduate School of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts. Established m² in 2012. Working mainly in graphic design, he oversees advertising art direction such as "PARCO LAST OFF" and "TOKYU PLAZA GINZA BLOOMING DAYS", CD jacket designs such as "SALU/INDIGO", and exhibition graphics for "mintdesigns", as well as corporate branding. He also actively exhibits artworks mainly composed of lettering. Tokyo TDC Award, JAGDA Newcomer Award, ONESHOW Gold, NYADC Silver, UK D&AD Award. www.emuni.co.jp

TOKYO FESTIVAL

c/o : Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute

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● Festival/Tokyo 2017

Scheduled from Saturday, September 30, to Sunday, November 19, 2017

This is one of the largest international performing arts festivals in Japan, which showcases the appeal of contemporary stage works from diverse angles as well as pursuing new possibilities in the performing arts. Started in 2009, it has been established as a major cultural event held in Tokyo. This year, in its tenth anniversary, the Festival will feature outdoor dance performances in Ikebukuro, choreographed by Thai dancer/choreographer Pichet Klunchun as the opening program, co-organized by The Japan Foundation Asia Center. This work is open to participation, with performers recruited from the general public as well as Japanese dancers selected by audition. A diverse program has been developed, including new work by Yukio Shiba in co-production with a Taiwanese theater, the “Outdoor Performance Series” (succeeding last year’s performances) which develops locations other than theaters as venues, and “Asia Series Vol.4: China”, which showcases the present of various Asian countries from an artistic aspect.

●Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre Autumn Selection

Scheduled from Tuesday, October 17, to Sunday, November 19, 2017

Among the many programs of the Tokyo Festival, the Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre promises a highly international collection with the participation of 4 programs, opening the path to new expression. Artistic director of the Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Hideki Noda, will direct and appear in an English version of the play *Omote ni Deroi!*, with appearances by outstanding actors including Kathryn Hunter and Glyn Pritchard. In addition, Kuranosuke Sasaki will star in Shakespeare’s *Richard III*, directed by Romanian director *Silviu Purcărete*. Dutch director Ivo van Hove will present a performance of *Othello*, while dance company Idevian Crew, led by Shigehiro Ide, will present a fascinating new dance performance.

● TOSHIMA International City of Arts & Culture Program

Scheduled from Friday, September 22, to Sunday, October 22, 2017

Toshima City, Tokyo aims to become an “International City of Arts & Culture”, proudly conveying the appeal of its arts and culture to the world. This program was developed in accordance with the municipality’s aim of turning the entire area of Toshima city into a stage where everyone can take on the leading role, with the following 4 events to be presented in the Program. The “Ikebukuro Play Festival” is a unique theatrical festival featuring public entries performed at theaters in Toshima city and nearby during the whole month of September, with awards to be determined by 100 judges from among the public offerings. Owlspot Theater will present an invitational dance performance from Finland’s *Double Exposure*, as well as Shuji Terayama and Taichi Yamada’s letter collection, *Letters from Shuji Terayama*, and *After the Seasons Took Us Away*, composed and directed by Junichi Hirota. Kyogen performer Manzo Nomura will also present an urban outdoor performance of *Daidengaku Ikebukuro Emaki*, based on the *dengaku* musical dance entertainment, popular in medieval Japan, which was a great success last year.

● Asian Performing Arts Forum

Scheduled from Friday, December 1, to Monday, December 4, 2017

The Asian Performing Arts Festival, which started in 2002 as a place for young Asian performing artists to meet and collaborate, was upgraded and renamed to the “Asian Performing Arts Forum” last year, and now serves as a human resource development program for the Tokyo Festival. Co-organized by The Japan Foundation Asia Center, a wide variety of artists will participate in this international collaborative workshops, in which groups consisting mainly of three directors will create and present small works on a theme set by the producer. There will also be a “Wrap Up” program, in which the workshop outcomes will be reviewed and shared widely. In addition, *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang 2.0 (a work-in-progress)* produced at last year’s workshop will be presented as a full size production; “Creation through International Collaboration” (China, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines). In addition to cultivating the potential of young artists, the Asian Performing Arts Forum aims to convey the experience of Tokyo’s performing art’s present state and appeal, seeking to be a platform that creates networks transcending national borders.

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