

April/10th (wed), 2019

Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

NPO Ikimachi Club



Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019 Program Announcement

Transforming the Entire Town of Kagurazaka into a Stage
to Welcome You to Enjoy Japan's Various Traditional Performing Arts

Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) and NPO Ikimachi Club will turn the entire town of Kagurazaka, where tradition meets innovation, into a stage to host **Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019** on May 11th (Sat) <Eve> & 12th (Sun) <Main Festival>.

Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019 offers a friendly environment where guests from different generations and countries can see, hear and touch Japan's symbolic traditional performing arts as well as the charm of Kagurazaka and its remaining atmosphere of the Edo Period. This 7th annual festival will be held in the perfect strolling weather of May instead of the usual November. Local residents and volunteers will work together as **Street Stage Concierge** and once again create **a festival where the town and its people become one**.

Kagurazaka is gaining popularity as a town where the Edo-Tokyo culture and the sophisticated atmosphere of Paris unite and live in harmony. New and experienced leading artists representing Kagurazaka in various genres of traditional performing arts will gather for this festival. In addition to Kagurazaka's symbolic street-strolling music performance called **Shinnai Nagashi** and **Experiencing Ozashiki Asobi**, all kinds of performances including Akagi-jinja Shrine's new program **Traditional Song and Dance Live** can be enjoyed in the streets, shrines, temples and parks.

This 2-day festival will be a perfect opportunity for you to enjoy Japan's various performing arts in the charming streets of Kagurazaka where traditional culture lives on. With our goal of promoting traditional performing arts and bringing greater prosperity to the town of Kagurazaka, we welcome you all to this unique event that now draws attention from all over the country.



【Event Overview】 *Please read the following pages for more details.

Event Title: Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019

Date/Time: Eve May 11th (Sat) 2019, 15:00~

Main Festival May 12th (Sun) 2019, 11:30~

*Both festivals will be carried out rain or shine but will be cancelled in the case of a stormy weather.

Location: Kagurazaka area (Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple, Akagi-jinja Shrine, Tokyo Kagurazaka Association/Kenban, Kagurazaka Avenue and other smaller streets in the area, local historic sites, THEGLEE, Enkaen, Kagurazakamonogatari and more)

Admission: Free (Ozashiki Asobi is subject to fees and requires prior reservations)

Organizers: Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
NPO Ikimachi Club

Supporter/Cooperator: Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Supporter: Shinjuku-ku and Shinjuku Convention & Visitors Bureau

Cooperators: Tokyo Kagurazaka Association, Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple, Akagi-jinja Shrine, Ikimachi Co., Kagurazaka Avenue Association, Kagurazaka Merchants Union, Edo Tokyo Guide Group, Kosho-ji Temple, Enpuku-ji Temple, Tokyo Metropolitan Comprehensive Consumer Center, Wakamiya-Cho Self-Government Association, Tokyo University of Science, Hosei University, KPMG AZSA LLC, Dai-Ichi Kangyo Credit Cooperative Kagurazaka Branch, Kumagai Gumi, New House, Hermann Harp Japan Kagurazaka Shop, Starbucks Coffee Kagurazaka-shita Shop, Chikaken, Mind

Producer: Koten Kukan Co.,Ltd. **Operator:** NPO Arcship **PR:** Southern Company Inc.

Contact Us: Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019 Office (inside Koten Kukan Office)
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■Inquiries from media partners should be directed to:

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1. —Eve—



The night scene is one of the greatest charms of Kagurazaka, from which various elements of its unique culture have emerged. Stroll through the stone-paved alleys hidden between black wooden walls during this magical time and indulge yourselves in traditional arts at stylish restaurants. We welcome you to discover the beauty of Kagurazaka that can only be found at night.

Shop Strolling / Live Performances of Traditional Performing Arts

Mini live performances at trendy restaurants, cafes and live music clubs by traditional performing artists representing Kagurazaka. This year, Shinnai-bushi, a school of Shamisen three-string guitar music known for its Shinnai-nagashi strolling performance on the streets of Kagurazaka can be enjoyed on the stage as well as Zokkyoku folk songs and Soukyoku Japanese koto harp music.

You can also listen to and appreciate the difference between Hauta short love songs from Edo and its derivative lori Uta established in Johana city, Toyama prefecture.

■Date■ May 11th (Sat), 2019

■Location/Time/Performers■

Enkaen 16:00-16:40 Hiyama Umekichi (“Zokkyoku” music)
THEGLEE 17:00-17:40 Tsuruga Isekichi (“Shinnai-bushi” music)
19:00-19:40 Honjo Maruhide x Honjo Hidekuni (“Hauta” music)

Special Appearance:

Houtetsu Kai (Johana folk performing art of Nanto City, Toyama Prefecture)

Kagurazakamonogatari 19:00-19:40 Yoshinaga Mana (“Soukyoku” Japanese harp)

■Admission■ Free (separate charge for food and drink)

*Waiting tickets will be handed out from 1 hour prior to the shows at each venue.

NEW Kagurazaka Rakuza - Storytellers' Theater

Lecture fields set up in the precincts of shrines and temples in the old days where people gathered for information will be recreated in Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple not just during the day on the main festival day but also at night on the eve this year. Start the day with a great laughter brought by comical Rakugo and then immerse yourselves in the intriguing stories of Koudan at dusk.

■Date■ May 11th (Sat), 2019

■Location/Time/Performers■

Special stage at Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple
15:00-15:10 Opening
15:10-15:40 Cyril Coppini (“Rakugo” storytelling)
18:00-18:30 Kanda Orine (“Koudan” storytelling)
*Approximate times

Street Performance - Shinnai Nagashi(Performed at Eve and Main Festival)

Wander into the stone-paved back alleys and you will be greeted by the sound of Shamisen played by strolling musicians. A stylish Shinnai Nagashi troupe led by Tsuruga Wakasanojo, the headmaster of the Shinnai school and a living national treasure who lives in Kagurazaka, will fill the streets with an elegant and melancholic melody.

■Date/Time■ May 11th (Sat), 2019, 16:30-17:30 / 18:30-19:30

May 12th (Sun), 2019, 12:30-13:00 / 14:00-14:30 / 15:30-16:00

*Approximate times

- Location■ Streets of Kagurazaka (Starting from Jinai Park)
- Admission■ Free
- Performers■ Tsuruga Wakasanojo shamisen Troupe (“Shinnai-bushi” music)



Street Performance - Johana Hikiyama Festival <lori Uta> (Performed at Eve and Main Festival)

Edo lori Uta music was introduced from Tokyo to Johana area of Nanto city in Toyama prefecture and has since been passed on for 300 years in the form of lori Uta performances at the local festival, developing into their unique cultural heritage. On this special night, lori Uta comes back to its home Tokyo. Young performers from Johana will bring the atmosphere of Hikiyama Festival to the back alleys of Kagurazaka, strolling as they sing and play Shamisen and Japanese flutes.

- Date/Time■ May 11th (Sat), 2019, 15:00-16:00 / 17:30-18:30
May 12th (Sun), 2019, 12:00-12:40 / 13:10-13:50 / 14:20-15:00
*Approximate times
- Location■ Streets of Kagurazaka (Starting from Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple)
- Admission■ Free
- Performers■ Houtetsu Kai (Johana Hikiyama Festival, lori Uta)

2. —Main Festival—

The main street of Kagurazaka during the day is reserved for pedestrians and has a completely different atmosphere from the nighttime. It is visited by many young people, families and international visitors. From its two biggest landmarks, Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple and Akagi-jinja Shrine, to the stone-paved alleys and the parks, the entire town of Kagurazaka changes its face into a stage of traditional performing arts. This year, Akagi-jinja Shrine will host the new program Traditional Song and Dance Live.

Kagurazaka Rakuza - Storytellers' Theater

At the main festival, traditional storytelling performances such as Koudan by young performers, Biwa-gatari accompanied by Japanese lute, Joruri (Gidayu) and Rokyoku recited with the sound of Shamisen three-string guitar will be offered. Beginner-friendly words and programs are carefully selected for all guests to fully understand the stories.

- Date/Time■ May 12th (Sun), 2019, around 12:00-16:40
 - Location■ Special stage at Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple
 - Admission■ Free
 - Performers■ Takemoto Kyonosuke x Tsuruzawa Kazu (Gidayu-bushi)
Fujitaka Rieko (“Chikuzen biwa” Five-stringed Japanese lute)
Tamagawa Nanafuku x Sawamura Toyoko (Rokyoku)
Tanabe Ginya (“Koudan” storytelling)
 - Host■ Ishii Yokichi (Sukeroku shop owner)
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Performing Arts Tour and Street Live Performances in Kagurazaka

Various traditional performing artists will greet you at two performing locations set up in Kagurazaka Avenue. Breathtaking acrobats and intriguing music will entertain guests from all generations. Come meet talented groups that create the fusion of classic and modern styles as well as prestigious artists who pass the Edo-Period tradition on to the present.

- Date/Time**■ May 12th (Sun), 2019, around 12:00-17:10
 - Location**■ Kagurazaka area
(Kagurazaka-ue Intersection and “Park Luxe Kagurazaka” “Pocket Parkpatio”)
 - Admission**■ Free
 - Performers**■ GMQ (“Shakuhachi” bamboo flute)
Kyu-ren-ja (“Kokyu” Japanese fiddle)
Yurara (“Gagaku” ancient court music)
Wada Natsuki (“Tezuma” Japanese classical magic)
Seshami Street Boys (Tsugaru shamisen performance)
Koto x Tada Ayako (Japanese flute x 25strings “Koto” Japanese harp)
Oyama Yutaka x Kominato Akihisa x Otawa Masaki
(Tsugaru shamisen x “Shakuhachi” Bamboo flute x “Taiko” Japanese drum)
Maruichi Senoh Troupe (“Edo-Daikagura” Japanese traditional juggling and lion dance)
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NEW Traditional Song and Dance Live

In contrast to the storytelling at Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple, Akagi-jinja Shrine starts a new music program this year! Stop by at the staircase leading to the main hall of the shrine and enjoy the fun performance of Edo-Daikagura as well as the comforting sounds of Shakuhachi bamboo flute, Sou Japanese harp, Kokyu Japanese fiddle and guitar, which are traditionally offered to entertain the Gods and make them dance.

- Date/Time**■ May 12th (Sun), 2019, around 12:00-15:40
 - Location**■ Akagi-jinja Shrine Grounds
 - Admission**■ Free
 - Performers**■ Maruichi Senoh Troupe (“Edo-Daikagura” Japanese traditional juggling and lion dance)
Tone (“Shakuhachi” Bamboo flute x “Sou” Japanese harp x Guitar)
Kodachi (“Kokyu” Japanese fiddle x Electronic keyboard & synthesizer)
-

Experiencing Ozashiki Asobi (Traditional Japanese Parlor Games)

Banquets with Geisha entertainment is one of Japan’s unique forms of hospitality. This program offers you the opportunity to enjoy songs, shamisen music and dances performed by Kagurazaka’s Geishas in their training house called Kenban, which is normally closed to the public. Participants can also try playing games that Geishas often play in banquets. English interpretation is available for non-Japanese-speaking participants.

- Date/Time**■ May 12th (Sun), 2019
1st Performance 13:00-14:00
2nd Performance 14:30-15:30
*Program contents are the same in both performances.
- Location**■ Tokyo Kagurazaka Association - Kenban
(administration office and training place for Geishas)
- Performers**■ Kagurazaka Geishas
Dancers:Eiko, Shiho, Fukuko

Musicians: Mayumi(songs),
Natsue and Sakurako(shamisen) and Yumie(drum)



- Admission■ 2,500 JPY per person
- *Prior reservation is required
- (Capacity: up to 40 participants per performance)
- *English brochures and consecutive interpretation are available at each performance.

■Ticket Reservation■

Confetti <https://www.confetti-web.com/>

Ticket sales starts on April 1st (Mon) at 10:00

TEL:0120-240-540

(Toll free - operators available between 10:00 and 18:00 on weekdays only, Japanese only)

Evening Live Music Performances at Akagi-jinja Shrine Kagura Hall

Akagi-jinja Shrine has been one of Kagurazaka's landmarks since the Edo Period and is also known as a perfect viewing spot for the sunset. On the stage in this beautiful modern-looking shrine, the show starts with vibrant Tezuma Japanese magic and, as new additions this year, introduces you to the sound of the hybrid of Japanese Shakuhachi and Western flute called Okraulo (cooperation: Okura Public Cultural Foundation and Okura Museum of Art) as well as the elegant and gorgeous yet energetic performances of Nagauta Shamisen by female performers and Japanese traditional percussion.

Do not miss the carefully curated finale where the performers, the guests and the staff come together to close the festival in a lively manner.

- Date/Time■ May 12th (Sun), 2019 at 17:30
- Location■ Akagi-jinja Shrine Kaguraden Stage
- Admission■ Free
- Performers■ Wada Natsuki (“Tezuma” Japanese classical magic)
Kominato Akihisa x Matsushita Naoki x Motonaga Hiromu
 (“Shakuhachi”Bamboo Flute Fusion<Fused Instrument>)
Tobaya Riseki Troupe x Mochizuki Harumi Troupe
(Nagauta shamisen & “Hogaku-Bayashi” Japanese traditional percussion)
- Host■ Cyril Coppini

Kagurazaka Time Slip (Stamp Rally / History Guides / Kids' Square)

Collect stamps as you walk through 7 historical landmarks of Kagurazaka and learn more about the town from knowledgeable local guides welcoming you at 8 different spots along the way. At Shirogane Park checkpoint, kids and adults can enjoy nostalgic live performances of picture stories and Edo marionettes, and also play with traditional toys including Beigoma spinning top and Kendama. Participants who have collected all 7 stamps will be awarded limited edition Tenugui towels specially designed for this festival.

- Date/Time■ May 12th (Sun), 2019, 11:30-16:00
- *Participants can exchange their stamps for prizes until 16:30. Prizes are limited in quantity.
- Location■
- Stamp checkpoints: Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple / Kosho-ji Temple / Enpuku-ji Temple / Shirogane Park / Jinai Park / Karuko-zaka slope / Wakamiya Park
- *Maps / stamp collecting sheets will be distributed at each stamp checkpoint.
- *English maps and interpretation are available at each checkpoint

History Guides: Checkpoints above and Geisha-shinmichi alley
Kids' Square: Shirogane Park / Jinai Park (street performance only)

■**Admission**■ Free

■**Performers**■ Shibuya Gagekidan (Picture cards show)
Kamijo Mitsuru (The Edo marionette group)
Cooperation: Edo Tokyo Guide Group
Tokyo Toy Museum curator Yamada Shusei



*Programs are subject to change or cancellation depending on circumstances.
*Alternative venues for a rainy weather and other information will be announced on the official website and at the festival venues.

【Charms of Kagurazaka】

Unlike the rest of Tokyo that has been dramatically redeveloped, the town of Kagurazaka and its stone-paved back alleys mostly remain what they looked like in the Edo Period. The rise of its Geisha district brought to Kagurazaka dedicated masters of performing arts who established training houses here to pass on the traditions. In the prewar time, Kagurazaka had many theaters where the arts of storytelling were actively practiced. After the war, the French started finding residence in this neighborhood that somewhat reminded them of Paris, whose culture united with that of the Japanese in harmony and created the unique atmosphere of Kagurazaka. In recent years, the leading local NPO Ikimachi Club has been working with young volunteer groups, local store associations, corporations and shop owners to host numerous events in different sizes mainly focusing on traditional performing arts. Kagurazaka is now gaining worldwide attention as a town rich in cultural heritages.

【Street Stage Concierge】

This event is supported by various forms of cooperation such as translation and guidance services provided by over 100 volunteers including the local residents, foreign exchange students and the corporations in Kagurazaka. **Street Stage Concierge** formed by volunteers highly knowledgeable of Kagurazaka and its traditional performing arts will make the event even more informative by giving you detailed explanations on the different genres of traditional performing art, the performers, the musical instruments and the town of Kagurazaka.

■Inquiries from media partners should be directed to:

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