

Activity Report of Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute 2022 – 2024
by Secretariat of Japanese Centre of ITI for the 37th ITI World Congress 2024 (in Antwerp and Den Bosch)

The Japanese Centre of International Theatre Institute is a private non-profit organization consisting of about 200 members, which has been promoting exchange between Japanese and foreign theater and dance since its establishment in 1951. The organization has received commissions from the Japanese government (Agency for Cultural Affairs) to publish Theatre Yearbook since 1973. In recent years, the organization also has received grants to translate and present readings of foreign plays, especially those that have not yet been introduced to Japan.

1. Editing and publishing Theatre Yearbook

At the end of March of each fiscal year (2022 - 2024), Theatre Yearbook is published in two volumes, one in English and one in Japanese.

(Japanese edition) "Theatre Yearbook - Theatre Abroad" to learn about the world's performing arts.

(English version) "Theatre Yearbook - Theatre in Japan" to learn about the performing arts in Japan

2. "Theatre Born in Conflict Zones" series reading performances 2022 - 2024

October 2023: "The Murder of Isaac", written by Motti Lerner (Israel), directed by Nanao Kobayashi.

3. "World Theater Lab" 2022 - 2024

This annual program selects outstanding plays from overseas that have not yet been introduced to Japan and collaborates with directors to train emerging translators, actors, and other professionals. The program includes play translation workshops and staged readings. The reading performances listed below are indicated with the director's names.

Example: month, year, title, writer's name (writer's place of residence), and director's name.

February 2024: "Family Constellation", written by Lee Pin Yao (Taiwan), directed by Reiko Mizuno

Feb. 2024: "Harajuku Girls", written by Francis Turnly (UK), directed by Sorami Tachi

February 2024: "The Nature of Captivity", written by Matthew Paul Olmos (USA), translation supervised by Takehiko Tanioka

February 2023: "Rotterdam", written by Jon Brittain (UK), directed by EMMA

February 2023: " Chamarco ", written by Abel González Melo (Cuba), directed by Eiji Nishizawa

August 2022: "Big Deal", written by Mia Efremova (North Macedonia)

4. Project for promoting performances of overseas and domestic plays in local cities (Agency for Cultural Affairs "Art Caravan Project")

2023/2024: "Khail Taiha (Lost Horses)" by Adnan Alaoda (Syria), performed in three cities (Kanazawa, Fukuyama, Maebashi).

2023/2024: "Bad Roads" by Natal'ya Vorozhbit (Ukraine), performed in 2 cities (Yao, Niigata)

2023: "My Friend Daigo Fukuryumaru" by Yoji Sakate (Japan), performed in 4 cities (Nagoya, Yaizu, Suita, Kushimoto)

5: "These Children's Summer, 1945 Hiroshima-Nagasaki", performed in various cities in Japan.

Conceived, compiled and directed by Koichi Kimura, the play has been performed irregularly with different casts and staffs since its premiere in 1985 until 2023. (English earphone guide provided).

Prefectures in 2023 (July-August): Hyogo, Fukushima, Ehime, Kagawa, Ishikawa, Tokyo (Setagaya-ku)

6. Performance of a play from Quebec, Canada "La Nuit où Laurier Gaudreault s'est réveillé" by Michel Marc Bouchard, translated and directed by Yu Yamagami, November 2023

7. Performances of three Irish plays "Stories on Conflict and Reconciliation from Ireland", December 2022

"The Workhouse Ward", "The Rising of the Moon" by Isabella Augusta Gregory, directed by Erika Miwa

"Once Upon a Bridge" by Sonya Kelly, directed by Atsuko Aoyagi

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