

International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience 2015

International Co-production Project THE STORY OF THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN - ASIAN COLLABORATION - CALL FOR PERFORMERS

Project Overview

As part of the International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience 2015 programme, the festival produces one of the most-loved Swedish play for children: *The Story of the Little Gentleman* with Asian artists. This Asian version will be presented at the festival and is planned to tour to Asian, especially ASEAN, countries and ATYA (Asian Alliance of Theatre Festivals for Young Audiences) member festivals.

About The Story of the Little Gentleman

Synopsis:

A lonely gentleman finally finds a friend. It was a stray dog who was also lonely. They became the best friends. But one day a pretty girl appeared and...

The Story of the Little Gentleman is an adaptation of a Swedish children's book *The Story of the Little Old Man* by Barbro Lindgren. This play with few words is told though movements and music. It has been performed by a lot of artists not only in Sweden but also in many other countries around the globe and is loved as one of the most heartwarming masterpiece of children's theatre.

International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience has produced this play in 2006 with the Swedish director and actor Torbjörn Astner with Japanese actors and musicians and this successful production was presented again at the festival in 2009.

In 2015, the festival aims to create a new Asian version with an Australian director Fraser Corfield and artists/musicians from Asia, especially ASEAN countries, featuring live music with Asian traditional instruments. After the premiere at the festival in July/August 2015, the production intends to tour to other Asian countries.

Schedule (provisional)

April 2015	Audition
28 June 2015	Company members arrive in Okinawa
29 June-27 July 2015	Creation in Okinawa
28 July-2 August 2015	Performance at the festival (4 performances)
Autumn 2015	Presentation in Asia (Cambodia/Laos - tbc)
2016 and later	Tour in Asia, Australia and at ATYA member festivals (tbc)

Director: Fraser Corfield /Artistic Director of ATYP (Australian Theatre for Young People)

Fraser is the Artistic Director of Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP). His work commissioning and staging plays with and for young people has received Australia's most prestigious Awards and nominations and been presented in the nation's leading theatres.

As an Artistic Director Fraser has been a passionate advocate for new work, commissioning and producing over thirty new plays and productions. Highlights include **M.Rock** (ATYP/STC), **Sugarland** (ATYP), **The Tender Age** (ATYP /version 1.0, presented at Carriageworks and Sydney Opera House), **Grounded** (Tantrum Theatre/ATYP) Australia's first major opera composed for young people **Dirty Apple** (Backbone Youth Arts/Opera Queensland/Queensland Music Festival) the new Australian musical **Paradise** (Backbone Youth Arts, published by Playlab Press) and AWGIE award winning plays **Grounded** by Alana Valentine (2013 ATYP /Tantrum Theatre) and **I Said a Word** by Stephen House (2002 Riverland Youth Theatre).

He has directed productions across Australia and internationally. In 2012 he was invited to the International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience where he devised and co-directed the Next Generation Project production involving 22 artists from 12 countries. In 2015 Fraser is directing productions in England, Japan and Australia.

Guidelines for Applicants

- Regardless of gender
- Based in Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, Phillipines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Australia and New Zealand
- Ability to take part in the creation actively in English, without the interpreter
- Skill to create a new work by collaborating with other members
- Excellence in physical expression, not dependent on text
- Applicable to one of below:
 1. Actor/actress who is excellent in physical expression and able to play 1 or more Asian traditional instrument(s) or to sing very well
 2. Actor/actress who is able to play multiple Asian traditional instruments
 3. Musician who can improvise and compose, and play multiple Asian traditional instruments
- Flexible to various ways of expressions and roles in the production
- ♦ If you are neither a performer nor a musician but interested in this project and feel you have the skills which are suitable for the creation, we are happy to accept your application too. (eg. designer)

Audition Process

Phase 1: Screening by documents and videos

Phase 2: Skype audition by the director. Interview and presentation of a short performance

Conditions

- The festival provides international transport and accommodation. The festival encourages to apply for local funding where possible. Applicant who can apply for the funding will be considered as a priority.
- Per diem: JPY3,500 per day per person
- Fee: €1,000 (From the rehearsal until the end of the festival in Okinawa. Fees for future performances will be discussed in due course.)
- If the artist required visa to enter Japan, he/she should cover the expense. The festival will provide necessary documents for the application.

How to Apply

Please submit the following documents by email to littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com .

- CV
- Cover letter
- Video of short performances which the applicant can be clearly seen (Videos are preferred to be uploaded on websites such as youtube and vimeo. If this is not possible, please send the video file itself.)
- Any other supporting materials

Application deadline

Please submit the application by **Tuesday 30th April 2015**.

Contact

Nao Miyauchi / International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience

Email: littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com

Support (planned): Japan Foundation Asia Center

International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience

It is an annual performing arts festival for children and young people which takes place in Naha City, Okinawa, JAPAN. Every summer, the festival presents outstanding productions from Japan, Asia and the globe.

International co-production is one of the unique focuses of the festival. Every year the festival produces several collaborative projects. By continuing and developing projects, the festival aims to establish a multinational theatre company in Asia which activity base is the festival.

This project is a big step to realise the festival's long dream, because at last the project will tour to other Asian countries. The festival team are truly excited about this project and hope to work with Asian artists who will be our long-term collaborator in the future.

Website (2015 website will be up soon): nuchigusui2014.com

Facebook/English: www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest

Facebook/Japanese: www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest.jp

Twitter (mainly in Japanese): twitter.com/nuchigusufest