



NOBODY KNOWS

December, 2021

Japan Council of Performers Rights & Performing Arts Organizations [GEIDANKYO]

The third program in 2021

NOBODY KNOWS to create the new travel from performing arts perspective

**A special video with Kabuki actor Onoe Ukon
at Komatsu City, Ishikawa Prefecture**

Japan Council of Performers Rights & Performing Arts Organizations [Geidankyo] has implemented the project named “NOBODY KNOWS” since 2019, which rediscovers the charm of “Japan Heritage” and local culture from perspective of traditional performing arts in order to promote tourism.

NOBODY KNOWS presents a special video of “The Changing Seasons - Flowers, Birds, Wind and Moon” with local cultures of stone and shipping at Komatsu City in Ishikawa Prefecture as the third program in 2021. The goal is to discover and develop the new charm of the region after digging up the local cultural resources through the folk performances.

NOBODY KNOWS 2021 the Third Program: Komatsu City (Ishikawa Prefecture) online video

A special video with theme of stone and shipping culture

“The Changing Seasons - Flowers, Birds, Wind and Moon”



Online video

Date: To 31st March 2022

Fee: Free

Channel: NOBODY KNOWS YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/c/NOBODYKNOWS-tours>

Performers: Onoe Ukon (Dance, Narration), Kiba Daisuke (Kokyu), Tosha Suiho (Sinobue, Nohkan), Mochizuki Satasuke (Hayashi), Ataka Miyajishi Preservation Society

Composition Hanayagi Genkuro

& choreography:

Video director: Morisaki Kazuhiro

URL: <https://nobodyknows.tours/event2021-05.html>

Questionnaire : 15th November to 31st January 2022

https://questant.jp/q/komatsu_mov_en

From those who watched the video and answered the questionnaire, twenty people will be drawn at random to win prizes of brochures of Japan Heritage site in Komatsu and NOBODY KNOWS photobook. (Residents of Japan Only)

* The information you provide may be used for all media related to public relations activities such as official pamphlets, reports, and press releases of "Japan Cultural Expo" and "NOBODY KNOWS" project.



At Natadera Temple, Onoe Ukon (center), Mochizuki Satasuke (Left)

NOBODY KNOWS presents a special movie inspired by stone and shipping cultures from two components of Japan Heritage in Komatsu City: The story of Komatsu's gems (A Stone Culture Polished in the Flow of Time), The Kitamae-Bune Sea Routes (Ports and Residences Built on the Dreams of Brave Seafarers).

The seasonal changes within the flow of time are expressed here through Japanese dance and music, using traditional instruments such as kokyu (Japanese violin), flutes (shinobue and nohkan) and hogaku bayashi (traditional Japanese percussion). Through performing arts, the program will shed new light on the rich cultural assets of the region.

Onoe Ukon, Kabuki actor, performed in dance and narration. He said in the radio program he hosted that he wanted to perform in the work choreographed by a Japanese dancer Genkuro Hanayagi, in charge of the composition and choreography of this video. NOBODY KNOWS realized his wish this time. He showed a dignified performance at Natadera temple in the beautiful nature. The video also took place in Ataku where there used to be a checkpoint which was key to Kabuki "Kanjinchō" story. It is the spot that traditional performing arts fans must visit at least once. He fought with a lion as a wood-rod-swinger, which has been culturally handed down to Ataku Miyajishi (lion), on the Ataka beach dyed with the sunset glow.

There are Komatsu's rich cultural resources seen in the video along with stone materials, Kutani ware and a thin fabric called 'Organza' developed by Suncorona Oda, one of the world's leading textile companies which also has a factory in Komatsu.



↑ At Natadera Temple, Tosha Suiho

↓ (Left) Ataku beach (Right) Natadera Temple



Profile



Ataka Miyajishi Preservation Society

The Ataka Miyajiishi, a Shishimai (lion dance) inspired by the Kaga Shishi from Tsurugi (Hakusan City) where lion dances are popular. This type of lion dance is characterized by its 'lion fighting', in which various martial arts fighting techniques are used against a large lion's head, including fighting with sticks, naginata (pole weapons), chain sickles and other weapons. It was revived in 1979 with the reunion of the youth group, but the Shishimai performance from door to door in the town was so tough work, that it was in danger of survival. The current Ataka Miyajishi Preservation Society was established in 1989, and is operated mainly by the youth group alumni.

Performers

Onoe Ukon (Dance and Narration)

Is the second son of Kiyomoto EnjudayuVII, a head family of Kiyomoto school. His great grandfather is Onoe KikugoroVI. When he was 7, he debuted as Matsu-mushi in “Bukaku Setsugekka” at Kabuki-za theatre. At the age of 12 he succeeded to the name of Onoe Ukon II at “Ninjou Banashi Bunnshichi Mottoi” in Shinbashi Embujo Theater where he played the part of Choubei’s daughter, Ohisa. He succeeded to Kiyomoto Eijudayu in January, 2018. Has been introducing the charm of Japanese traditional arts including Kabuki as a host of NHK radio program “KABUKI TUNE” since 2018.

Kiba Daisuke (Kokyu)

Born on Awaji Island. Studied classical kokyu under Kazuo Hara. At the same time, studied classical kokyu of Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo, as well as the style of kokyu playing techniques from various parts of Japan, such as Bunraku, Kaze no Bon, and Owari Manzai. Has been developing the new playing style of these combination, and a four-strings kokyu which has a wide range of low sounds, and its composition, shedding light on the value of kokyu tradition. His performance on NHK World’s “Blends” was broadcasted around the world. Has been active in a wide range of activities including a national tour of the Yoshida Brothers, unit activities with the koto and piano, and also organizes “Cross-cultural String Orchestra” featuring the kokyu, and other stringed instruments from different countries. He also has developed his composition, including “Suite Kojiki” and “Silk Road Suite,” focusing on Japan with world’s traditional instruments.

Tosha Suiho (Shinobue, Nohkan)

Studied under his grandfather, Tosha Shuho, who was the head of the Tosha school branch flute family, his uncle, Tosha Meisho, and his father, Nakagawa Yoshio. Succeeded to the name "Suiho" in 2004. While he was a student of Tokyo University of the Arts, received Joka Award, the Dosei-kai Award for new talent, and the Acanthus Music Award. Has appeared in many concerts and broadcasts, including performances sponsored by the National Theatre of Japan and NHK "Nippon-no-Geino", and has also participated in overseas performances. In addition to his activities in the classical arts, has participated in concerts and recordings of pop artists. A Cultural Exchange Ambassador for Agency for Cultural Affairs in 2020 and 2021.

Mochizuki Satasuke (Hayashi)

Started playing Japanese drum since early childhood. Masters degree from the Tokyo University of the Arts, faculty of music, department of traditional Japanese music in 2019. While in college, won the Joka Prize, the Ataka Prize, and the Acanthus Music Prize. Performs in both inside and outside Japan as the musical accompanist such as the performance in "Heisei Nakamura-za Spain performance", "Modern Noh Abeno Seimei starring Nomura Mansai," and a lot more. Appeared also in NHK Taiga Drama Series "Naotora" and "Pythagora Switch."

Composition & Choreography:**Hanayagi Genkuro**

Born in Nara prefecture. A Japanese dancer. He has a gorgeous and powerful artistic style and is active in various performances based on classical dance. He received the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Encouragement Award and the Dance Critics Association New Artist Award. As an assistant choreographer, he also participated in Mt. Hiei firewood Kabuki, works by Yukio Ninagawa, and Takarazuka performances. He directs and choreographs "NOBODY KNOWS" based on stories from Japan Heritage.

Video Director**Kazuhiro Morisaki**

Born in Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture. Since 2006, he has been producing TV programs and TV commercials at a video production company. He has produced videos in various genres such as TV commercials and promotional videos since 2012 when he joined CENDO Inc.

NOBODY KNOWS at Komatsu City (collaborated with Japan Cultural Expo, 2021)

Organizer: Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Japan Arts Council, Japan Council of Performers Rights & Performing Arts Organizations (GEIDANKYO)

Co-organizer: Komatsu City

Support: Ministry of the Environment

Cooperation: Natadera Temple, Ataka Sumiyoshi Shrine, Ataka Miyajishi Preservation Society, The Nihonbuyo Association

Art cooperation: Suncorona Oda Co.,Ltd.

Video production: avic studio KANAZAWA co., Ltd.

Sound: Ishimaru-gumi

Video produce: DRAWING AND MANUAL INC.

Photograph: Takahashi Toshimitsu

Planning Cooperation: tateito-yokoito llc.

Public Relations Cooperation: Sanseisha

Communication Design: Que inc.

Project to develop the new form of travel from performing arts view at Japan Heritage “NOBODY KNOWS”

“NOBODY KNOWS” is a project to develop a new form of local tourism by rediscovering hidden cultures rooted in local regions as expression or prayer from perspective of “folk performance” at Japan Heritage*¹ across all over the country. Organized by Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Japan Arts Council, Japan Council of Performers Rights & Performing Arts Organizations, “Japan Cultural Expo” project*² has been carried out since 2019.

In 2019, NOBODY KNOWS implemented tour plans at 6 regions with theme of “Nature and Craftsmanship” and “Nature and Worship”. It released online programs with which visitors enjoyed local historical cultures and folk performances in 2020. In 2021, as the third year, there will be plans for 5 regions. Seeking for a business opportunity in both “Tourism/Sightseeing” and “Performing arts” industries which has faced with hard time caused by the covid-19 pandemic, NOBODY KNOWS challenges the program which promotes tourists to visit these areas.

*¹ Japan Heritage: An initiative by Agency for Cultural Affairs that certifies stories that tell Japanese culture and traditions as "Japan Heritage" through history and charms across the nation. The purpose is to revitalize regions and promote tourism by packaging tangible and intangible cultural properties in each region related to the story. As of June 2020, 104 locations have been certified.

*² “Japan Cultural Expo” project: Projects, deployed throughout Japan, to promote Japanese cultural arts and spread its diverse and universal appeal in anticipation of fostering momentum for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and increasing foreign tourists.



<https://nobodyknows.tours/>

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