

PRESS RELEASE

17 May 2010

IIMURO Naoki MIME SOLO ACT: time of mime

One of the best mime actors from Japan comes to join in Hue Festival 2010 and performs in Hanoi for the first time.

On the auspicious occasion of the 1000th anniversary of Thang Long – Hanoi and Hue Festival 2010, the Japan Foundation proudly presents a pantomime performance entitled “IIMURO Naoki MIME SOLO ACT: time of mime” in Hanoi and Hue.

Learned mime under Marcel Marceau, the founder of modern pantomime, Iimuro Naoki has been actively performing in plethora of festivals in the world, getting awards both in Japan and overseas.

His silent movements penetrate language barrier and inspire us not only laughs but also the depth of stories. The highlight is a part of the acts entitled “Escape,” in which he uses his original technique *time-slice* to express the scenes of running to escape from enemies as if the audience is watching an action movie with multi angles.

We hope that this show will entertain not only adults but also children with its universal body language, which is sublimed in the art of silence.

Admission is free (Hanoi) but tickets are required. The free tickets (Hanoi) are available at the Japan Foundation Center for Cultural Exchange in Vietnam (27 Quang Trung) from 10:00 am on Friday 21 May 2010.

Hanoi

Date: Wednesday 2 & Thursday 3 June 2010
[Open] 19:00 [Start] 20:00
Venue: Youth Theatre (Nha Hat Tuoi Tre) 11 Ngo Thi Nham, Hanoi

Hue

Date: Sunday 6 & Monday 7 June 2010
[Start] 19:30
Venue: Royal Theatre, Imperial Palace, Hue

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Iimuro Naoki



Graduated from Ecole Internationale de Mimodrame de Paris Marcel Marceau. Graduated from Conservatoire Niedermeyer d'Issy Les Moulineaux Ecole Nationale de Musique de Dance et d'Art Dramatique, winning the first prize by the judge's unanimity. In his dual role actor and producer, he takes an active role in many performances, thereby promoting pantomime in Japan.

*Gold medal for the mime improvisation section at Delphic Games (2009)

*Special prize in street performance competition at Kobe Biennale (2009)

The list of episodes in the performance:

Prologue / Fly / Angel / It's show time! / Conductor's tragedy / A life of frog / Escape / Hands / Epilogue (Approximately 65 minutes in total)

■ The Outline of Selected Episodes



Fly:

At a bar looking like in a cowboy film, a battle begins between a gunman and a fly. Who will win in the end? The quick switch of role as a gunman and a fly is so impressive in this episode.



Angel:

A diver dives into a deep sea to find a treasure in the depth of the sea. But why the title is "Angel?" The answer is in the episode. The slow motions in mime give us the impression as if he swims in the deep sea.



Conductor's tragedy:

What happens on the conductor? What is the tragedy for him? This shortest episode will give us the answer within just 1 minute!



A life of frog:

Growing from an egg to a tadpole, having arms and legs... A life of frog is played with the classic music, "Air on the G string."



Escape:

The hero is running away from its enemy. The original technique "time-slice" gives us vivid impression as if we are watching an action movie with multi-angles. No computer graphic, no wires. Only one human body is used for the scenes in this episode.