

## Choreography by Mr. Satoshi Hata Performance by Members of The Kikunokai

On cinematizing the original work by Ryotaro Shiba [The pass], Mr. Satoshi Hata, the representative will be in charge of choreograph and dance guidance of dance scene following [higurashi no ki], Koizumi director work and The Kikunokai members will join. Deluxe cast like the leading

Releasing in 2020  
Takashi Koizumi Director work



front row center left, Takashi Koizumi, director far right, Satoshi Hata commemorative photo with Kikunokai members after performance

## 『峠』 The last SAMURAI The Pass

actor, Koji Yakusho and Takako Matsu, Min Tanaka, Kyoko Kagawa, Kuranosuke Sasaki, Tatsuya Nakadai, etc. get together and they realize the first moviemaking of the best seller. Koizumi director who released the better Japanese movies such as [Ame agaru] [Amidado dayori] [The Housekeeper and The Professor] clarifies his enthusiasm [I also want to capture what samurai is in this movie. Naturally, refreshingly and beautifully]. (extract from movie COM)

Taiwan Tainan City  
[Japanese Culture Festival]  
[Nan Ying International Folklore Festival]



The Kikunokai first participated in [2018 Nan Ying International Folklore Festival and [Japanese Culture Festival] held in Taiwan Tainan City from 12th to 14th October, 2018.

[2018 Nan Ying International Folk Art Festival] is held once 2 years and The Kikunokai participated as a representative of Japan.

According to Department of Cultural Affairs, Taiwan City Government, about 8,000 people participated in [Japanese Culture Festival].

The Kikunokai in charge of leading dance from [News from school] Yokohama Municipal Minatomiraihoncho Elementary School

### Principal Kazuhiko Omasa

Overseas trainees from JICA (Independent Administrative Agency Japan International Cooperation Agency) visited our school. Under training of [Education of high quality for everybody] of SDCs (Sustainable Development Goals), Education ministries and other government agencies of developing countries and trainees of teachers & staff of 11 countries visited us, for whom we showed [Sorani Bushi]. They were moved by Japanese dance and also vivid children.

Thinking that they themselves can be good for overseas children, this was an important chance to be connected with overseas as if it is his or her own but not only knowledge.

## INFORMATION

[Leap! Japanese Soul and Heart]  
Memorial Project of 50th Anniversary since executing Oranachi town system  
Date & time: Sun. Feb. 24 14:00 open  
Venue: ORATOWN Central Community Center Muranomori Hall (ORATOWN, Gunma Prefecture)

[Japanese Dance]  
Date & time: Sat. Mar. 9 14:00 open  
Venue: Sun City Koshigaya Community Center (small hall) (Koshigaya City Saitama Prefecture)

[The 5th Sakura Dance] by The Kikunokai Atelier  
Date & time: Mar. 21 - 24 Mar. 28 - 31 / Apr. 4 - 7 12:00, 14:00 open  
Venue: The Kikunokai Studio (Shinjuku City, Tokyo)

[Japanese Dance]  
Date: Sat. May 11  
Venue: Kirari ☆ Fujimi (Fujimi City, Saitama Prefecture)  
Date: Sat. May 19  
Venue: Kashima Kinrou Bunkaikaikan (Kashima City, Ibaragi Prefecture)

◆ Please note that the above programs are subject to change and make sure the date & time.

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kikunokai

<http://www.kikunokai.co.jp/>



## Feeling excited

"Dance with Heart"

We are burning with enthusiasm

in creating national art for the new era.

The Kikunokai Dance Troupe

Representative: Satoshi Hata

# 日本のおどり Japanese Dance

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Dancing from the heart

## Greetings

The KIKUNOKAI Dance Troupe  
Representative Satoshi Hata

I am very much pleased to say that all of you are leading happy and healthy lives more and more.

We consider this year when the name of an era will be changed from Heisei to the new name as the year of changes and review the current system of The Kikunokai as a Dance Troupe and make a start heading for the next goal of 50th Anniversary since establishment.

We appreciate your continuous support and encouragement.



## As a person of assuming the leading role of tradition and development of cultures of two countries

Shanghai Opera House Dance Troupe  
Vice President Wu Jie

In the memorable year of 40th Anniversary since the conclusion of the Japan-China Peace and Friendship Treaty, Shanghai Opera House Dance Troupe came to Japan under the invitation of Japan-China Friendship Hall for playing at the dance party. While staying in Japan we were blessed with good chance to the exchange friendship meeting with [The Kikunokai Dance Troupe] and 16 members of our dance troupe visited The Kikunokai studio. We for the first time enjoyed rakugo (Sanyutei Rakko: a professional comic story teller) and kyogen dance newly created based on the rakugo or Japanese dance. We appreciated their preparation of explanation of rakugo in Chinese for us who could not understand Japanese language at all. We were very much interested in kyogen dance newly made as we could understand the story beyond language barrier because of superb expressiveness of the dancer. We also could have the very good experience in soothing our minds by seeing artistic expression in full of humor played by each dancer in Japanese dance.

We often say that the art would be what we developed after getting hints in daily lives. After we saw the performance by The Kikunokai, we found their daily lives heavily tinged in all of their dances. At the same time we found their loves for dance/art from the bottom of their hearts and their stepping up efforts without compromise. At the exchange meeting after performance Mr. Son Jie, Mr. Cheng Peng, Mr. Tan Yimei performed their dances. People of The Kikunokai appreciated our dances very much. In the opinion exchange meeting after it, Leaders and dancers of the both groups announced their own recognition and understanding on dancing when it was the fruitful time.

We hope that the exchange meeting this time can help both parties who take care of tradition and development of cultures of both countries to establish good relationship from now on. Lastly we thank you for [The Kikunokai] to arrange this exchange meeting and hope that they could be more prosperous.



## 2nd public performance of The Kikunokai at Kawakami-village Nagano Prefecture Playing a role for revitalizing the local culture!!



"Sadookesa"



from left: Yoshio Kawakami (Deputy Village Mayor), Satoshi Hata (Representative), Tadahiko Fujiwara (Village Mayor), Junko Nakayama, Hiroshi Shinozuka (Utmost contributor)

As a culture project following the last year we held the 2nd public performance of The Kikunokai on Nov. 23 as the main project by Kawakami-mura and Kawakami-mura Board of Education. Kawakami-mura is located at the upper stream of Chikuma River and famous as one of the most eminent lettuce producing district. It also is known as the hometown of Mr. Kimiya Yui, an astronaut.

On the day of performance Mr. Fujiwara, the Mayor of a village, Mr. Kawakami, the vice Mayor of the village and other villagers and also people from Matsumoto City, Saku City and Ikusaka Village.

After the public performance Mr. Fujiwara, the Mayor of the village expressed his words [It was a very wonderful public performance. Many village people wanted to enjoy it again.] We are happy to hear from him that they expect The Kikunokai would revitalize the local culture.



"Boshibari"



from front row center left, Mr. Mauricio Salas Torreblanca

We held the first public performance of The Kikunokai, Dance Troupe in November 2017 at Peru National Theater under the great support and cooperation of Embassy of Japan in Peru and Japanese-Peruvian Association.

The stage of The Kikunokai at the National Theater realized the emotional

encounter of traditional Japanese culture and local people.

We could enjoy on the stage delicate, graceful and harmonious dance and courteous dance with skillful technique and experience.

Japanese descent and general audience will never forget [The Kikunokai] as Japanese Art Ambassador in the world. On the day of performance the theater became full in short time.

We held the public performance with the aim of education for more than 1,000 children of local schools who participate in [Spectator Cultivation Program] and young audiences who came to see The Kikunokai dance were charmed by skillful and colorful dance technique.

Dance is one of artistic expressions

nearest to lives in the local society or human feelings. People all over the world through dance worship god, celebrate festivals, share the same cycle of lives and show their own view of the world. Thus movement of dance will be real and unprecedented.

The Kikunokai made us approached to the essence and could let us know feelings of people geographically far but culturally near through [movement • ceremony • humor • music].

I thank you very much for The Kikunokai members, creator, directors and people who could arrange The Kikunokai to visit here.

Peru will always welcome all of you warmly and with clap from the bottom of heart.



Peru National Theater

### 2Memory of 50th Anniversary after executing town system • memory of opening Central Community Center

## Sending message for The Kikunokai ORATOWN public performance



ORATOWN, Gunma Prefecture  
The chief of a village **Masakazu Kaneko**

I first time watched public performance of The Kikunokai in Oizumi-machi located in Oura-gun, Gunma Prefecture. Although I am not familiar with Japanese Dance, I was fascinated by various dances which were elegant and brave including humor in various scene and hoped that ORATOWN people could

observe this wonderful dance.

Just then it is the memorial year of 50th Anniversary since the town system of ORATOWN was enacted.

ORATOWN Central Community Center Muranomor Hall is the first full scale hall just opened this year and we have been looking for chances for town citizen to appreciate the wonderful art culture in this facility.

I had the chance to meet Mr. Hata, The Representative of The Kikunokai. After consultation The Kikunokai and ORATOWN decided to hold the joint project at Muranomor Hall in February



2019.

We do hope that we can realize the following by using this chance of public performance. Town citizens can understand The Kikunokai and it's charm. On the contrary eager fans of The Kikunokai visiting from far area will understand charming points of Muranomor Hall and ORATOWN where they visit often. I am really happy that some boys and girls who observed The Kikunokai public performance will intend to be in charge of dances and to be the torch-bearer for Japanese good tradition and arts.



### Long-awaited public performance at Shoo Culture Center

## Public Performance of The Kikunokai Dance Troupe [Japanese Dance flutters in autumn with beautiful leaves]

Shoo Town, Okayama Prefecture **Junji Mizushima**, the Mayor

On the day of autumn suitable for the word of [Kinshu] the public performance of The Kikunokai, Dance Troupe was held at Honmachi Culture Center. This is the second performance since 1991.

Shoo Town, Okayama Prefecture is located at the northeast part of the prefecture and known as the place of his death of Kintoki Sakata (his childhood name Kintaro) and progressing as the harmonized town of industry and agriculture. Katsumada, the center of the town developed as a post town of Izumokaide and even now retains traces along the street.

About 30 years ago the late Michiyo Hata, the founder of The Kikunokai arranged choreograph of [Shoo Ondo] and [Shoo Yattosa Bushi] when we had connection with The

Kikunokai. At that time I remember that she came here all the way several times. My heart is filled with deep emotion that the real dance public performance was held first of

all at Culture Hall opened in 2004. The seeds which Ms. Hata sowed have grown up and still are living in the local area as the dance representing Honmachi Art Culture Activities.

Preservation Society was established about 30 years ago and now 40 members are acting and positively participating in local events.

The public performance this



"Kaga Haiyabushi"

into domestic and foreign market and pursue traditional beauty of Japanese Culture like expressing classics like kyogen by dance. I also was deeply impressed by their attitude.

This is the first real dance public performance as an independent project. Although guests and I do not have a deep knowledge with dance, we devoted ourselves to watch with time passing quickly the beautiful lively dance played

time could be big stimulation for members of Preservation Society.

The Kikunokai made traditional dances spread in various places into a theatrical play and spread Japanese culture

on the stage. All of guests who watched dance at the hall said it was a very good public performance. It was really a wonderful stage public performance.

Although it was a public performance for general citizens, I thought that we would make children in this town also experience the beauty of Japanese traditional culture. I do hope that The Kikunokai could realize public performance at Shoo Town in the near future.

Lastly while I express great thanks to Mr. Satoshi Hata, the representative of The Kikunokai Dance Troupe, all the members of The Kikunokai and all the related members for their support when we held this public performance, I hope that The Kikunokai will be more active and progressive.



"Migawarizazen"