

Performing Arts Exchange

The Japan Foundation conducts projects to introduce Japanese performing arts to foreign countries and to introduce foreign performing arts to Japan. Specifically, the Foundation sponsors performances in a wide range of fields including drama, dance, music and traditional arts inside and outside Japan, and grants programs for performance projects that will contribute to international exchange.

1. Overseas Performances

(1) Sponsoring overseas performances

The Foundation plans projects in areas (mostly the subject countries for ODA) where few Japanese performing arts are conducted, and dispatches performing arts companies.

<Examples of FY2003>

● J-ASEAN Pops concerts

The Foundation held concerts in Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Bangkok performed by representative artists in the pop field in Japan and the ASEAN countries, and jointly produced image songs with the objective of popular music exchange between Japan and ASEAN countries as the core project in the Japan-ASEAN exchange year.

● Maywa Denki performance

● Jo Kanamori Project Noism04 dance performance

The Foundation presented these performances as a participating event at the Humans and Robots Exhibition held at the Japan Cultural Institute in Paris (The Japan Foundation).

(2) Grant programs for overseas performances

The Foundation has a grant for Japanese performing arts companies planning overseas performances.

<Examples of FY2003>

● Performance by Shochiku Grand Kabuki, Chikamatsu-za in Russia

The Chikamatsu-za company led by Ganjiro Nakamura gave performances in Moscow and Saint Petersburg as the main event for the 2003 Festival of Japanese Culture in Russia.

2. Performances in Japan

(1) Sponsoring performances in Japan

The Foundation introduces foreign performing arts that are familiar to few Japanese people.

<Examples of FY2003>

● J-ASEAN Pops concert

(2) Grant programs for performances in Japan

The Foundation grants subsidies to Japanese organizations that plan to invite performing arts companies from the subject countries of ODA, the former Soviet Union, Eastern European countries and Korea.

<Examples of FY2003>

● Performance by a folkdance troupe from Bosnia-Herzegovina, in Japan

● "Rituals, Nature and Music" at the 19th "Summer In Tokyo" 2003 Music Festival



J-ASEAN Pops concert in Yokohama

3. Promotion of Arts Exchange

(1) Joint production of international performing arts

The Foundation produces and shows new performing arts as joint projects with art festival committees, theaters, etc. in Japan and abroad.

<Examples of FY2003>

● Japan-China-France joint production of contemporary dance by Philippe Decoufle

World-famous choreographer and director Philippe Decoufle announced his new work *Iris* as a joint project with the Arts and Culture Foundation of Kanagawa Prefecture (selected dancers from Japan, China and France participated).

(2) Japan-US joint project for introducing performing arts [performing arts Japan (PAJ)]

The Foundation grants programs to NPO who plan performances by Japanese artists or participate in joint productions with performing arts groups in rural regions of the United States (Midwest, South, etc.) where there are few opportunities to experience Japanese performing arts.

<Examples of FY2003>

● Mansaku Nomura and his Mansaku-no-kai Kyogen performance in the US

● Dumb Type performance in the US

(3) Information exchange projects

The Foundation promotes information exchange among the performing troupes, presenters, festival organizers, theaters, local public bodies, etc.

<Examples of FY2003>

● Participation in the performing arts marketplace overseas

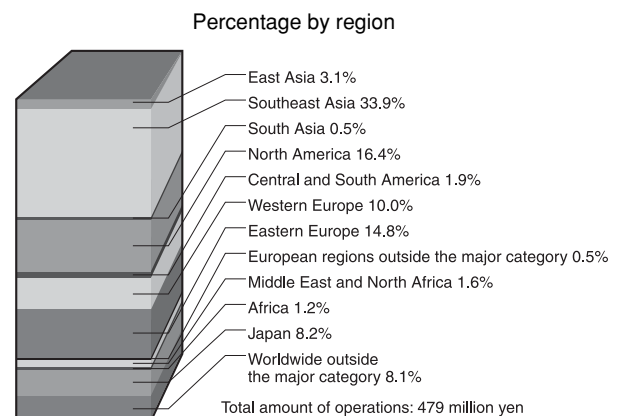
The Foundation dispatched specialists to introduce the latest developments in Japanese performing arts to the APA in the US and the APAM in Australia.

● 8th Tokyo performing arts marketplace

The Foundation conducted this program to promote exchange of arts by having performing artists meet together and participate in intensive exchange of information.

● Publication of the English language booklet *Performing Arts in Japan 2003*

The Foundation published an English language booklet that presents an overview of current developments in performing arts in Japan as a means to offer information to performing artists overseas.



Iris by Mr. Philippe Decoufle