

## Translation and Publication of Theatrical Plays: Chinese Performances of *Carcass* by YOKOYAMA Takuya to Be Held Along with Talk Events

Performances by the Shanghai Theatre Academy and talk event featuring playwright YOKOYAMA Takuya and director LI Minyuan will be held in China, based on the Chinese-language version of Yokoyama's play *Carcass*, which was published by the Japan Foundation as part of its efforts to translate and publish Japanese theatrical plays.

The Japan Foundation is publishing translations of theatrical works by five promising Japanese playwrights (ICHIHARA Satoko, KUWABARA Yuko, MAEKAWA Tomohiro, MAEDA Shiro, and Yokoyama Takuya) in collaboration with publishing houses outside of Japan. The works are being translated and published in five languages: English, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and Arabic. Now, applying the text translated into Chinese within this program, gifted theater students in Shanghai will take on the challenge of staging Yokoyama's magnum opus *Carcass*, which has been continually presented since it premiered in 2009.

The performances and talk event will explore the imaginations and values of the playwright and those who are involved in the project and seek to further expand cultural exchange through the potential of theater.

### ■ Outline of Performances

**Schedule:** Friday, March 29, to Sunday, March 31, 2024  
(preceded by a talk event on 30th)  
**Venue:** Jasmine Theatre (Shanghai, China)  
**Playwright:** YOKOYAMA Takuya  
**Translation:** ZHENG Shifeng  
**Director:** LI Minyuan  
**Cast:** Students from Shanghai Theatre Academy  
**Cooperation:** The Japan Foundation, Beijing



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## ■ Artist Profile

**YOKOYAMA Takuya**

Born in Osaka on January 21, 1977, Yokoyama is a playwright, director, and head of theatre company iaku (f. 2012). He is known for writing plays structured in precise conversational layers that, like a spiral stairway, lead the audience unexpectedly into moments of conflict among his characters. The rich dramaturgy of his plays invites repeated production. Furthermore, he aims to create plays that entertain and stand up to critical viewing by adult audiences. Yokoyama has garnered numerous awards including the 15th Japan Playwrights Association New Playwright Award for *Carcass* (2009), 1st Sendai Short Drama Award for *Not Knowing How Others Feel* (2013), 72nd Agency for Cultural Affairs National Arts Festival New Artist Award (Kansai district) in 2017, Osaka City Sakuya Konohana Award (2018), 27th Tsuruya Namboku Drama Award for his latest work (2024) and others.

**LI Minyuan**

Prof. LI Minyuan resided in France for 9 years. He was a recipient of the Government Scholarship to Study Abroad (GSSA) in Taiwan. After obtaining his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Université Lumière-Lyon II, under the supervision of Prof. Bernadette Bost (who is also an editor of *Le Monde*), he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Literature and Art by the same university in 2013.

Prof. LI has directed over thirty theatre productions, his works not only emphasize the natural expression of actors' voice, stage presence, physicality, and the integration of various stage elements, but also focus on communicating the 'here and now' within the theatre space, and the interdisciplinary nature of performing arts.

His research interests encompass the fields of drama studies, performing arts, cross-cultural studies, and theatre education.

**Shanghai Theatre Academy**

Shanghai Theatre Academy (STA) is a prestigious art university for performing art talents in China. It was formerly the Shanghai Municipal Experimental Theatre School, which was established on December 1st, 1945. In 1956 the school was officially renamed Shanghai Theatre Academy. In 2002, STA became a comprehensive art university with the

disciplines of theatre, traditional Chinese opera, dance, film, TV, and the education spectrum covered vocational secondary school, bachelor, master and doctor programs.

STA has cultivated thousands of artists and culture managers in various professional fields for the country, and many graduates have become leading experts and professionals with national and international reputation in the fields of theatre, film, TV, dance and fine arts. They have won numerous grand awards and enjoyed high reputation and influence at home and abroad.

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