

## A dream collaboration that transcends time and space, where Okinawan and Indonesian royal dynasties meet: Ryukyu Buyo performances in Indonesia



The Japan Foundation (JF) will hold Ryukyu Buyo performances in Indonesia's Mangkunegaran Palace (in Solo) and Graha Bhakti Budaya Theater (in Jakarta) under the direction of Shinji Kinjo, Artistic Director of the National Theater Okinawa, featuring dances that convey the history and spirit of Okinawa.

This event marks the first Ryukyu Buyo performance at the Mangkunegaran Palace.

Ryukyu Buyo originated during the era of Okinawa's Ryukyu Kingdom as a form of hospitality for foreign envoys from China and Southeast Asia.

One of the performances in Indonesia will take place in the ancient city of Solo at the Mangkunegaran Palace, which has played a vital role in preserving Javanese culture and arts since it was established in the 18th century.

There, an elegant program of classical dances and music handed down through the palace tradition will be presented alongside the vibrant Ryukyu Buyo refined in the Ryukyu Kingdom—creating a dream collaboration in which the cultures of two royal dynasties transcend time and space.

In Jakarta, the performances will be held in the Graha Bhakti Budaya Theater, located within Taman Ismail Marzuki, a renowned center for integrated arts and culture in Indonesia. The program will focus on Ryukyu Buyo performances that vividly depict the everyday life of the common people in Okinawa. The charm of Okinawa's diverse performing arts will bloom brightly in Indonesia.

### Press inquiries:

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This program is being organized as part of “Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0,” a comprehensive Japan Foundation initiative aimed at promoting exchange among the next generation and developing human resources in Japan and the ASEAN nations. In addition to the performances described above, workshops and lecture-demonstrations will be held for university students of the arts and Japanese-language students. These events aim to foster exchange with the next generation of young people who are inheriting the traditions of classical Indonesian dance or music and promoting cultural exchange with Japan, providing valuable interactions and experiences to support their future activities.

### Notice

Program name: Ryukyu Buyo Performances in Indonesia -Court Dances Bound by the Sea-

Organizer: The Japan Foundation (JF)

Co-organizer: Bumi Purnati Indonesia

Supported by Pura Mangkunegaran, the Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, and the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

Director: Shinji Kinjo (Artistic Director, National Theatre Okinawa)

Supervisor: Hitoshi Mogi (Ph.D. in Arts, National Theatre Okinawa)

### Performance in Solo

Contents: Indonesian classical dance and music, Ryukyu Buyo

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Venue: Mangkunegaran Palace

Performers: Shinji Kinjo, Satoru Arakaki, Ayano Nishimura, Haruka Hirata, Yuria Nakamine, Eri Yamanoha, Kazuki Tamashiro, Yoshimori Nakamine, Seigo Higa, Mion Kamei, Hiroki Horikawa, Yuki Nakamura

Program: “Yuchidaki,” “Kashikaki,” “Inimajin,” “Meenuhama,” “Wakashu-zei,”  
“Nakazato-bushi,” “Kanayo Amaka,” “Hamachiduri”

Tickets: Invitation only

\*The performers and program for the Indonesian dance and music are being arranged.

### Performances in Jakarta

Contents: Ryukyu Buyo

Date and Time: Friday, July 2025 at 8:00 P.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Saturday, July 26, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Venue: Graha Bhakti Budaya Theater (in Taman Ismail Marzuki)

Performers: Shinji Kinjo, Satoru Arakaki, Ayano Nishimura, Haruka Hirata, Yuria Nakamine, Eri Yamanoha, Kazuki Tamashiro, Yoshimori Nakamine, Seigo Higa, Mion Kamei, Hiroki Horikawa, Yuki Nakamura

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Program: "Yuchidaki," "Inimajin," "Kashikaki," "Niisee-zei"  
Sou solo "Jisugagachi," Sanshin solo "Nakafu-bushi"  
"Hamachiduri," "Kanayo Amaka," "Teema-tou," "Hatuma-bushi," "Tanchame,"  
"Kurushima-Kudoki"

Tickets: VIP seat: IDR 350,000; 1st floor seat: 150,000. Students and those aged 60 and above receive a 50% discount.  
Detailed information will be announced on the official website <https://ja.jpf.go.jp/> and social media accounts of the Japan Foundation, Jakarta.

### Workshop and Lecture-Demonstration in Solo

Date and Time: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 9:00 A.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Venue: Institut Seni Indonesia Surakarta (ISI Surakarta)

Date and Time: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 12:40 A.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Venue: SMA Regina Pacis Surakarta

### Workshop in Jakarta

Date and time: Friday, July 25, 2025 at 13:30 P.M. (Western Indonesia time)

Venue: Graha Bhakti Budaya Theater (in Taman Ismail Marzuki)

### Profile of Shinji Kinjo

Born in 1987. Artistic Director of the National Theater Okinawa.

He began studying Ryukyu Buyo at the age of four under Grand Masters Yoshiko Tanida and Mieko Kinjo of the Tamagusuku-ryu Senjukai school. He is a certified instructor (Shihan) of the Tamagusuku-ryu Senjukai.

Kinjo majored in Ryukyu Buyo and Kumiodori (classical Okinawan theatrical performance) within the Performing Arts program at Okinawa Prefectural University of Arts. He is also a first-generation graduate of the Kumiodori Training Program at the National Theatre Okinawa.

He is a recognized holder of the Okinawa Prefectural Intangible Cultural Property "Ryukyu Opera" and a recipient of the Okinawa Times Arts Encouragement Prize.

His activities span a wide range—from performing in Ryukyu Buyo, Kumiodori, and Okinawan plays to directing Okinawan productions of plays.



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### About the Mangkunegaran Palace

The Mangkunegaran Palace (Pura Mangkunegaran) is one of two royal palaces in the ancient capital city of Solo, Indonesia and was founded by Prince Mangkunegara I in 1757.

The palace plays an important role in the development of culture throughout Indonesia by opening its doors wide to all people from the nation's diverse cultures.

### News from the Japan Foundation

#### Performing Arts Network Japan website

<https://performingarts.jpj.go.jp/>

Launched by JF in 2004, this website, available in both Japanese and English, is updated every month to share the latest information about Japan's diverse and exciting contemporary performing arts with the world. The website also focuses on trends in the global performing arts scene and introduces international presenters in an effort to stimulate international exchange.

Please take a look.



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