

# Dialogue and Creation „Noh x Opera“

## - Noh meets contemporary music -

“Noh” is Japan’s oldest form of musical theater. Ryoko Aoki, a young Noh performer and the “Japan Cultural Envoy” of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, is working on the interaction of Noh with contemporary music.

The Embassy of Japan would like to invite you to a dialogue between Ryoko Aoki and British opera director Frederic Wake-Walker on new opera works inspired by Noh.

Firstly, Aoki will make a presentation on “New attempts on Noh and contemporary music”. Then she will show a part of new creation collaborated with Wake-Walker, followed by a discussion with him and the audience on the possibilities of the new Noh works.



### Ryoko Aoki

graduated from the Faculty of Music at the Tokyo National University of the Arts with coursework in Noh theatre (Kanze school). She obtained a PhD at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies for her thesis "Women and Noh".

Aoki has played in several traditional Noh productions, and has also collaborated with contemporary composers as a Noh singer. She has worked with Peter Eötvös and Toshio

Hosokawa amongst others, and was invited to perform at various venues in Europe and the United States. Aoki has organised her project Noh×Contemporary Music to commission new pieces from 2010 and released her debut CD "Noh×Contemporary Music" in June 2014, which includes Peter Eötvös's "Harakiri". In 2013 she made her debut at Teatro Real de Madrid in the role of Malinche in Wolfgang Rihm's opera "Die Eroberung von Mexiko ". <http://ryokoaoaki.net/>

### Frederic Wake-Walker

is the Artistic Director of Mahogany Opera Group, runs the Mica Mica project in Berlin and works regularly with the children’s opera company Jubilee Opera.

His most recent engagements have included a new production of La Finta Giardiniera (Glyndebourne Festival), Gruber’s Gloria - A Pigtales (Royal Opera, Bregenzer Festspiele, Buxton Festival) and Hans Krasa’s Brundibar (Mahogany and Jubilee Opera).

Other productions include works of Britten, Handel, Stravinsky, Julian Philips and Birtwistle. He has also directed for the Scottish Opera, La Monnaie Brussels, Opera North and for the Ópera de Oviedo.

In 2016 he will debut at La Scala, Milan with a new production of Le Nozze di Figaro.

<http://www.fredericwake-walker.com>

<http://www.askonasholt.co.uk/artists/directors/frederic-wake-walker>



**Date: 27 July 2015 (Mon) 6:30 p.m. (Admission: 6:00 p.m.)**

**Venue: Event Hall, Embassy of Japan  
Hiroshimastr. 10, 10785 Berlin**

If you would like to attend the event, please register by email with ([kultur@bo.mofa.go.jp](mailto:kultur@bo.mofa.go.jp)) by 23 July 2015 (Thu). Please note that the number of participants is limited and that you will need to present your ID / passport for admission.

