

## YUGEN IN ACTION Presentation Series

APRIL 1-2, 2016

JUNE 3-4, 2016

Ever feel like no one speaks your language?  
Tired of being constantly misunderstood?

Dear Artist,

Theatre of Yugen would like to invite you to participate in our Spring 2016 YUGEN IN ACTION Presentation Series.

YUGEN IN ACTION (YiA) is a thematically linked series of presentations including an artists' roundtable, occurring in April and June of 2016. These presentations are an opportunity for local artists to present work that touches on the themes of **Immigration and Alienation**. These themes relate to a play we plan to produce in the Fall, to open our 38th season.

In October of 2016, Theatre of Yugen will present *Akaoni, (The Red Demon)*, by Noda Hideki. The play tells the story of Akaoni, who washes up on the shore of a small beach town. Reddened from long exposure to the elements and seemingly unable to speak a human language, the residents of the town immediately label him a demon, coming from the sea to eat them. Akaoni's lone advocate is an outcast, known simply as The Woman. The Woman sees in Akaoni her own rejection, and begins a journey of cross-cultural empathy to better understand the strange and alien outsider.

Our production of *The Red Demon* comes at a particularly apt time in American history, and our goal of the YiA presentations is to create an opportunity for artists and audience to engage in a dialogue about the themes of Immigration and Alienation. Even more specifically, we would like to discuss what it means to be an artist in the context of these issues.

The work that artists present can be created specifically for the event, snippets of larger works, works in progress, or any other piece related to our themes. As a presented artist, you will receive two hours of tech and two 25-minute max performance time-slots. We are also hosting an afternoon of food and conversation for the artists to come together outside of the performances. Some questions we might address include: How do we approach these issues in our work? How do we translate our art into action? What is our place as artists in the American conversation about immigration?



In particular, Theatre of Yugen seeks methods of artistic action that invoke a sense of Yugen. Yugen is said to mean "a profound, mysterious sense of the beauty of the universe ... and the sad beauty of human suffering."\* It values the power to evoke, rather than the ability to state directly. We are searching for other artists whose work has the power to evoke Yugen - to allow the audience to draw their own conclusions and thus become a part of the conversation.

\*(Ortolani, 325). Ortolani, Benito. The Japanese Theatre. Princeton University Press: Princeton, 1995

If you are intrigued and would like to be a part of the Yugen in Action Presentation Series, please see below for all the details. We look forward to hearing from you!

With great regard,  
Allie Khori  
Yugen in Action Series Producer  
allie@theatreofyugen.org

## **DEADLINES**

### **For April 1 & 2**

**Applications Due: February 26**

**Program Announced: March 1**

### **For June 3 & 4**

**Applications Due: April 11**

**Program Announced: April 18**

## **About Theatre of Yugen & NOHspace**

Theatre of Yugen was founded in 1978 by Japanese native Yuriko Doi, who set the company on a path of training in the traditional theatre forms, Noh and Kyōgen. This training has been the foundation of the company's annual cultural outreach programs and original fusion productions.

'Yugen' describes a beauty and vibrancy that strikes the heart as powerfully as it does the eye. This overarching idea gives our work a distinctly Eastern aesthetic and provides a unique experience for our audience and for collaborating artists.

Theatre of Yugen is committed to reaching the diverse population that shares our belief that art is a powerful vehicle for community building. Theatre of Yugen also manages the beloved SF venue NOHspace, a 74-cap black box theatre located in the historic Project Artaud in the heart of San Francisco's Mission district.

## LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

### Submitting a Piece:

If you are interested in participating, please send a short description of your piece, along with any related video or press links, to the following address by the deadlines listed on page 2. In the subject line, please indicate your availability for the April or June presentation.

**Mail Submissions to Series Producer:** [allie@theatreofyugen.org](mailto:allie@theatreofyugen.org)

### Timeframe - April & June:

Each YiA event will have a Friday & Saturday performance and a 2 pm Saturday round table discussion among the artists. Each group will schedule 2 hours of tech time at their discretion in the week prior to the performances.

DAY	TIME & EVENT
<b>April:</b> Monday, March 28 - Thursday, March 31	2 hr Blocks Between: 10am - 10pm Individual techs - based on availability
<b>Friday:</b> April 1	7:00 pm Performance #1
<b>Saturday:</b> April 2	2:00 pm Round Table Discussion - with food!
	7:00 pm Performance #2
	9:30pm Strike
<b>June:</b> Monday, May 30 - Thursday, June 2	2 hr Blocks Between: 10am - 10pm Individual techs - based on availability
<b>Friday:</b> June 3	7:00 pm Performance #1
<b>Saturday:</b> June 4	2:00 pm Round Table Discussion - with food!
	7:00 pm Performance #2
	9:30pm Strike

### Time:

- All pieces must be under 25 min in length.
- Each group will have no more than 2 hours of Tech.
- All shows must be struck in under 10 minutes.

## LOGISTICS CONTINUED

### Lighting:

- All groups will use the NOHspace Rep Lighting Plot, which includes 28 dimmers. Each group will have access to (max) 1 special specific to their piece.

### Sound:

- All groups will have access to the NOHspace Rep main speakers, 14-channel mixing board, and the show computer, equipped with QLab. Each group should plan to include no more than 5 sound cues. Please bring files on flash drives.
- NOHspace is located in the Project Artaud, a Historic, artist-owned Live-Work Space. Due to this, a strict decibel limit of no more than 85db must be observed AT ALL TIMES.

### Video:

- All groups will have access to the NOHspace LP530 Projector, grid-mounted over the audience. Each group should plan to include no more than 3 video Qs. Please bring files on flash drives.

### Floor:

- NOHspace is equipped with a sprung hardwood dance floor. In order to maintain the floor, there are some restrictions that must be observed.
  - NO drilling into floor (or walls)
  - NO set construction or painting in the theatre
  - NO glitter, gold leaf, or excessively stain-producing make-up
  - NO metal shoes (tap, flamenco, etc.)
  - ALL set pieces must be dressed with felt pads
  - Use of liquids & wet paint MUST BE PRE-APPROVED

### NOHspace House Rules:

- All groups must comply with NOHspace House Rules, which will be provided and posted.

### Financial Guidelines:

Theatre of Yugen and Artists will split all box office proceeds, with 50% going to TofY, and the remaining 50% to be divided equally among all participating groups.

- Theatre of Yugen will provide Ticketing and Box Office services. Within 2 weeks of closing night, funds from presales and doorsales will be paid via one check per group.
- Theatre of Yugen will work with Artists to successfully market the Series Presentations.

This financial model is arguably lean, however, we hope that the short time commitment, and opportunity to present work and engage in dialogue with fellow artists make such a presentation well worth it for all involved.