



Yugen no Kai

Spring Season 2023

Co-Presented with Theatre Nohgaku

May 26 (Friday) & 27 (Saturday), 8PM
May 28 (Sunday), 2PM

At NOHSpace
San Francisco

We would like to acknowledge the Ramaytush Ohlone people, who are the traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to the Ramaytush Ohlone elders, past, present, and future who call this place, the land that we sit upon, their home. We are proud to continue their tradition of coming together and growing as a community. We thank the Ramaytush Ohlone community for their stewardship and support, and we look forward to strengthening our ties as we continue our relationship of mutual respect and understanding.

Visit www.ramaytush.org/donate.html to support the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone.

Theatre of Yugen is grateful for the generous support of the following Foundation and Government funders, as well as individual donors.





PROGRAM



Kani Yamabushi / 蟹山伏 (The Crab)

Traditional Kyogen Comedy in English
by Theatre of Yugen

Intermission

In a Memory Palace

Contemporary Noh x Opera Production (Work-in-progress excerpts)
by Theatre Nohgaku

Conversation with the Artists of In a Memory Palace

Kani Yamabushi / 蟹山伏 (The Crab)

Original translation by Don Kenny (2014); Theatre of Yugen adaptation (2023)

Director: Lluís Valls

Yamabushi: Fenner

Porter: Meryn MacDougall

Spirit of Crab: Kate Patrick

"I am the spirit of one whose eyes are in the sky... and who passes through the world from left to right."

A Yamabushi (Japanese mountain priest) and his porter are on their way home from a religious retreat and are in for a surprise.

Nohgaku (能楽), comprised of the lyric drama noh (能) and the comic theater kyogen (狂言), is the oldest continuous theatrical tradition of Japan. Traditionally, Noh and Kyogen are performed together.

To learn more about Nohgaku, visit and enjoy the following websites!

Japan Arts Council's Invitation to Nohgaku:
<https://www2.ntj.jac.go.jp/unesco/noh/en/>

Noh as Intermedia: <https://noh.stanford.edu>

The-Noh.com: <https://www.the-noh.com>

In a Memory Palace

Author: Edith Newton
Composers: Kevin Salfen and David Crandall
Mask Artisan: Hideta Kitazawa
Director: Jubilith Moore

I. Waki Entrance, Nanori (naming) and Michiyuki (journey)

Performer-Waki: Jubilith Moore
Hyōshiban (drumming block): David Crandall
Cello: Monica Scott
Chorus: Nick Ishimaru, Alexandra Jerinic, Ryan Marchand, Leandra Ramm

II. Who is this woman...?

Performer-Shite: Jubilith Moore; Performer-Waki: Ryan Marchand
Chorus: David Crandall, Nick Ishimaru, Alexandra Jerinic, Leandra Ramm
Taiko: David Crandall; Cello: Monica Scott; Piano: Brett Carson

Ai (interlude)

Ai: Lluís Valls
Performer-Waki: Ryan Marchand
Kyogen: Nick Ishimaru

III. Kuse

Performer-Shite: Jubilith Moore
Chorus: David Crandall, Nick Ishimaru, Alexandra Jerinic,
Ryan Marchand, Leandra Ramm
Cello: Monica Scott; Piano: Brett Carson

In a Memory Palace is a profound meditation on displacement: both the physical displacement of refugees, immigrants, and others who make new lives far from their original homes, and the temporal displacement of fragmented memories. In the shifting rooms of the Memory Palace, love and regret, fear and hope emerge and recede, driven by a single deep desire: to have one's story heard.

Drawing on her own family history, playwright Edith Newton tells the story of Hedwig Müller, a couturier who catered to Viennese high society in the interwar period and who, with Hitler's rise, fled to the United States with her Jewish husband. Comprised of two acts and an interlude, the work is set in interwar Vienna and a nursing home in the present-day US. It draws heavily on the literary form and otherworldly quality of *noh*, where characters can simultaneously exist in a real place and time and, sometimes even more intensely, in the phantom world of memory.

Theatre Nohgaku Mission Statement

We are an international performance ensemble whose members share a passion for *noh* and a conviction that it has profound power for audiences today.

<https://www.theatrenohgaku.org/>

In a Memory Palace Blog

<https://www.theatrenohgaku.org/in-a-memory-palace-blog>

Theatre Nohgaku would like to express special thanks to:
Paul Dresher, Sue Lopez and Vinnie, Edith Newton, Suki O'Kane, Jeanette Oliver,
Kevin Salfen, Edward Schocker, David Surtasky

It goes without saying, but we wish to express our gratitude to Miwa Kaneko and Kyoko Yoshida for this opportunity to continue the work and for their hospitality. Everyone involved has been like a keystone - absolutely vital to the realization of the enterprise!

Theatre of Yugen's Upcoming Activities At NOHSpace 2023 Summer/Fall

◆ June 29: Yugen Short Documentary Screening

A special screening of a short documentary film highlighting Yugen's founder Yuriko Doi's contributions to the Bay Area theatre community along with Yugen's past, present and future aspirations. The documentary film project was made possible through San Francisco Arts Commissions' Artistic Legacy Grant 2022-23, awarded to Yugen in recognition of Ms. Doi contributions to the Bay Area theatre community.



◆ August 3 - October 14, Thursday evenings & Saturday mornings Basic Noh and Kyogen Training

In this 10-week introductory level program, we teach the foundational principles of Noh and Kyogen songs and dances. The program culminates in a student recital on October 14, 2023. Scholarships available. Email us to register: info@theatreofyugen.org



◆ November 3 - 5: Yugen no Kai Fall Season Ben Jonson's Volpone (Act II & III)

A new Kyogen adaptation by Lluís Valls
Volpone (The Fox) pretends to be on his deathbed to dupe Voltore (The Vulture), Corbaccio (The Raven) and Corvino (The Crow) who aspire to inherit his fortune. Mosca (The Fly) encourages each man to believe that he has been named heir to Volpone's fortune.

Sign up for our Newsletter NOHNews to receive latest updates!
info@theatreofyugen.org

About Theatre of Yugen

Theatre of Yugen, founded in 1978 by Yuriko Doi, is an innovative nonprofit theatre producer and presenter with a trained ensemble that is rooted in Noh drama and Kyogen comedy, the oldest continuous theatre traditions of Japan. Fusing contemporary and classical materials, we create and offer intercultural theatrical experiences that engage and inspire diverse peoples in the San Francisco Bay Area and the world.

www.theatreofyugen.org

Ensemble Members: Sheila Devitt, Fenner, Nick Ishimaru, Meryn MacDougall,
Ryan Marchand, Kate Patrick, Lluís Valls

Programs & Operations: Kyoko Yoshida, Miwa Kaneko, Tiger Zhou

Board of Directors: Haruko DeArth (President); Nina Bazan-Sakamoto (Secretary);
Mariko Grady (Treasurer); Yuriko Doi-Walker (Founder); Jock Walker; Kyoko Yoshida

Theatre of Yugen is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that depends on the support from individuals and the community. Please support us today by giving a tax-deductible donation.

Thank you for being part of Theatre of Yugen and for supporting our work!

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Thank you for your support!

