

FESTIVALS & FESTA - PERFORMING THE PUBLIC SPACE

22-23 March 2025

Saitama, Japan

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

<i>Pre-event</i>	
Friday, 21 March 17:00 - 18:30 Meiji University Academy Hall Surugadai Campus	
Special Lecture & Performance: Ryukyuan Dance and Its Performing Spaces Palaces, Festivals and Theatres	
Saturday, 22 March Saitama University	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15 – 9:45	Workshop: Playing with Kanji (Yuta Hagiwara)
9:45- 10:00	<i>Break</i>
10:00 – 11:30	Panel 1: Rethinking Festivals Through Technology and Ecology
11:30 – 11:40	<i>Break</i>
11:40 – 13:10	Panel 2: Curation, production and spectatorship
13:10 – 14:30	LUNCH BREAK + ROUNDTABLE Performing the Public Space - with festival directors from Philippines and Japan (roundtable)
14:30 – 16:00	Panel 3: Challenging Traditional Festival Narratives
16:00 – 16:10	<i>Break</i>
16:10 – 17:40	Panel 4 - Nationalism, Identity, Festivals
Sunday, 23 March 2025, Saitama University	
9:00 – 10:30	Panel 5 - Festivals and Interculturalism
10:30 – 10:40	<i>Break</i>
10:40 – 12:10	Panel 6 - Rituals, Religion and Festivals
12:10 – 13:40	LUNCH BREAK + PERFORMANCE Performance: Rasā: The Path to Sakura by Aastha Gandhi and Sheena Velayudhan (performance)
13:40 – 15:10	Panel 7 - Spectacle and spectators
15:10 – 15:20	<i>Break</i>
15:20 – 16:50	Panel 8 - Festivals and community building
17:00 – 17:15	CLOSING REMARKS

DETAILED PROGRAMME

Friday, 21 March 2025, 17:00 - 18:30 Meiji University Academy Hall Surugadai Campus

Special Lecture & Performance:

Ryukyuan Dance and Its Performing Spaces Palaces, Festivals and Theatres

Lecture: Hateruma Nagako (Meiji University)

Dancers: Shida Fusaka and Shida Maki (Choyo School of Ryukyuan Dance)

Saturday, 22 March 2025, Saitama University

9:00 – 9:15 **Opening Remarks**

9:15 - 9:45 **PLAYING Kanji, workshop by Yuta Haigwara (Kamome Machine, Japan)**

10:00 - 11:30 **Panel 1: Rethinking Festivals Through Technology and Ecology**

Transforming Kadayawan Festival: Spatial and Performance Reconfigurations into the Digital <i>Jesus Allaga Montajes University of the Philippines Diliman, PHILIPPINES</i>
The Digital Asian Shakespeare Festival (2021): A Case Study of a Digital Festival <i>Dr Roweena Yip National University of Singapore, SINGAPORE</i>
Ibong Dayo: Performances of Migration, Ecology, and Sustainability in a Birding Festival <i>Jonas Gabriel M. Garcia University of the Philippines Diliman, PHILIPPINES</i>
From Ecology to Planetary Thinking: The Langasan International Performance Art <i>Fan-Ting Cheng National Taiwan University, TAIWAN</i>

11:40 – 13:10 **Panel 2: Curation, production and spectatorship**

Revisiting Festival/Tokyo <i>Masahiko Yokobori Atomi University, Japan</i>
Organizing The Virgin Labfest: The Festival of Untried, Untested, Unstaged Plays <i>Rodney Barnes University of Philippines Diliman, PHILIPPINES</i>
On safari in Kyoto? Dramaturgies of the 'Para-Real' in Kyoto Experiment <i>Andrew Eglinton Konan Women's University, JAPAN</i>

13:10 – 14:30 Performing the Public Space (Roundtable with festival directors)

- with Juliet Knapp (Kyoto Experiment, Japan) &
Maria Teresa Jamias (Virgin Lab Fest, Philippines)

14:30-16:00 Panel 3: Challenging Traditional Festival Narratives

Japanese Traditional Festivals Matsuri: Performance and Gender <i>Galia Todorova Petkova, Eikei University of Hiroshima, JAPAN</i>
Carnavalesque Enactments of Snake Women in The Dōjōji Temple Legend <i>Zhipu Liu Saitama University, JAPAN</i>
Performing the Threshold: Kabuki and the Liminal Space of Festivals <i>Tugba Duzak Social Sciences University of Ankara, TURKIYE</i>
Delhi Malayalee Association and Jansanskriti's Onam Festival Celebration: Its Role in Cultural, Linguistic Identity in Era of Globalisation <i>Sheena V Independent Artist/Researcher</i>

16:10 – 17:40 Panel 4 - Nationalism, Identity, Festivals

Festival Goes National: War, Mass-Education and the First Theatre Festival of the Republic of China <i>Jen-Hao Hsu (Walter) National Sun Yat-Sen University, TAIWAN</i>
From State to Community: Evolving Indo-Asian Cultural Festivals in the Post-Cold War Neoliberal Era <i>Aastha Ghandi Ambedkar University, INDIA</i>
A festival in the context of modern Vietnamese theatre <i>Yuko Nobe Taisho University, JAPAN</i>
From Festival to Carnival: The BTS Festa <i>Nora Samosir Lasalle College of the Arts, UAS, SINGAPORE & Lionel Wee National University of Singapore, SINGAPORE</i>

Sunday, 23 March 2025, Saitama University

9:00 - 10:30 Panel 5 - Festivals and Interculturalism

How to Keep a Performing Arts Festival Experimental and Sustainable? <i>Rina Tanaka, Kyoto Sangyo University, JAPAN</i>
'Whose Festival?': Performing Identity and Ownership in the Pasidayaw Festival of Aurora Philippines <i>The Koli Joshua D. Dela Cruz University of the Philippines Diliman, PHILIPPINES</i>
The timeless appeal of Durga Puja Festival on a global platform <i>Priyanka Chatterjee, University of Victoria, BC, CANADA</i>
Festival of Chinese Operas: (Re-)Locate Xiqu on the Stage of Sino-French Cultural Exchanges <i>Shih-Lung Lo National Tsinghua University (NTHU), TAIWAN</i>

10:40-12:10 Panel 6 - Rituals, Religion and Festivals

Viva Jesus Nazareno: Performing Panata at the Traslacion of The Black Nazareno of Quiapo <i>Davidson G. Oliveros Polytechnic University of the Philippines, PHILIPPINES</i>
Mapping Sacred Topographies and Spaces of Encounter: The Koli Community and Magh Purnima in Jejuri, Maharashtra (India) <i>Vidisha Rajesh Bagul, IIT Bombay, INDIA</i>
Richard Schechner's "Play" of the Ramlila of Ramnagar <i>Tsu-Chung Su, National Taiwan Normal University, TAIWAN</i>
Performing Identity and Solidarity: A Dramaturgical Study of Santal's Sohrai <i>Sunny Deol Mandi IIT Bombay, INDIA</i>

12:30 – 13:30 Rasā: The Path to Sakura by Aastha Gandhi and Sheena Velayudhan

13:40-15:10 Panel 7 - Spectacle and spectators

Performing the Body in/as Space: Interrogating the Body and Space at the 9th Solidarity in Performance Art Festival <i>Joseph Victor Deseo, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, PHILIPPINES</i>
Understanding performative trance in 'Pralhada charitramu' play from the traditional theatre 'Bhagavata mela Natakam' repertoire of Melattur, Tamil Nadu. <i>A.P. Rajaram IIT Bombay, INDIA</i>
Staging Strange Encounters: Performance-Devising Methodologies with Strangers - The Case of 1-Day Performance Hyougengai <i>Dan Dagondon Tokyo University of the Arts - Graduate School of Global Arts, JAPAN</i>
Ninasam Samskruthi Shibira: Community at the grassroots <i>Shrikanth.B.R IIT Bombay, INDIA</i>

15:20 - 16:50 Panel 8 - Festivals and community building

South Asian Theatre Festivals and Community Building <i>Arnab Banerji Loyola Marymount University, USA</i>
Malaysian Theatre Festival: Space for the Exploration of Performing Arts Talents Among Non- Professional Actors <i>Fazilah Husin, Universiti Putra MALAYSIA</i>
Shahiri Performances and the Reclamation of Public Space: Chaityabhumi as a Site of Dalit Collective Memory <i>Prerana Patel IIT Bombay, INDIA</i>
Bringing Drama Home: Neighborhood Drama Festivals in Chennai, India <i>Kristen Rudisill Bowling Green State University, Ohio, USA</i>