Moderator



Ogoura Kazuo

Born in 1938. After joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he headed the Cultural Exchange Department and the Economic Affairs Bureau. He later served as ambassador to Vietnam, South Korea and France and was the president of the Japan Foundation from 2003 through 2011. He has been a professor at Aoyama Gakuin University since 2003. I-House Member since 1989.

Noh actress



Terai Chikage

Actor (shite kata, or actor of principal roles) of the Kanze school of noh.

Studied under her father, Terai Sakae of the Kanze school.

Graduated from Tokyo University of the Arts in 2004 (Department of Music, concentration in Traditional Japanese Music). Received a Master's Degree from Tokyo University of the Arts in 2006.

First performed on stage at the age of three. Has participated in overseas performances (Sydney, Singapore). Teaches noh performance at Lasalle College of the Arts (Singapore). I-House member since 2010.

Readers



Stuart Varnam-Atkin

British narrator, writer and actor. Oxford graduate and long-term resident of Japan. Director of Birmingham Brains Trust translation & narration company and visiting professor, Open University of Japan. Publications include "Stories from The Tale of Genji" (IBC), "Asaki Yume Mishi" (co-translator, Kodansha), "Great Dialogues from the World of Shakespeare" (Japan Times) and "Trad Japan, Mod Nippon" (NHK).



Timothy Harris

Has put on numerous Shakespeare plays in Japan, including the first performance in Japan of "Edward III" (and only the third full performance for 400 years anywhere in the world), and has directed and acted in numerous plays by Harold Pinter and others for Black Stripe Theatre, Tokyo. Played MacArthur in NHK's "Shirasu Jiro" and Commodore Perry in NHK's "Ryoumaden." Diction coach for soloists and chorus in productions of Britten's "Peter Grimes" (2012) & Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast" (2013) at the New National Theatre, Tokyo. Lecturer at the Open University of Japan.



Darren Craig

Graduated from the University of Cambridge. Daiwa Scholar (2011-2013) for research in Japanese performing arts. Has worked with the Bunraku performers at Tokyo's National Theatre and the National Bunraku Theatre in Osaka; acted as supporting staff member at the Yokohama Noh Theater and 100 Metre Films. Teaches cross-cultural understanding at Japan College of Foreign Languages.

I-House member since 2011.