

Performing Arts Japan 2015-2016 List of Awardees

The Japan Foundation is pleased to announce grant awards totaling **US\$216,000, CA\$14,000, to 8 organizations** in Canada and the United States through the PAJ Program for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. The grant recipients are listed below. (Please contact the Japan Foundation, New York for further information and finalized performance dates).

Touring Grant awards

Total projects: 4

Total funds allocated: \$147,000

Grant amounts: \$20,000 – \$50,000

Fuse Box Austin (Austin, TX) for a four-city North American premiere tour of **Tetsuya Umeda**'s site-specific sound and light installations and performances *It Was Moving At First*.
Tour Date: September 19, 2015 – April 16, 2016
Tour Locations: Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (Portland, OR); The Roy and Edna Disney Center/CalArts Theater - REDCAT (Los Angeles, CA); Fusebox Festival (Austin, TX); Contemporary Art Center (Cincinnati, OH)

Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago, IL) for a five-city tour of experimental playwright/director **Toshiki Okada**'s newest project *God Bless Baseball* (working title).
Tour Dates: January 14 – February 12, 2016
Tour Locations: Japan Society (New York, NY); FringeArts (Philadelphia, PA); Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (Chicago, IL); Wexner Center for the Arts (Columbus, OH); The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (College Park, MD)

The Elaine Summers Experimental Intremedia Foundation, Inc. (New York, NY) for a sixteen-city U.S. tour of the quartet of **Toshimaru Nakamura** (no-input mixer), **Jason Kahn** (drums, percussion), **Tetuzi Akiyama** (acoustic guitar), and **Bryan Eubanks** (saxophone, open circuit boards).
Tour Dates: October 30 – November 16, 2015
Tour Locations: Good Shepherd Chapel (Seattle, WA); Disjecta Contemporary Art Center (Portland, OR); San Francisco Sound (San Francisco, CA); California Institute of the Arts (Los Angeles, CA); Nameless Sound/MECA (Houston, TX); Southwest School of Art (San Antonio, TX); Crow With No Mouth/Studio Z (St. Paul, MN); Constellation/Frequency Series (Chicago, IL); Oberlin College and Conservatory (Oberlin, OH); Dreamland (Louisville, KY); The University of Alabama School of Music (Tuscaloosa, AL); Conundrum Music Hall (Columbia, SC); Black Iris Gallery (Richmond, VA); Bowerbird (Philadelphia, PA); Non-Event (Boston, MA); Issue Project Room (Brooklyn, NY)

University Musical Society (Ann Arbor, MI) for a nine-city North America tour of *Umusuna: Memories Before History* by butoh dance company **Sankai Juku**.

Tour Dates: October 1 – November 9, 2015

Tour Locations: Meany Hall for the Performing Arts, University of Washington (Seattle, WA); Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco, CA); Mondavi Center, University of California-Davis (Davis, CA); Royce Hall, UCLA (Los Angeles, CA); Power Center for the Performing Arts, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI); Brooklyn Academy of Music (Brooklyn, NY); National Arts Centre (Ottawa, Canada); Memorial Hall, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, NC); Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech University (Blacksburg, VA)

Collaboration Grant awards

Total projects: 4

Total funds allocated: USD\$69,000, CAD14,000

Grant amounts: \$10,000 – \$34,000

The Graduate Center, CUNY dba The Martin E. Segal Theatre Center (New York, NY) for *Performance Robot Dramaturgy (PRD): Japan/U.S.* that Japanese group **Off Nibroll** (**Mikuni Yanaihara** and **Keisuke Takahashi**) and U.S. artists **Marianne Weems** from The Builder's Association and scholars to investigate performance robot dramaturgy and the emergence of android theatre.

Project Period: July 2015 – December 2015

The Jazz Gallery (New York, NY) for *Ten Thousand Leaves* – a long-duration audio-visual project producing live performances, video and educational outreach by vocalist/composer/multi-instrumentalist **Becca Stevens**, composer **Aya Nishina**, and visual artist **Shimpei Takeda**.

Project Period: March 2016 – June 2016

Small World Music Society (Toronto, ON) for *Indigenous Infusion: A Japan-Canada Collaboration*, a collaborative work between the Ainu performer **Oki Kano** and Canadian First Nations performer **Kinnie Starr**.

Project Period: April 2016

Yara Arts Group (New York, NY) for *Shank's Mare*, a puppet theatre collaboration between American puppet artist **Tom Lee** and Japanese master puppeteer **Koryu Nishikawa V** (Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo) that explores the themes of life and death and passing on tradition.

Project Period: September – December, 2015

PAJ Advisory Committee Members (as of December 2014)

- Mr. Aaron Greenwald (Director, Duke Performances, Duke University)
- Mr. Ben Johnson (Program Manager, Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA)
- Mr. Jordan Peimer (Executive Director, ArtPower! at UC San Diego)
- Ms. Tina Rasmussen (Director, Harborfront Center, Toronto)
- Mr. David Ravel (Director, Alverno Presents)
- Ms. Sabrina Motley (Director, Smithsonian Folklife Festival)
- Ms. Sara Nash (Program Manager, National Dance Project)