OPPENHEIMER BLUE MOON OVER MEMPHIS August 6-9, 2025 Kita Noh Theatre



OPPENHEIMER

AUGUST 6 6:30 PM (with Japanese subtitles) AUGUST 9 2:00 PM

BLUE MOON OVER MEMPHIS AUGUST 7 6:30 PM (with Japanese subtitles)

AUGUST 8 6:30 PM

Presented by the Yanai Initiative at Waseda University & UCLA and Theatre Nohgaku. Additional support provided by the Roppeita XIV Memorial Foundation.







Oppenheimer (August 6th and 9th)

Mai-bayashi: *Atsumori* Shite: Matsui Akira

Kyogen: *Kuchimane* Ogasawara Tadashi Ogasawara Hiroaki

English Language Noh: Oppenheimer Mae-shite (Buddhist Priest): John Oglevee Nochi-shite (Ghost of Oppenheimer): John Oglevee Tsure (Fudō Myō-ō): Omura Sadamu Waki (Pilgrim): Matthew R. Dubroff (8/6), Asley Thorpe (8/9) Ai (Two local siblings): Ogasawara Tadashi Ai (Two local siblings): Ogasawara Hiroaki Fue: Tsukitaku Satoshi Kotsuzumi: Omura Kayu Otsuzumi: Okura Eitaro Taiko: Sakuraii Hitoshi

Libretto: Allan Marett Composition: Richard Emmert Direction: Richard Emmert Direction: John Oglevee Direction: Matsui Akira

Blue Moon Over Memphis (August 7th and 8th)

Mai-bayashi: *Iwafune* Shite: Oshima Kinue

Kyogen: *Neongyoku* Ogasawara Tadashi Ogasawara Hiroaki

English Language Noh: Blue Moon Over Memphis Mae-shite (Man): Lluis Valls Nochi-shite (Ghost of Elvis): Lluis Valls Waki (Judy): Laura Sampson (8/7), Mika Oskarason (8/8) Ai (Oscar): Ogasawara Hiroaki Fue: Richard Emmert Kotsuzumi: Omura Kayu Otsuzumi: Kawauchi Takako

Libretto: Allan Marett Composition: Richard Emmert Direction: Richard Emmert Direction: John Oglevee Direction: Matsui Akira





ABOUT THEATRE NOHGAKU

Theatre Nohgaku is a collective of artists committed to sharing the art of Nohgaku with global audiences. While during Nohgaku's nearly 700-year history it has predominantly been performed in Japanese, we feel that the form of Noh is structured in a way that it transcends language and speaks to the human soul. Noh's sparsity offers audiences a way to engage with challenging themes. (John Oglevee)

OPPENHEIMER

Exploring themes of sin and repentance, the English-language Noh play *Oppenheimer* fuses a powerful libretto by Allan Marett, professor emeritus of the University of Sydney, with music by composer Richard Emmert. Marking the passage of 80 years since the end of the Pacific War, this deeply philosophical play, steeped in Zen, centers on Robert Oppenheimer himself—the man who created the atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

BLUE MOON OVER MEMPHIS

Award-winning playwright Deborah Brevoort's *Blue Moon Over Memphis* is a stirring meditation on loneliness and the dangers of both celebrity and fan culture that centers on one the world's most iconic casualties of fame: Elvis Presley. The poetry of Brevoort's libretto blends with Richard Emmert's score to offer audiences a new perspective on Elvis Presley and Noh drama itself.

The Mai-bayashi will be performed in Japanese, Kyogen in Japanese and French. Japanese subtitles will be provided for the performances on August 6th and 7th.

Please direct inquiries to the Yanai Initiative at Waseda University yanai.initiative@list.waseda.jp

https://www.waseda.jp/culture/en/about/yanai/

Seats are unreserved and advanced registration is required. ¥3,000, ¥5,000 (with the script book) Tickets are available from the Kita Noh Theatre 03-3491-8813 https://kita-noh.com

