

Nagauta Kinekatsu-kai 12th National Convention

# Kabukiza Theatre Concert

Date and Time : April 27 (Saturday) and 28 (Sunday), 2019  
10am Doors Open / 10:30am Concert Starts

Place : Kabukiza Theatre

Address : 4-12-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061

Public Transportation :

- By Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line or Toei Asakusa Line  
"Higashi Ginza" Station [Exit #3]
- By Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Marunouchi Line, or Hibiya Line  
"Ginza" Station [Exit A7], 5 min walk
- By JR and other subways  
"Tokyo" Station, 10 min by taxi

Tickets : ¥6,000 (General)

¥2,000 (Students and Children over 4 years old)

Organizer : Kinekatsu-kai Association

Sponsors : Kyushu Railway Company

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長  
nagauta  
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# Kabukiza Theatre Concert

## Description of the Concert

Join us for a two-day celebration of *nagauta* in the historic Kabukiza Theatre, the region's preeminent home for traditional *kabuki* performance.

The spectacle begins with "*Hanami Odori*" (Flower Viewing Dance) featuring more than four hundred performers on stage. Then, Kinekatsu-kai members from across Japan present sixty pieces of *nagauta*, followed by a youth performance of "*Tomoyakko*" (The Wandering Servant) in which the performers range from 3 to 18 years old. The production also includes a performance of "*Ninin Wankyu*" (Love Story of Wankyu and Matsuyama) by the Seikyō-kai Youth Ensemble, rising stars of *nagauta* music. Many more exciting performers will also be featured.

The impressive finale, a medley of famous *nagauta* songs, incorporates speedy stage changes that make use of Kabukiza's unique stage effects to their fullest extent.

This year, we are pleased to collaborate with the world renowned artist and designer Ms. Hiroko Koshino, whose works will comprise the backdrop, creating an atmosphere that combines tradition and innovation—*nagauta* for the 21st century.

This will be the last extravaganza of the Heisei era, and we are pleased to share this excitement with you.



## About Nagauta

At the beginning of the 18th century, *nagauta* was born as a musical accompaniment to *kabuki* theatre plays. It subsequently developed as a music for *shamisen* (a Japanese three-stringed lute), primarily in the city of Edo (now Tokyo). In the 19th century, *nagauta* became independent from *kabuki* theatre and continued to be composed and performed as a standalone musical genre.

Besides *nagauta*, various genres of *shamisen* music, such as *gidayū-bushi* (or *takemoto*), *tokiwazu-bushi*, and *kiyomoto-bushi*,

etc., are performed on the *kabuki* stage; however, *nagauta* is the only one performed along with the full *hayashi* orchestration, which includes *nōkan* and *shinobue* (flutes), *ōtsuzumi* and *kotsuzumi* (big and small hour glass drums), and *taiko* (stick drums).

*Nagauta* is characterized by strong rhythms supported by rich melodic and percussive orchestrations that render it ideal for accompanying dance scenes in *kabuki* performances.

Inquiry &  
Ticket

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