

“Resonant Space” - Toshi Legend

- A Symphonic Concert Commemorating Ichiyanagi's 20th Anniversary as Artistic Director of the Kanagawa Arts Foundation

Saturday, February 13, 2021

15:00 (Doors open at 14:00)

Kanagawa Kenmin Hall (Main Hall)

Who is ICHIYANAGI Toshi?

One might say: an avant-garde composer who has always been on the cutting edge as well as a pianist who traverses both the classical and contemporary genres. The man who introduced John Cage to Japan. An organizer of many, diverse projects. But is that really all?

The year 2020 marks the 20th anniversary of his appointment as Artistic Director of the Kanagawa Arts Foundation. At the same time, it is also unforgettable as the year of the coronavirus pandemic. An unfortunate coincidence? For me, that these two events should overlap seems somehow symbolic. This is because for Ichiyanagi, a composer who has always been concerned with the relation of music to nature, the act of "composition" is a search for knowledge as a way for human society to overcome its own vulnerability. Therefore, each of the two events to be held under the title "Toshi Densetsu" is sure to create a complex experience, going far beyond superficial beauty, illuminating through the prism of music the current situation under the coronavirus pandemic.

The first concert, "Resonant Space", held at the Kanagawa Kenmin Hall is a selection of orchestral works. SUZUKI Masato will kick off the event conducting a fanfare of his own composition which will be followed by three of Ichiyanagi's masterpieces: "Between Space and Time", "Circulating Scenery" which features NARITA Tatsuki as the solo violinist, and "Symphony No. 8: Revelation 2011". I am curious to see how all three pieces, in particular the last one which was written in response to the devastating Great East Japan Earthquake will resonate with the current global situation.

Next, in March, a marathon concert titled "Extreme LOVE" will be held at the Kanagawa Prefectural Music Hall. Part One of the concert will feature various pieces that have influenced and shaped the character of Toshi Ichiyanagi, including Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata," which Ichiyanagi will perform himself on the piano, and Takemitsu's "Blue Aurora for Toshi Ichiyanagi". Part Two features the

shamisen player HONJO Hidejiro and other young talents in the field of traditional Japanese music. It will reveal how the traditional Japanese sound actually constitutes a hidden core of Ichiyanagi's art. In Part Three, Ichiyanagi's monumental series "Piano Music 1-7" will be interpreted by the pianist, improviser, and composer Kawai Takuji. Who is to say that some unexpected happenings will not occur?

I feel certain that anyone lucky enough to attend both events will bear witness to the birth of a new "Toshi legend".

NUMANO Yuji (Professor, Toho Gakuen School of Music; Artistic Adviser, Kanagawa Kenmin Hall and Kanagawa Prefectural Music Hall)

Admission:

¥4,000 per ordinary ticket, ¥0 for Students up to 24*

¥7,500 per combined ticket for Feb.13 & Mar. 20 (Valid for the concert on February 13 at Kanagawa Kenmin Hall and the concerts on March 20 at Kanagawa Kenritu Ongakudo)

* At the invitation of Toshi Ichiyanagi, students under the age of 24 will be invited free of charge.

Reservations are required in advance.

To make a reservation, please visit the reservation counter at Kanagawa Kenmin Hall or call 0570-015-415 (10:00-18:00).

Contact: 045-633-3798

This Concert is "Keizo Saji Select Concerts" by SUNTORY FOUNDATION for the ARTS
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Presented by Kanagawa Kenmin Hall [Kanagawa Arts Foundation]

ICHIYANAGI Toshi, General Artistic Director

NUMANO Yuji, Artistic Adviser

To Our Guests and Visitors,

Please note our preventive measures against the further spread of COVID-19.

If you have cold-like symptoms, such as fever or a cough, please refrain from visiting the Kanagawa Kenmin Hall. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with the following measures;

- There will be a thermal camera inspection at the main entrance. If you are detected with a fever higher than 37.5 °C, you will be asked to refrain from entering into the building.
- Please wear a mask while in the building.
- Please sanitize your hands. Sanitizers can be found at the entrance and in other parts of the building.
- Please refrain from eating and drinking in the hall.
- Currently, we are limiting number of people who can enter the hall. Please note that performances may be cancelled or rescheduled due to the spread of COVID-19 and other unavoidable circumstances.

