

TONIGHT'S JOURNEY

1. GREETING & CUPPA TEA
2. INTO THE MYTH
3. O.KU.NI
4. TEA RITUALS
5. GODDESS IS ALWAYS WITH US
6. RITUAL

CREDITS PERFORMANCE

Creator & Performer/ Yumi Umiumare
Cinematographer& Editor/ Takeshi Kondo
Composer&Sound Designer/ Dan West
Lighting designer/ Emma Lockhart-Wilson
Dramaturg/ Maude Davey
Provocateur/ Moira Finucane
Costume/ Yumi Umiumare, Rose Chong, Haru Ogiso, Kiki Ando
Shamisen music (film)/ Noriko Tadano
Performance (film)/ Kayo Tamura and Kyoko Amara
Producer/ Kath Papas
Associate Producer/ Takashi Takiguchi
All music were composed by Dan West except the sample from *Walking Thin Ice* by Yoko Ono

VISUAL ARTS

Tea Bowl (ceramic)/ Emma Rose
Tea Bowl (bread)/ Ayako Fujii
Tearoom/ Masahiko Kumai
Handwoven installation/ William Holt
Hands sculpture and set design/ Yumi Umiumare

FILM (Japanese footage 2021)

Videographer/ Yasuzou Madarame
Supported by Theatre Group Gumbo,
Tetsuya Fuchigami and Sakai Noh Theatre
Goddess animations/ Nina Paley

PRODUCTION

Stage Management & Lighting Operation/ Celina Mack
Sound Operation/ Dan West
Production Manager/ Cassandra Fumi
Production assistance/ Dann Babar
Production support/ Finucane and Smith
Stage assistance/ Em Kimber, Jessie Ngaio, Mia Chokechaikul,
Samantha Helps
Front of House/ Kei Murakami, Takashi Takigichi

MARKETING | PUBLICATION

Publicist/ Diana Wolfe
Photography/ Vikk Shayan
Graphic Design/ Mariko Naito
Calligraphy/ Hisako Tsuchiya
Video Documentation/ Takeshi Kondo

OFFICIAL SUPPORT

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Creative Development (2020)

Australia Council for the Arts
City of Darebin
Abbotsford Convent Foundation (PIVOT Program)

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We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land where we live, gather and create. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Kulin Nation, and extend that respect to all other Indigenous Australians.

BURIED TEABOWL - OKUNI

by Yumi Umiumare

5 - 15 May 2022

BLACKCAT Gallery, Fitzroy



埋もれた茶碗

Installation - Performance - Tea

www.yumi.com.au



PROGRAM NOTE

Izumon no Okuni initiated Kabuki theatre in early 1600s, a most culturally prosperous time in Japan. 'Kabuki' 歌舞伎 comes from the word 'Kabuku' 傾く, meaning bent or out of the ordinary. Regarded as a subversive non-art form, it passionately expressed ugliness and beauty. Women were banned from performing Kabuki after Okuni's time and male performers took over, turning it into the Kabuki we recognise today. Even though Okuni was one of the most powerful female figures in theatre history, few people know about her, even in Japan.

The Japanese tea ceremony first flourished around the same time as Okuni. The two most notable tea masters and founders of the art form were ordered to commit Harakiri (a form of Japanese ritual suicide) as they were seen as a threat by the Shogun (General) because of their powerful, spiritual and political power.

I feel like Okuni made me choose these three mediums: *Kabuki, Tea Ceremony and Butoh*. Each are respected as classical and contemporary art forms yet, all have anarchic origins which made me excited and humbled. She certainly has helped me fold and unfold many layers of my personal journey through this work, especially during the pandemic. So then, what would Okuni do if she was around in the 21st century? She would definitely tell us to dance, scream and contemplate all at once, amid this world of chaos. So, shall we? Together tonight?

Thank you for coming and please scream whenever you want!



YUMI-BUTOH

Yumi Umiumare

BIOGRAPHY

Yumi Umiumare

Born in Japan, Yumi is an established Butoh dancer, choreographer and creator of Butoh Cabaret works. After touring with the seminal Japanese Butoh company *DaiRakudakan*, Yumi moved to Melbourne in 1993. She has been creating her distinctive style of works for 30 years and her creations are renowned for provoking visceral emotions and engaging with cultural identities with a sense of humor. Yumi's works have been seen in numerous festivals in dance, theatre and film productions throughout Australia, Japan, Europe, New Zealand, South East Asia and South America and have received several Australian Green Room awards. Her major production credits include *DasSHOKU Butoh cabaret series* (1999-), *EnTrance*(2009-2012) and *PopUp Tearoom series*(2015-).

As an independent artist, she has collaborated with various Australian leading companies from diverse cultures and genres such as *Finucane and Smith, BighART, Marrugeku, Weave Movement Theatre, Back to Back Theatre and The Rabble*. As a choreographer, Yumi has worked with many socially engaged theatre projects in Australia, including communities of First Nations, refugees and culturally diverse people and also inclusive companies. She is a recipient of the fellowship from Australian Council(2015-16) and a winner of the Green Room Geoffrey Milne Memorial Award (2017).

Yumi is a key figure of the international contemporary Butoh scene and artistic director of *ButohOUT!* festival in Melbourne since 2017, teaching and activating local and international Butoh communities. www.yumi.com.au/

Takeshi Kondo (Video) manofthetree.com

Dan West (Sound) tweakandtwang.com

Emma Lockhart-Wilson (Lighting) emlocky.com

Maude Davey (Dramaturg) www.butohout.com/intromaudedavey

Moira Finucane (Provocateur) www.finucaneandsmith.com

Celina Mack (Stage Manager) www.strangekit.com

Kath Papas Production (Producer) kathpapas.net/au

