



 **JAPAN FOUNDATION**  
Los Angeles

in co-presentation with



# NOH

## Pathos Behind the Mask

This rare and exciting event will introduce audiences to the performing arts of the royal court.

In this one time only event, Noh principal actor and lecturer **Shizuka Mikata** of the Kanze School in Kyoto Japan will bring his keen understanding and traditional training to the United States for the first time for this touring performance and lecture program.

**Los Angeles, CA**  
Friday  
**February 6, 2009, 7 pm**  
Aratani/Japan America Theatre

**San Francisco, CA**  
Sunday  
**February 8, 2009, 2 pm**  
University of San Francisco

**Portland, OR**  
Tuesday  
**February 10, 2009, 7 pm**  
Portland State University

**Seattle, WA**  
Thursday  
**February 12, 2009, 7 pm**  
Seattle Asian Art Museum

**Denver, CO**  
Saturday  
**February 14, 2009, 8 pm**  
University of Colorado Denver

# NOH

Pathos Behind the Mask

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## Los Angeles, CA

Friday, February 6, 2009, 7 pm

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center  
**Aratani/Japan America Theatre**  
 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012  
 BOX OFFICE: (213) 680-3700  
 INFORMATION: (213) 628-2725 ext. 133  
 \$25 Orchestra, \$20 Balcony  
 JACCC Members \$20, \$15  
 Student, senior & group price available.

## San Francisco, CA

Sunday, February 8, 2009, 2 pm

University of San Francisco  
**McLaren Room 252**  
 2130 Fulton Street  
 San Francisco, CA 94117  
 CONTACT: Krysten Elbers  
 (415) 422-6357  
 elbers@usfca.edu

## Portland, OR

Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 7 pm

Portland State University  
**The Dolores Winningstad Theatre**  
 1111 SW Broadway (at Main Street)  
 Portland, OR 97205  
 CONTACT: Dr. Laurence Kominz  
 (503) 725-5288 (ph) (503) 725-5276 (fx)  
 kominzl@pdx.edu

## Seattle, WA

Thursday, February 12, 2009, 7 pm

Seattle Asian Art Museum  
**Stimson Auditorium**  
 1400 East Prospect Street  
 Volunteer Park  
 Seattle, WA 98112-3303  
 CONTACT: SAM Box Office  
 (206) 654-3121  
 RSVP to boxoffice@seattleartmuseum.org

## Denver, CO

Saturday, February 14, 2009, 8 pm

University of Colorado Denver  
 College of Arts & Media  
**Kenneth King Academic & Performing Arts Center, Recital Hall**  
 855 Lawrence Street  
 Denver, CO 80204  
 CONTACT: King Center Box Office  
 (303) 556-2296  
 LeeAnn.Weller@ucdenver.edu

## General Information

Yoshihiro Nihei  
 (213) 621-2267 ext. 109  
 culture@jflalc.org



## Shizuka Mikata

*Noh Principal Actor*  
*Kanze School, Kyoto, Japan*

Uniquely subtle and regal, Noh, one of the oldest forms of performing arts in the world today, has been performed since the 14th century in Japan. Veiled in a fog of intrigue and mystery, Noh features rhythmic musicians, choral chanters and masked actors as they tell the stories handed down over generations.

In Noh, tradition dictates each performer to practice the fundamental movements, songs and dances independently, making

each performance fresh to the audience and performers. A hybrid of improvised tradition, "Noh: Pathos Behind the Mask" will examine and demonstrate the many unique cultural traditions that have been handed down for generations.

Shizuka Mikata was born in Kyoto in 1966 as the eldest son of NOH performer Ken Mikata. He made his first appearance on the professional stage at the early age of 5, followed by his first leading role at 12. Mikata went on to apprentice with the legendary NOH master and Japanese living national treasure of Japan, Kurouemon Katayama.

Through the Japan Foundation's International program, Shizuka Mikata will be joined by four outstanding figures, actor **Michiharu Wakebayashi**, flute player **Manabu Takeichi**, Kotsuzumi drummer **Ichiro Kichisaka** and Otsuzumi drummer **Masaru Kawamura**. Together these classically trained Noh performers of the Kanze School will demonstrate with awe inspiring precision the true movements, sound and stories from the elusive art.

Accompanying this program will be a classically designed stage, wardrobe, musical instruments and images of Noh performance in Japan.

The Los Angeles program is the only full theatrical presentation and is a ticketed event.

Supported by  
 Consulate-Generals of Japan in Los Angeles,  
 San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Denver  
 Miyako Hotel Los Angeles  
 Kanze School of Noh in Kyoto, Japan  
 Japan America Society of Southern California  
 Japan Society of Northern California

