

The Garden Path

Transformations

July/August 2017



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FRONT COVER  *Shochiku Costume Co. Ltd.*
BACK COVER  *Michel Hersen*

HAIKU

Summer breeze
The perching dragonfly
struggles to hold on
—Peter Kendall

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THE GARDEN PATH

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
Email marketing@japanesegarden.org

Dear Members,

Our upcoming Kabuki exhibition has me thinking of transformations: actions that create a completely new reality. And I wanted to share my favorite story of transformation.

Many people in Portland know the Schnitzer name. What they may not know is how the Schnitzers' contribution to our community goes beyond just making donations. For many organizations, their philanthropy has transformed dreams into reality.

In our case, Arlene, with her son Jordan, made two extraordinary gifts that changed the course of the Cultural Crossing project.



Back in 2013 we had just started raising funds for the expansion. At the time, no one was quite sure how a small nonprofit in Portland, OR would raise the \$33.5 million needed for this project. The first transformation came when the Schnitzer Family CARE Foundation made the first \$1 million gift to the campaign. This gift signaled to the whole community that this expansion was of cultural significance and worthy of support. It gave us the confidence as well as the credibility to continue our fundraising in earnest.

By early 2015, we had raised \$12 million – a sizable amount but we needed at least \$20 million to move forward with construction that Fall. It was a crucial moment for the organization. Portland construction was booming and prices were skyrocketing. We knew if we didn't break ground soon, the cost of the project would escalate and our dreams would likely be dashed.

So one February evening, in Gwyneth Gamble Booth's dining room, Gwyneth (then Board President), Campaign Chairs Dorie & Larry Vollum, Board Member Bruce Guenther, and I met with Arlene to update her on the project. She listened intently as we described this pivotal moment for the project. Finally, as I made the "ask" I said, "if you were to make the lead gift to the Cultural Crossing project..." Before I could finish my sentence, she said, "*...it would be transformational.*" She knew the magnitude of what I was asking that day. And in honor of her son Jordan's 20 years of service on the Garden Board, she committed an additional \$5 million to the project – an incredible gift and the largest we've ever received.

She was right: it *was* transformational. In that moment, our project went from dream to reality. It allowed us to secure contractors and move forward with construction. More importantly it inspired others, communicating this project's importance to the community. With Arlene's gift in hand, we secured the gifts of others and our funds raised went from \$12 million to \$22 million within three months.

This past May, I had the privilege of walking Arlene through the new spaces for the first time since their completion. After an enthusiastic visit to the gift shop, we walked through the Jordan Schnitzer Japanese Arts Learning Center, stopping in the Living Room to watch a koto performer captivate a room full of people. Seeing this, Arlene patted my hands and said how it was a dream come true.

My dear Arlene, I couldn't agree more. Thank you for bringing all of our dreams to life!

Steve

July

- 1

An Introduction to Kabuki:
Lecture and Costume Demonstration
by Professor Laurence Kominz and
Toshimi Tanaka
Sold Out
- 2

Cultural Demonstration: Koto Harp
- 8

Garden Workshop: Maple Pruning #1
Sold Out
- 9

Tanabata, the Star Festival
- 10

Special Hours: Member Evening Hours
Members-Only
- 11

Special Hours: Photographer Members
Photographer Members-Only
- 13

Twilight Hours for Patron
& Steward Members
Members-Only
- 14

Cultural Demonstration: Koto Harp
- 21

Special Hours: Member Evening Hours
Members-Only
- 23

Cultural Demonstration:
Shakuhachi Flute
- 28

Golden Crane Opening
Reception: Kabuki
Golden Crane Society Event
- 29-
9/3

Kabuki:
A Revolution in Color and Design
- 29-
30

Kabuki On Stage:
A Solo Performance
- 30

Kabuki Costume Presentation

August

- 5

Member Tea and Tour
Members-Only
- 11

Special Hours: Photographer Members
Photographer Members-Only
- 12

Kabuki Face Painting
- 13

Cultural Demonstration: Koto Harp
- 14

Special Hours: Member Evening Hours
Members-Only
- 16-
17

O-Bon, the Spirit Festival
Members-Only
- 18

Cultural Demonstration: Koto Harp
- 18

Special Hours: Member Evening Hours
Members-Only
- 24

Member Tea and Tour:
Kabuki, A Revolution in Color and Design
Members-Only
- 25-
9/5

Waza to Kokoro – Hands and Heart:
The Use of Stone in the Japanese
Tea Garden
- 25

Golden Crane Annual Reception
with Marc P. Keane
Golden Crane Society Event
- 26

Public Lecture: Marc P. Keane
"Japanese Garden Notes: Seeing
Through a Designer's Eyes"
- 27

Cultural Demonstration:
Shakuhachi Flute
- 31

Twilight Hours for Patron
& Steward Members
Members-Only

For more information, please check japanesegarden.org/events or call 503-542-0280.

Recurring Cultural Demonstrations
at the Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner

Tea Ceremony Presentation
Every Wednesday from 5:00-6:00pm
Every Saturday from 1:00-2:00pm

Cultural Demonstration
Every Sunday from 1:00-2:00pm



Bruce Forster

Member Tour to Japan

May/June 2018 Kyoto & Tokyo, Japan

Members are invited to join the Garden's tour to Japan next spring. For nine days in May 2018, our small group of 16, accompanied by an English-speaking Japanese guide, will explore sites and cities in Japan, with a focus on beautiful gardens, temples, and shrines of Kyoto.

Reservations open early fall of 2017

Look for more information, trip prices and dates in the September/October issue of *The Garden Path* magazine.

Member Tea & Tours

August 5, 2017 Cultural Village, Umami Café,
8:00 - 10:00am & Garden Grounds
Members and their Guests Only

This morning event will feature complimentary tea samplings in the Umami Café and architecture tours of the Cultural Village at 8:30am and 9:15am.

No reservations required.

August 24, 2017 Tateuchi Courtyard, Pavilion,
7:00 - 9:00pm Tanabe Gallery, and Garden Grounds
Members and their Guests Only

Join us for iced tea and guided tours of the Garden and our Grand Opening centerpiece exhibition, *Kabuki: A Revolution in Color and Design*. Tours will begin at 7:15 and 8:00pm.

No reservations required. Tour sizes are limited and guests will be asked to sign-up upon arrival at the Garden.

Twilight Hours for Patron and Steward Members

July 13, 2017
August 31, 2017

7:00 - 9:00pm
Garden Grounds and Cultural Village
Patron and Steward Members
and their Guests Only*

Please reserve your complimentary
tickets at japanesegarden.org/events

We are excited to invite our Patron and Steward Members to join us for evenings in the Garden with music & refreshments.

**Supporting and Sponsor Members
(previous membership programs) are
also invited*

Evening Hours for Members

Portland Japanese Garden
Members and their Guests Only

On special evenings, we offer extended hours for our Members and their guests.

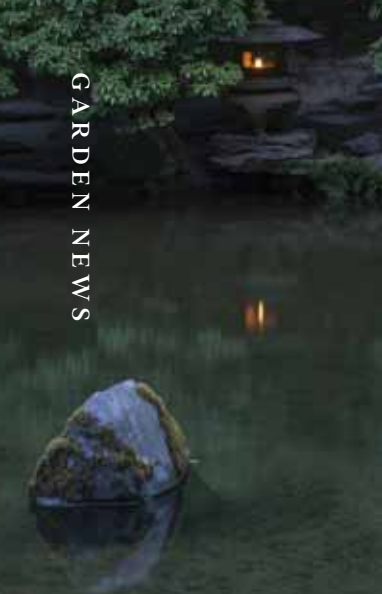
Upcoming Evening Hours for Members:

July 10, 7:00 - 9:00pm

July 21, 7:00 - 9:00pm

August 14, 7:00 - 9:00pm

August 18, 7:00 - 9:00pm



1

2

A Symbol of Everlasting Peace and Friendship

HEALING WOUNDS FROM WAR

When the Second World War came to an end in 1945, many painful scars were left behind. In the years following the war, anti-Japanese sentiment in Portland and the United States was still very real for many; the wounds from the war had not healed.

Less than ten years after the war ended, the first Portland-bound commercial ship from Yokohama, Japan, pulled into the Port of Portland on a peace mission. The ship was carrying a granite snow-viewing (*yukimi*) lantern from the city of Yokohama.

Inscribed with the words “Casting the Light of Everlasting Peace,” and later called the Peace Lantern – it was a gift to the city of Portland from then Mayor, Ryoza Hiranuma, and the city of Yokohama. It symbolized the first step in a new relationship between Yokohama and Portland. For the first time since the war, many Portlanders started to become reenergized about the idea of once again having a relationship with Japan; both culturally and from a business standpoint.

The new Peace Lantern in Higa-en, Yokohama, Japan



3

MAINTAINING MEANING AND STRENGTHENING BONDS

It has been 63 years since the peace lantern first arrived in Portland, establishing a friendship with the city of Yokohama. But like many friendships, time has a way of creating a distance and perhaps making us ponder the strength of its bond.

Last year, when Portland Japanese Garden Curator Sadafumi Uchiyama was visiting Japan, his *Sensei* Professor Isoya Shinji asked him for advice.

Professor Sinji had been selected as an advisor to the 33rd Annual National Urban Greenery Fair in Japan. The city of Yokohama had won the bid to host the three month event, which is highly celebrated in Japan.

“Professor Sinji did not want just flowers in a garden for the Urban Greenery Fair. He was looking for a symbol; something tangible. He believes that landscape has everything to do with human culture and the acknowledgement of history. Over dinner one night I mentioned, ‘we have our stone lantern from Yokohama,’ and that was it. That is how it started. It was a very casual conversation,” said Uchiyama. All of a sudden things start moving.

AN IDEA TAKES HOLD

Professor Shinji presented the idea of a peace lantern to the city of Yokohama.

The city decided and Mayor Fumiko Hayashi supported the idea – to not just commemorate, but have an actual object made that would stay in a garden in Yokohama. City leaders decided to make a replica of the peace lantern.

The city had hoped to display the peace lantern similarly to how it is displayed at the Portland Japanese Garden.

On March 25th at the grand opening of the event, the city of Yokohama revealed its peace lantern to the city. It was widely received, especially when the story of its origin was told.

“It’s a small thing between two relationships and two cities. It’s really a relationship or friendship that has been revived. And now, it will only continue to grow stronger. Because after 63 years, all the old memories are back and that is a wonderful thing,” Uchiyama said.

LANTERN IN LITTLE JAPANESE GARDEN REVIVES OLD FRIENDSHIP

The peace lantern at the Portland Japanese Garden, now with moss on its top, sits on the east bank of the Upper Strolling Pond and serves as a reminder of a deep desire for understanding and appreciation between two diverse cultures.

Now, 63 years later and nearly five-thousand miles away, an exact replica of the Portland peace lantern sits in a little garden in Yokohama, Japan casting the “Light of Everlasting Peace.”

“All of a sudden it becomes real again and our relationship is back today,” said Uchiyama.

To read the extended story, please visit japanesegarden.org/news

O-Bon, the Spirit Festival

O-Bon is a Buddhist memorial festival, which dates back more than 1300 years in Japan. From August 13-15, Buddhist services are held at temples and homes throughout Japan to pray for one's ancestors and particularly for those who have died within the past year. This serves as a reminder of the importance of family ties, as a gesture of respect for those who have gone before, and as an acknowledgment of the brevity and preciousness of life as a family.

In traditional beliefs, the spirits of the ancestors come back to their homes to be reunited with their family during O-Bon. A few days before August 13, people visit the cemetery to clean the family graves and pay their respects. People also clean their homes and offer a variety of foods to the spirits of ancestors in front of their *butsudan* (family altar), which is decorated with flowers and paper lanterns. On the 13th, the lanterns are lit inside the house, and people go to their family's graves to call their ancestors' spirits back home in a ritual called *mukae-bon*. In some regions, fires are lit at the entrances to homes to guide the ancestors' spirits. This is why O-Bon is often called the Festival of Lanterns or the Festival of Lights.

"*O-Bon* is a time to reflect on our immortality and remind ourselves that we are not alone, but that we are members of a vast and ancient society made up of both our forebears and of future generations."

ANONYMOUS GARDEN MEMBER

On the 16th, people guide the ancestors' spirits back to the graves, carrying or hanging lanterns painted with the family crest along the way to guide the spirits. This is called *okuri-bon*. In some regions, fires are lit at entrances of homes to send the spirits on their way.





All photos by Jonathan Ley

Tōrō-nagashi, a ceremony of floating lanterns, is celebrated in many regions on the last night of the festival. Paper lanterns are lit from inside with candles and floated down the river or into the sea to guide the spirits of their ancestors back home to the spirit world. Dancing is also part of the O-Bon festival. *Bon-odori* is a traditional, religious folk dance performed in prefectures all around Japan on the last day of O-Bon.

At the Garden we join together to dance and light floating candles on the Upper Pond beside the Moon Bridge and remember those who are no longer with us. As Reverend Zuigaku Kodachi chants the Lotus Sutra, we think of our loved ones as we light the *tōrō nagashi* lanterns and watch as they drift across the Upper Pond.

For the first time, O-Bon will take place at the Garden on two separate nights.

O-BON, THE SPIRIT FESTIVAL

August 16-17
8 – 9:30pm

Welcome Center Opens at 7:30pm
Festival begins at 8pm
Free and open to members and their families
Carpooling is recommended

Registration Dates

Golden Crane: 7/13
Members: 7/18

If you are a Garden member who has recently lost a loved one and would like their name to be honored during O-Bon, please email their first and last name, along with the correct pronunciation, to Sean Lottman: slottman@japanesegarden.org

Sunday, July 9
1:00 – 4:00pm

Tanabata, the Star Festival

This beloved summer festival is one of five seasonal festivals celebrated in Japan since the 8th century.

The whole family is welcome at this year’s celebration of the traditional Japanese *Tanabata* festival - our first ever in the Garden’s new Cultural Village. Take part in Tanabata customs like folding origami paper ornaments and writing wishes on colorful strips of paper called *tanzaku*. Enjoy *Kamishibai* storytelling and music as you explore the Garden’s new spaces.



Tanabata Storyteller,
Michiko Kornhauser

KABUKI



Summer brings an exhilarating new direction for the Art in the Garden series as we explore the flamboyant and fanciful traditional performing art of Kabuki through an exhibition of authentic costumes on loan from Japan.

Originating in the 17th century, Kabuki continues to flourish today at the Kabukiza Theater in Tokyo. The space was re-designed in 2013 by Kengo Kuma by commission of the Shochiku Co. Ltd, whose costume master, Tsuji Masao, is guest curator of this exhibition.

Kabuki is said to have begun in 1603 when a young woman named Izumo no Okuni began performing a new style of dance for the townspeople along the dry riverbeds of Kyoto. To “protect the public morality,” the Tokugawa Shogunate issued a ban against female dancers later in the 17th century, resulting in all-male performances of both male and female roles that continues to the present day.

The word Kabuki 歌舞伎 literally refers to the lively song and dance performances that brought to life the exuberant culture of languid kimono-clad courtesans and their swaggering downtown companions exquisitely depicted in *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints.

The new urban culture that developed around Kabuki theater inspired a lively popular culture among the merchant class in the entertainment quarters of both Kyoto and Edo (now Tokyo). It fostered exciting new directions in the design of textiles, painting, and printmaking. This included the creation of the “playbills” and posters we have come to know as *ukiyo-e*, pictures of the “floating world” depicting life among the actors and courtesans who inhabited the geisha quarters of both cities.

📷 Photos provided by Shochiku Co. Ltd. & Shochiku Costume Co. Ltd.



The Kabuki stage provided an exciting new form of entertainment with new music and dance performed by famous actors, who were (and continue to be) the wildly popular celebrities of their day. The brilliantly hand-dyed and lavishly embroidered silk costumes exploded on stage in a riot of color creating a revolution in the world of color and design, which continues to be celebrated internationally.

For those who associate Japanese aesthetics with the subtle and understated *wabi* taste of tea ceremony, the bold designs and brilliant colors of the world of Kabuki may come as a surprise to those who think of Zen and *wabi-sabi* when they think of Japan.

The *shitamachi* downtown culture that arose in the 17th century from the denizens of the “floating world” of Edo (now Tokyo) shatters all such illusions! The ladies of the entertainment quarter became the fashionistas of their day, a coveted departure from the more reserved attire of the upper classes. The culture merchant class reflected urban life in the streets of Edo, filled with romantic adventures and life and death battles between good and evil.

GRAND OPENING YEAR SPONSORS

HAROLD & ARLENE SCHNITZER CARE FOUNDATION

DELTA

IN THE TANABE GALLERY

July 29 – September 3, 2017

A selection of 18th and 19th century prints depicting kabuki actors from the private collection of Irwin Lavenberg will be on view in the Tanabe Gallery to provide a context for the lavish display of Kabuki costumes that are the centerpiece of the exhibition **Kabuki: A Revolution in Color and Design.**

KABUKI EVENTS

July 28 Golden Crane Opening Reception

July 29 & July 30 Kabuki on Stage: A Solo Performance

July 30 Presentation: Kabuki Costumes

Aug. 12 Kabuki Face Painting

Visit japanesegarden.org/events for details

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

The Standard

RACC

WorkforArt

Thanks to ANA, the exclusive airline of Shochiku Co. Ltd for their generous contribution to this exhibition

Kabuki on Stage: A Solo Performance



1

Kabuki on Stage: A Solo Performance brings Kabuki star Nakamura Umemaru from Tokyo to the Portland Japanese Garden for only two nights to perform *Tenaraiko*, one of the most beloved dances in the Kabuki repertoire, courtesy of Shochiku Co. Ltd. in Japan.

Each night's performance begins with young Umemaru arriving on stage without full make-up and costuming and we watch as he applies make-up, an elaborate wig, and elaborate costume that transforms him into the *onnagata* role of a lovely young maiden, assisted by Kabuki actor Nakamura Umeno.

Tenaraiko is one of the most beloved dances in the Kabuki repertoire and involves an almost magical costume transformation called *hikinuki* that is performed on stage in front of an awestruck audience.

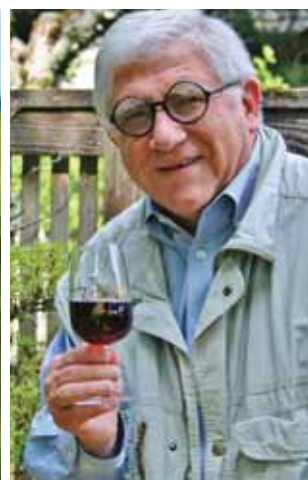
1
Girl at Writing Practice
(*Tenaraiko*), 19th century
woodblock print
Utagawa Toyokuni I
(1769-1825)

Image courtesy of
Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

A rising star among Kabuki actors in Tokyo, the talented Nakamura Umemaru plays the role of a young girl on her way home from a calligraphy lesson who fantasizes about the life ahead of her, composing imaginary love poems from the words she wrote in class as butterflies dance around her.

Female roles, or *onnagata*, have been played by men on the Kabuki stage since laws prohibiting women from stage performances to protect the public decency were enacted in the 17th century. It is said that *onnagata* actors are able to capture the essence of the feminine spirit, and their studied movements and graceful poses represent the quintessential woman.



Torii Mor

If you've attended a Member event at the Garden over the past few years, it's likely that you are familiar with Torii Mor winery – they have contributed 100% of the wine served at the Garden since 2009.

Garden Members may recognize the Japanese word *Torii*, referring to a Shinto gate, in the winery's name. Mor, on the other hand, is ancient Norwegian for "earth," a nod to owner Dr. Don Olson's heritage. Torii Mor then, is the "gate to the earth," Olson's way of acknowledging the terroir, or the influence nature and "place" have on the distinct character of a wine. He likens this to the Shinto concept of *Kami* and how the uniqueness of a vineyard directly adjacent to another will be reflected in the wines produced from each. As Olson simply puts it, "special wine comes from a special place."

While Torii Mor's wine is made from local grapes grown in their vineyards in Dundee, both the winery's aesthetic and Olson's personal life philosophy are highly influenced by Japanese culture and gardens. "To me," Olson says, "the [Portland Japanese] Garden is balance. I need a place to find peace, and all facets of the Garden do that." In Dundee, he's created his own peaceful haven, offering guests an opportunity to stroll their garden and the grounds around the tasting room, or sip their wine from the deck overlooking the vineyards. "The world's got to slow down somewhere," he continues, "it might as well be here."

Our Members have particularly enjoyed Torii Mor's "Disruption" white wine, a refreshing blend of pinot blanc and viognier made specifically for the Garden. At our Grand Opening celebrations in March, we were honored to serve guests from around the world a full range of great wines from Torii Mor, and we look forward to welcoming our Members to the Garden this fall for an exclusive tasting event. In the meanwhile, we recommend you take the trip to visit our close friends in Dundee this summer.

📷 Photos courtesy of Torii Mor winery

The Campaign for a Cultural Crossing

Contributions received
through May 20, 2017

The new Cultural Village and gardens are open! The Cultural Crossing project enables the Garden to extend its legacy and purpose—providing a heightened sense of beauty and tranquility and more educational opportunities while preserving significant cultural traditions and art forms. We thank all of you for your generous support.

\$5,000,000 AND ABOVE	\$750,000 TO \$999,999	\$100,000 TO \$499,999	\$75,000 TO \$99,999
Arlene Schnitzer in honor of Jordan D. Schnitzer's 20-year service to the Portland Japanese Garden	The Collins Foundation Frederick D. & Gail Y. Jubitz Foundation Ross M. Lienhart, Edwards Lienhart Family Foundation in memory of Sheila Edwards Lienhart M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust	Anonymous (1) Ray & Jean Auel Melissa & Stephen Babson Capt. David G. & Carolyn Berry Wilson Anne & James F. Crumpacker Family Wayne & Julie Drinkward Fred W. Fields Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation Hacker Architects Hoffman Construction Co. Kengo Kuma & Associates Yoshio & Nikki Kurosaki, Kurosaki Family Fund of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation Lani McGregor & Daniel Schwoerer Marilyn McIver Janet & Tom Montag Piper Park, The Park Foundation Wayne M. Quimby & Michael Roberts Quimby Catherine & Taisuke Sasanuma Frances & John von Schlegell Storms Family Foundation Walker Macy Nani Warren	Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund Mildred & Morris Schnitzer Charitable Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation PGE Foundation Spirit Mountain Community Fund
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📷 Bruce Forster

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And those who wish to remain
anonymous (1)

Behind the Shoji: Pacific Northwest Artist Showcase

Behind the Shoji, the Portland Japanese Garden's annual show and sale of Japanese-inspired art and crafts runs through July 16.

This show features some of the finest Japanese-inspired arts and crafts available, with an emphasis this year on the work of Northwest artists. For the first time ever, the event will be held in the new Yanai Classroom, a feature of the recently unveiled Cultural Village at the Portland Japanese Garden.

From ceramics to sculpture, prints and paintings, wearables, paper products and more, this year's Behind the Shoji is a chance to highlight the incredible creations of Northwest artists.



1



2



3



4

1
Miniature cast-bronze
sculpture by Suzye Ogawa.

2
Wood-fired chawan tea bowl
by Dan Kunnecke.

3
Assorted ceramics by Peggy
Loudon and Kenneth Pincus.

4
This year's show and sale
places a renewed focus on
the work of Northwest artists.

5
Behind the Shoji is being held
in the new Yanai Classroom,
a feature of the Garden's
recently unveiled Cultural
Village.



5

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know there are 25 lanterns in the Portland Japanese Garden? Lanterns are often placed next to water and can signify or represent love, brightness, and protection from evil.

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