# N E W S R E L E A S E

KEIO PLAZA HOTEL

May, 2017

## Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Press Release Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Hosts the Exhibition of "Noh" Japanese Traditional Performing Art Introducing Wooden Masks, Costumes from the Renowned Noh Play "Hagoromo" Feather Robe

TOKYO - <u>Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo</u>, one of Japan's most prestigious international hotels located in Shinjuku, Tokyo, will host a special exhibition entitled "Enjoying Japan's Traditional Performing Art *Noh*" from June 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This is the second consecutive year that the hotel will host a special *Noh* exhibition in cooperation with the <u>National Noh Theatre</u>. This year's exhibition focuses upon "Hagoromo (Feather Robe)", a famous *Noh* play based upon the celestial maiden legend, and will display traditional carved wooden *Noh* masks, intricately woven *Noh* costumes, and other related artistic props used in *Noh* performances. This exhibition, held in cooperation with the National Noh Theatre, also includes paintings by illustrator <u>Haruna Tokimatsu</u> that depict scenes of *Noh* actors performing on stage and of the audience in attendance. A special performance of "Hagoromo" will be held by prominent *Noh* performer Yoshimasa Kanze on June 13<sup>th</sup> followed by a special luncheon. Another unique opportunity to see this classic stage art up close will be during a free *Noh* demonstration in the Main Lobby, on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. This short demonstration is for both visitors and staying guests.

"Noh" (including the theatrical artforms of both *Noh* and *Kyogen*) has been performed for over 600 years since its creation in the Muromachi Period, and is the oldest theatrical art performed in the world. In recognition of the highly refined acting and artistic performances of *Noh* and its influence upon various genre of modern art around the world to this day, *Noh* was registered as a UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2008. The Keio Plaza Hotel is pleased to provide its guests, 75% of whom are overseas visitors from 100 different countries, with the opportunity to enjoy the *Noh* Play "Hagoromo" exhibition as part of our Japanese cultural experience programs.

## The Noh Play, "Hagoromo" Story: The Feather Robe

One of the most frequently performed *Noh* dramas is "Hagoromo", or The Feather Robe, which is based on a well-known legend said to have been written more than 12 centuries ago. A fisherman is out walking along the seashore at <u>Miho no Matsubara</u>, in what is now Shizuoka city near Mount Fuji, when he finds a beautiful feather robe hanging on a pine branch. When the fisherman attempts to take it away with him, a celestial maiden appears and asks him to return the robe to her because she cannot go home to the Palace of the Moon without it. At first the fisherman refuses, but he eventually agrees to give it back if she will perform a heavenly dance. She agrees, and dances for him, praising the beauty of Miho no Matsubara in the spring. Then she returns to heaven, flying beyond the peak of Mount Fuji, in the light of the full moon.

## Enjoying Japan's Traditional Performing Art Noh – Renowned Noh Play "Hagoromo" Exhibition

| Date:       | June 1 <sup>st</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Location:   | Art Lobby, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor                |
| Admission:  | Complimentary                                   |
| Co-Sponsor: | National Noh Theatre                            |

#### Special Exhibition 1: Exhibition of Noh Masks and Costumes

Various items will be displayed to give exhibition attendants a sense of the atmosphere of the *Noh* play "Hagoromo" including highly dignified facial featured "Zou-Onna" *Noh* mask worn by actors playing the role of the heroine, and wide-sleeved traditional costumes representing the beauty of the mythical "Moon Palace" and scenic seaside location in Shizuoka City "Spring Miho No Matsubara". In addition, the precious paintings of "Hagoromo" created as part of a collection of modern *Noh* plays by the renowned artist Kogyo Tsukioka will also be displayed.



Noh Mask "Zou-Onna"



Heavenly Crown "Tenkan"



Paintings of "Hagoromo" by renowned artist Kogyo Tsukioka

■ Special Exhibition 2: Paintings by Illustrator Haruna Tokimatsu Location: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Restaurant Corridor



■Special Exhibition 3: Haruna Tokimatsu Art Exhibition – "Smile!" Location: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the South Tower (in front of Main Bar *Brillant*)



#### Special Event 1: Noh Play Hagoromo and Special Luncheon (for fee)

X Reservations required



Date: June 13, 2017
Time: Reception 11:00a.m./Noh Performance 11:30a.m./ Luncheon 1:15p.m.
Price: JPY17,000 \*including Noh performance, meal, service charge and taxes

Performers: Yoshimasa Kanze of the Yarai Noh Stage, and others Location: Eminence Hall on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Special Luncheon Service: Guests can choose from Japanese Cuisine, Chinese Dining, or French and Italian Cuisine

#### Special Event 2: Noh Demonstration in the Lobby (free)

The unique opportunity to see the classic stage art up close will be during a free *Noh* demonstration in the Main Lobby. In this short 15-minute demonstration, *Noh* performer will introduce how the *Noh* masks and costumes are worn while guests can also enjoy a portion of *Noh* play "Hagoromo" for free.

Date: June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Time: 5:00 p.m. Location: Main Lobby, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor \*this short demonstration is for both visitors and staying guests.

### About the Keio Plaza Hotel

Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo, located in Shinjuku at the very heart of the nation's capital Tokyo, is one of Japan's leading international hotels. Our hotel boasts of over 20 restaurants and bars, and we host a wide range of local and international guests who visit us for our welcoming facilities, warm hospitality and unique services that allow them to experience Japanese culture, including our Hello Kitty themed rooms, wedding kimono fitting experience, tea ceremony, ikebana experience and many others. For more information about our facilities and services, please visit our website, YouTube, Facebook or Instagram.

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