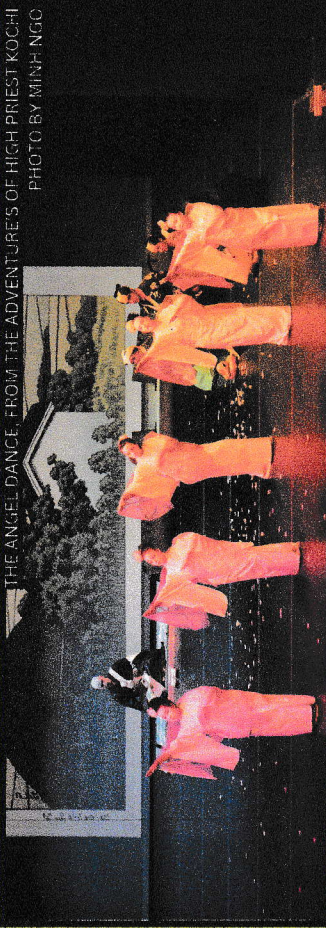


THE ANGEL DANCE, FROM THE ADVENTURES OF HIGH PRIEST KOCHI
PHOTO BY MINH NGO



Our student performers wore hand-me-down *yukata* (cotton kimono) and *hakama* trousers. Nevertheless, the performers loved this work, and they learned more about theater by doing it themselves than they could have by just reading plays and watching videos of shows in Japan. Our small audience of classmates and friends enjoyed our show, laughing merrily. I incorporated theater practice and public performances into our basic curriculum and we have presented *kyōgen* or kabuki for the public once or twice every year that I have taught at PSU. This is a record unmatched by any university in the United States.

Our production values and the scale of our performances have grown over the decades. Our costumes began to improve significantly after I married Toshimi Tanaka in 1987. We began to collect used kimono of all sorts, and she learned how to dress students beautifully and to make wigs and costumes. Since 2003 we have presented two kinds of fully costumed shows: gala multi-play and multi-dance *kyōgen* programs—like today's show, alternating with gorgeous kabuki extravaganzas, like *The Adventures of High Priest Kochi* last year, and *The Sarsine Seller's Net of Love* in 2022. Our student performers love taking on the challenge of becoming kabuki and *kyōgen* actors, and they return to perform year after year, honing their skills. I enjoy teaching them, and now post-retirement, this drama project is my only teaching chore. Toshimi and I and our whole team, and our sponsors, welcome you tonight to an evening of *kyōgen* chicanery and laughter.

Laurence Kominez



PLEASURE QUARTER PARTYING, FROM THE ADVENTURES OF HIGH PRIEST KOCHI
PHOTO BY BRIAN ALBRECHT



THE MOUNTAIN WIZARD AND THE CRAB
PHOTO BY JONATHAN WOODS, PSU PERFORMANCE AT UNIV. OF VICTORIA, 2018

PRESENTED BY THE CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES
& THE DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Trickery, Laughter, & Love

TAUGHT & DIRECTED BY LARRY KOMINZ

Featuring five comic *kyōgen* plays performed by PSU Students in English, including the World Premiere of an original play by a PSU student. Along with four dances from *kyōgen* and *noh* plays, and one *kabuki* dance.

Plays:

- Busu: The Delicious Poison
- The Wizard and the Crab
- At the Laundry River
- The Deva King Statue
- What Goes Around comes Galloping Back.

**JUNE 14, 2024
7:00 PM
LINCOLN PERFORMANCE HALL**

DEVA KING STATUE (NIC)

BUSU-DELICIOUS POISON
PHOTO BY BRIAN ALBRECHT