



2016  
singapore  
international  
festival of  
arts

# OTEN TIALITIES

11 Aug - 17 Sep 2016

*Second Edition with date changes  
and new highlights*

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# POTENTIALITIES

Inaugurated in 1977, the annual arts festival went on a hiatus after 2012 and returned in 2014 under the baton of Festival Director Ong Keng Sen. With the mission to artistically reinvigorate and transform the festival, Ong renamed it Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA). He initiated The O.P.E.N., a pre-festival of ideas to engage diverse audiences with the ideas, issues and themes of SIFA. Today, SIFA is the premier national performing arts festival managed by the Arts House Limited and commissioned by the National Arts Council. It aims to inspire through great international and Singapore artistic experiences in performance, theatre, dance and music. For more info, visit: [sifa.sg](http://sifa.sg)

# Sandaime Richard

CREATION

8, 9, 10 September  
8pm  
Victoria Theatre  
2h20, intermission included

BY  
**HIDEKI NODA**  
**ONG KENG SEN**

**In this witty satire of power, Shakespeare is put on trial for falsifying history and defaming Richard Sandaime, the Grand Master of Ikebana. Shakespeare is being prosecuted by none other than Maachan of Venice. Maachan, who has forever been condemned by the writing of Shakespeare, pits wits against the writer. Who will win?**

Sandaime Richard is written by Hideki Noda, described by revered Japanese director Yukio Ninagawa as 'the most talented playwright of contemporary Japan'. Noda, inspired by Yushi Odashima's translation of Shakespeare's Richard (III), effortlessly parallels the Wars of the Roses in England with the intrigue in an Ikebana clan in Japan. From Noda's script, Festival Director Ong Keng Sen creates an extravaganza of comic turns with his signature style of juxtaposing Asian traditional performance forms, including the modern tradition of Takarazuka, a popular all-female entertainment revue. Inspired by William Shakespeare's "Richard III" but very different, Sandaime Richard will open in Singapore this September before heading to Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre for a two-week run and later embarking on a Japanese tour of four cities.

In the year that celebrates the 400th death anniversary of William Shakespeare, Singapore International Festival of Arts 2016 takes a spin on the international multitude of productions commemorating this iconic playwright of all times. In Ong's production, games of gender surround Shakespeare, a male writer besieged by 'female' characters. In comic turn after comic turn, Ong casts rising star, kabuki onnagata (female impersonator), Kazutaro Nakamura as Richard Sandaime.

Performed in Japanese, English and Bahasa Indonesia, with English surtitles.

Produced by Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA).

Co-produced by Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre / Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC)

In association with Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) / Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre / SPAC / Kumamoto Prefectural Theatre / May Theatre / The Museum of Art, Kochi / Fukuoka City Foundation for Arts and Cultural Promotion. Supported by Shochoku. With assistance from Bali Purnali Center for the Arts.

TICKETS

**\$30, \$45, \$60**

20% discount for students, NIEs and seniors.

Rating TBC

FESTIVAL PARTNER



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



Image courtesy of Jun Ishikawa

### 3 reasons to GO

1. The imagined fascinating trial of Shakespeare.
2. The extraordinary international cast with each actor weaving a compelling narrative includes the acclaimed home-grown actress Janice Koh and top Indonesian film actress Jajang C. Noer.
3. A visual fantasy juxtaposing diverse Asian traditions with absorbing video, fashion and club music.



[sifa.sg](http://sifa.sg)

