

Mark Oshima Profile

(Akira Mark OSHIMA)

Mark Oshima is a kabuki researcher, translator and singer in the Kiyomoto style of kabuki music under the stage name of Kiyomoto Shimatayu. He was born in Colorado, educated at Harvard University and International Christian University and Waseda University in Tokyo and has been a resident of Tokyo since 1987. He writes and records commentaries subtitles in English for kabuki and Bunraku puppet theater for Earphone Guide and is also a translator for “Kabuki Kool” on NHK World. Translator of “Photographic Kabuki Kaleidoscope in Japanese and English (*Bairingarū de Tanoshimu Kabuki Zukan*, Shogakkan 2016)” by Kimino Rinko and supervised by Ichikawa Somegoro. His published translations of plays include Mishima Yukio’s “*Kuro Tokage* (Black Lizard),” and kabuki translations include “*Musume Dojoji* (The Girl at Dojoji Temple)” and “*Tokaido Yotsuya Kaidan* (The Ghosts of Yotsuya).” His translation of “Black Lizard” was performed in September 2019 at the Tennessee Williams Theater Festival in Provincetown and his adaptation of his translation of “The Ghosts of Yotsuya” was performed in May 2020 at Utica College in New York. He has also written and performed English versions of Kiyomoto vocal and shamisen music in productions of kabuki in English at Portland State University in Oregon directed by Laurence Kominz