

For Immediate Release

Festival/Tokyo Executive Committee

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**Japan's Largest Performing Arts Event,  
Festival/Tokyo 2016 Takes Place This Autumn**

**European theatre giant Krystian Lupa brings his work to Japan  
for the first time as part of a packed lineup of  
international performance in Tokyo**

The Festival/Tokyo Executive Committee (Honorary President of the Executive Committee: Yukio Takano, Mayor of Toshima City; Chair of the Executive Committee: Shigeo Fukuchi, Advisor to New National Theatre Foundation) has announced initial information about Festival/Tokyo 2016, including the festival dates and artist lineup.

The largest performing arts event in Japan, Festival/Tokyo (F/T) presents exciting and challenging contemporary theatre and dance every year. The ninth festival will be held this autumn, scheduled for 58 days from October 15th to December 11th. Its lineup includes the first performance in Japan by European theatre giant Krystian Lupa and other acclaimed artists from overseas as well as events such as PROJECT FUKUSHIMA! that involves the participation of ordinary people alongside music and dance artists. F/T16 also features the latest entry in the Asia Series, a showcase of Asian performing arts that debuted at the 2014 festival. This year, the series looks at the complex and burgeoning cultural scene in the multiethnic nation of Malaysia.

**Festival/Tokyo 2016 Lineup**

Krystian Lupa

Kunhyung Park + Namsan Arts Center

Sebastian Matthias

Susanne Linke

Asia Series Vol.3: Malaysia

PROJECT FUKUSHIMA!

idevian crew

marebito theater company

More information will be announced soon.

## **Overview**

Festival/Tokyo 2016 (F/T16)

October 15th – December 11th, 2016 (TBC) (58 days)

Venues:

Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Owlspot Theater, Nishi-Sugamo Arts Factory, Ikebukuro Nishiguchi Park, Morishita Studio

## **Festival/Tokyo**

Festival/Tokyo (F/T) is Japan's largest performing arts events, happening annually at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre as well as other venues around the Ikebukuro area and elsewhere in Tokyo. Starting with the first festival in 2009, it has been held on eight previous occasions, presenting 211 productions and 1,649 performances and events that have achieved total audience and participant numbers of over 470,000. Last autumn, Festival/Tokyo 2015 was organized for 37 days between October 31st and December 6th by the Festival/Tokyo Executive Committee, Toshima City, Toshima Future Culture Foundation, NPO Arts Network Japan (NPO-ANJ), and Arts Council Tokyo & Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), along with support from the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Each year the festival features a program of exciting Japanese and international artists that challenges and further develops the conventional model of an urban performing arts festival.

## **Program Lineup**

Krystian Lupa [theatre] [Poland]

The centerpiece of the festival is this long-awaited first visit to Japan by a leading director in European theatre.

Kunhyung Park + Namsan Arts Center [theatre] [Korea]

Created by a controversial artist whose previous work has had funding withdrawn by the government, this challenging play deals with Korean soldiers who volunteered to be Kamikaze pilots and more.

Sebastian Matthias [dance] [Germany]

Created out of residencies in Tokyo and Düsseldorf, this is the latest work by one of Germany's most exciting dance artists.

Susanne Linke [dance] [Germany]

The former student of Mary Wigman and giant of expressionist dance makes her first return to Japan in 16 years for a highly anticipated series of workshops and performances.

Asia Series Vol.3: Malaysia [theatre] [dance] [game] [Malaysia]

This diverse program of theatre, dance and even card games showcases the complexities of multi-ethnic Malaysia and its rich performing arts scene.

- ASWARA (National Academy of Arts, Culture & Heritage)

- The Instant Café Theatre Company

- Renxin Lee

PROJECT FUKUSHIMA! [dance] [music] [Japan]

A weekend of fun for everyone, the music and dance event linking Ikebukuro with Fukushima once again opens the festival with a bang.

Idevian Crew [dance] [Japan]

Marking F/T's final performances at Nishi-Sugamo Arts Factory, this new dance comically investigates the daily problems that arise between family and friends.

marebito theater company [theatre] [Japan]

Forming the first year in a long-term project jointly created by marebito theater company and F/T, it explores memories of Fukushima and also functions as a platform for cultivating Masataka Matsuda's students.



PROJECT FUKUSHIMA! at F/T15 (Photo: Ryosuke Kikuchi)

**Inquiries**

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