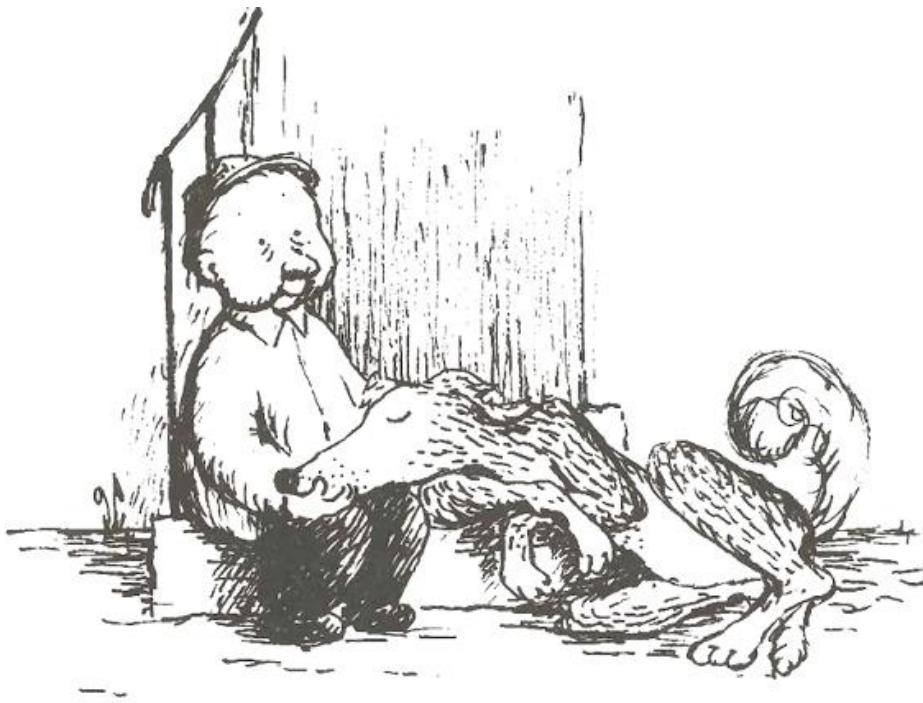


ricca ricca\*festa 2015  
(International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience)

# CALL FOR PERFORMERS

for the Asian collaborative project  
“The Story of the Little Gentleman”



ricca ricca\*festa (International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience) is an annual performing arts festival for children and young people which takes place in Naha City, Okinawa, Japan. Every summer, the festival presents outstanding productions from Japan, Asia and the globe.

As part of the festival, ricca ricca\*festa 2015 and the Japan Foundation Asia Center are planning to co-produce one of the most-beloved Swedish plays for children, “The Story of the Little Gentleman”, with performers in Asia-Pacific and thus, pleased to invite performers from the region to submit applications for this project details described as below:

## 1. About the play

### [Title]

The Story of the Little Gentleman

### [Synopsis]

A lonely gentleman finally finds a friend. It was a stray dog who was also lonely. They became the best friends. But one day a pretty girl appeared and...

### [About the play]

The play is an adaptation of a Swedish children's book *The Story of the Little Old Man* by Barbro Lindgren. The story of the play is delivered through movements and music, with a few words. It has been performed by a lot of artists not only in Sweden but also in many other countries around the globe and is loved as one of the most heartwarming masterpieces of children's theater.

ricca ricca\*festa has produced this play in 2006 with the Swedish director and actor Torbjörn Astner with Japanese actors and musicians with great success. It was presented again at the festival in 2009.

## 2. Production plan

The festival and the Japan Foundation Asia Center aim to create a new Asian version of the play with an Australian director Fraser Corfield and artists/musicians from Asia, especially ASEAN countries, featuring live music with Asian traditional instruments. After the premiere at the festival in July/August 2015, the organizers hope to conduct a tour to other Asian countries, including occasions at ATYA (Asian Alliance of Theater Festivals for Young Audiences) member's festivals.

### Fraser Corfield (Artistic Director of Australian Theatre for Young People)

Fraser is the Artistic Director of Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP). His work commissioning and staging plays with and for young people has received Australia's most prestigious Awards and nominations and been presented in the nation's leading theatres. As an Artistic Director Fraser has been a passionate advocate for new work, commissioning and producing over thirty new plays and productions. Highlights include *M.Rock* (ATYP/STC), *Sugarland* (ATYP), *The Tender Age* (ATYP /version 1.0, presented at Carriageworks and Sydney Opera House), *Grounded* (Tantrum Theatre/ATYP), Australia's first major opera composed for young people *Dirty Apple* (Backbone Youth Arts/Opera Queensland/Queensland Music Festival), the new Australian musical *Paradise* (Backbone Youth Arts, published by Playlab Press) and AWGIE award winning plays *Grounded* by Alana Valentine (2013 ATYP /Tantrum Theatre) and *I Said a Word* by Stephen House (2002 Riverland Youth Theatre).

He has directed productions across Australia and internationally. In 2012 he was invited to the International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience where he devised and co-directed the Next Generation Project production involving 22 artists from 12 countries. In 2015 Fraser is directing productions in England, Japan and Australia.

<http://www.atyp.com.au/>

### 3. Information for applications

#### (1) Eligible applicants

- Based in the following countries:  
Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Australia and New Zealand
- Good command of English to communicate and take part actively in the creation
- Has skill to create a new work by collaborating with other members
- Excellent in physical expression without relying on texts
- Has one of the following skills:
  - a. Excellent in physical expression and good command of 1 or more Asian traditional instrument(s) or voice (singing excellently)
  - b. Good command of multiple Asian traditional instruments
  - c. Excellent in improvisation and composition of music, and good command of multiple Asian traditional instruments
- Flexible to various ways of expressions and roles in the production

#### (2) Conditions

- The festival provides:
  - a. International transportation
  - b. Accommodation
  - c. Per diem (3,500 JPY per day per person)
  - d. Performance fee (1,000 € / for the duration from the rehearsal days until the end of the festival in Okinawa. The fees for future performances will be consulted in due course.)
- The festival, however, encourages applicants to apply for local funds where possible. Applicants who can apply for the other funds will be considered as a priority.
- If the applicants required visa to enter Japan, the applicants should cover the expense. The festival will provide necessary documents for the visa applications.

#### (3) How to apply

Please submit the following documents by e-mail to [littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com](mailto:littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com)

- Cover letter
- CV (Curriculum Vitae)
- Video clips of short performances on which the applicants can be clearly seen (Submissions via link on such websites as youtube or vimeo are preferable. Otherwise please send the data files of video clips.)
- Any other supporting materials

#### (4) Application deadline

**Saturday, June 6, 2015**

### (5) Screening process

Phase 1: Screening by submitted documents and video clips

Phase 2: Interview with the director, presenting a short performance via skype

## 4. Tentative schedule

June 28, 2015	Selected members arrive in Okinawa
June 29 – July 27, 2015	Creation in Okinawa
July 28 – August 2, 2015	Performances at the festival (4 times)
Autumn 2015	Presentations in Asia (Cambodia, Laos, etc. / TBC)
From 2016 onwards	Tour in Asia, Australia and ATYA members' festivals (TBC)

## 5. Contact

Ms. Nao Miyauchi (ricca ricca\*festa 2015)

E-mail: [littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com](mailto:littlegent@nuchigusui-fest.com)

### ricca ricca\*festa (International Theater Festival OKINAWA for Young Audience)

It is an annual performing arts festival for children and young people which takes place in Naha City, Okinawa, JAPAN. Every summer, the festival presents outstanding productions from Japan, Asia and the globe.

International co-production is one of the unique focuses of the festival. Every year the festival produces several collaborative projects. By continuing and developing projects, we aim to establish an Asian multinational theater company based in ricca ricca\*festa.

This project is a big step to realise the festival's long dream, because at last the project will tour to other Asian countries. The festival team are truly excited about this project and hope to work with Asian artists who will be our long-term collaborator in the future.

Website: [nuchigusui-fest.com](http://nuchigusui-fest.com)

Facebook/English: [www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest](https://www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest)

Facebook/Japanese: [www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest.jp](https://www.facebook.com/nuchigusufest.jp)

Twitter (mainly in Japanese): [twitter.com/nuchigusufest](https://twitter.com/nuchigusufest)

### The Japan Foundation Asia Center

The Japan Foundation is Japan's principal institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world. The Asia Center, established within the Japan Foundation in April 2014, is a specialized unit with the goal to connect people, expand networks, and develop cultural programs across Asia. Through projects in such diverse fields as music, theater, film, sports, Japanese language education and other academic exchanges, the Asia Center, in cooperation with the Foundation's overseas offices, pursues and supports various forms of activities between Asian communities.

Website: <http://jfac.jp/>