**NAO KOBAYASHI**

Interdisciplinary puppet artist, costume and puppet designer

US O-visa holder, an Individual with Extraordinary Ability

www.naopuppet.com

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619-917-9582

**EDUCATION**

2014-2017 MFA in Design and Technology for Theatre, TV and Film, Costume and Puppetry Design, San Diego State University

2001-2005 BA in Technical Theater, major in Technical Theatre, minor in studio art,  Sonoma State University

**PUPPET, COSTUME CONSTRUCTION and RELATED TECHNOLOGY**

2019 fabric sea creature fabrication for an educational program for an West Coast aquarium, Images in Motion,Sonoma

2018 Commissioned puppetry effect for a dress in a fashion show of MOSCHINO, based in LA and Italy

2017 Residential Artist for seasonal interior design using artworks for a Japanese restaurant Fukusuke, Larkspur CA

2017 Commissioned puppetry for a national cat show presented by the Martinos VivaTonk , San Diego

2017 Costume design & construction for 2 stilt walkers, Background Productions, San Diego

2014-2017 Graduate Assistant*,*Costume Shop, San Diego State University

2014 Costume/craft artisan, Kimono upcycling project for Christmas markets, Berlin

2007-2014 freelance artist; creating fabric animal sculpture with recycled materials

**EXHIBITION**

2019 selected Exhibition Artist at Mill Valley Fall Art Festival, Mill Valley

2017 Yokai, Demons and Monsters in Japanese Folklore Exhibition selected 3D artist, Japanese Friendship Garden, SD

2014 Fabric Artist’s Exhibition organizer and selected residential artist for exhibition and event, Art Space Tetra, Fukuoka

**THEATRE COSTUME and PUPPET DESIGN** (selected)

2019 *The Fasting Girls* dir. Alexis Macnab Z Below, San Francisco

2016 *Momo the Time Titan* dir. John McManus, Nathaniel Williams Free Columbia Puppet Troupe, NY

2016 *The Big Friendly Giant* dir. Margaret Larlham Don Powell Theater, San Diego

**COSTUME DESIGN** (selected)

2016 *Requiem for an Ocean* choreo. Jean Isaacs Saville Theatre, San Diego

201*5 Become Ocean, San Diego Trolley Dance* choreo. Jean Isaacs San Diego Trolley Dance, Balboa Park

2015 *Dr.Faustus Lights the Lights* dir. Peter Cirino Don Powell Theater, San Diego

2015 *Fukuoka Horror House Project* dir. Nobuyuki Gomi Beppu Kon-yoku Art Triennale, Fukuoka

2014 *Fukuoka Horror House Project* dir. Nobuyuki Gomi Reizensou, Fukuoka

2013 *Art collective event Fog* choreo. Daisuke Yamamoto Black out, Fukuoka

**ASSISTANT DESIGN**

2016 Assistant Puppet Master, *Christmas Carol*, a tour service at Cygnet Theatre, San Diego CA

2015 Associate Costume Design, *Emma,* *Little Shop of Horror,* Santa Rosa Junior College Summer Rep Theater, CA

2014 Assistant Costume Design, *Water by Spoonful*, San Diego State University, CA

**PERFORMANCE ART** (selected, as Artistic Director / performer)

2018 *Shilo Kloko* Hollywood Fringe Festival 2018 Scholarship and Award winner

2018 *Behind Shadows* fully supported and co-produced by Highways Performance Space, Santa Monica

2018  *Behind Shadows* selected presenter at Pacific Southwest Puppet Festival, Santa Barbara

2017 *Land of No Shadows* invited performer at the Last Night of The Steve Allen Theatre, Hollywood

2017 *Unexpected Mirror* w/ animators Walter Santucci, Yoriko Murakami, Steve Allen Theatre LA, MHP Theatre SD

**TEACHING** **WORK EXPERIENCE**

2019 Puppet Workshop Instructor for a Children’s Summer Program at 2727 California Art Center, Berkeley

2018 Program Coordinator/Teaching Artist, Sewing, craft and puppet making, NPO The Planet Kids Center, Sausalito

2017-2018 Teaching Artist,10wks Creative Movement+Puppet for students with special needs, NPO Youth in Arts, San Rafael

2017 Teaching Assistant at 12wks Puppetry Residency Program for 2nd grade classes, Nye Elementary School, San Diego

2017 Edo Marionette San Diego Tour translator at Balboa Park Japanese Friendship Garden, SanDiego

2007-2014 English-Japanese Translator/interpreter

Tokyo Contact Improvisation Festival, May 2007, interpretation of dance and martial art classes

NPO Science Accessibility Net, 2009-2010, interpretation and translation for mathematical documents

Alexander Technique private lessons/workshops at annual event, 2010-2014, interpretation of bodywork

**Achievement/ AWARDS**

2018 US O-visa, Individuals with Extraordinary Ability or Achievement as a Puppet Maker

2018 Hollywood Fringe Festival 2018 Scholarship Winner (artistic director/puppeteer)

2018 Review, The Essence of Fringe Award and PLATINUM rated for Hollywood Fringe Festival work by TVolution

2018 Highways Performance Space co-producing project recipient (artistic director/puppeteer)

2017 Outstanding Graduating MFA Design of 2016-2017 San Diego State University

2017 Scholarship for Chicago International Puppet Festival Intensive Program from the Festival, San Diego Guild of Puppetry

2016 Outstanding Design in Costume 2015-2016 San Diego State University

**SKILLS**

Rendering with watercolor, pencil, ink, mixed media craft, machine/hand sewing, draping, fabric modification

Life drawing, quick gesture sketches with anatomical knowledge, sculpture

word, excel, powerpoint, basic photoshop, basic 3DPrinting experience with makerbot

Fluent in Japanese, chinese caligraphy  
bodywork study including; martial art Shintaido, acupressure and alexander technique, japanese dance theatre butoh

**REFERENCES**

Hillary Fox: Board Co-chair, The Planet Children’s Center hillaryfox@hotmail.com 415-302-9074

Kathryn Irey: Choreographer, Director of Stage 7 619-234-4647

Teri Tavares: Costume Shop Manager, San Diego State University tavares@sdsu.edu 619-594-0183