

COMPOSING NOH IN WALTZ TIME

A Music Performance & Discussion
with Co-Composers David Crandall, Dr. Kevin Salfen
and members of the Cast
Moderated By Jay Ilan

as part of

TO NOH AND BEYOND
an *In a Memory Palace* workshop and performance series

Noh is usually performed on a bare wooden stage and accompanied by a chorus, drums and flute. Theatre Nohgaku crafts new noh in English, but *In a Memory Palace* expands the traditional noh ensemble by including cello, piano, and piccolo to evoke the opulence of early twentieth-century Vienna. The result is perhaps the most integrated conversation ever attempted between noh and European concert music.

Friday July 31, 2026, 1:00pm – 2:00pm
The San Francisco Public Library 100 Larkin Street (At Grove)
The Koret Auditorium, Located on the Lower Level
This is Not a Library Sponsored Program

Introduction by Jay Ilan

Waltz Lesson by Jay Ilan

1. Musical Excerpt 1: Cello Solo

Cello: Monica Scott

2. Musical Excerpt 2: Issei

Kotsuzumi shoulder drum: Ōmura Kayu

Ōtsuzumi hip drum: Kisaburō Umeya

Cello: Monica Scott

Nohkan flute: Laura Salfen

3. Musical Excerpt 3: Christmas Stockings

Spirit of Hedwig Muller: Mika Oskarson-Kindstrand

The Woman: Gulshirin Dubash

Chorus: Valerie Jeannin, Alexandra Jerinic

Kotsuzumi shoulder drum: Ōmura Kayu

Ōtsuzumi hip drum: Kisaburō Umeya

Taiko stick drum: David Crandall

Cello: Monica Scott

Keyboard: Kevin Salfen

Nohkan flute: Laura Salfen

David Crandall is a composer, playwright, and performer who studied noh chant and dance with noh master Hajime Sano and has worked professionally at the Hosho Noh Theatre in Tokyo. He is a founding member of Theatre Nohgaku and co-composer of *In a Memory Palace*.

Jay Ilan (any/all pronouns) is a Bay Area theatre artist, dramaturg, and director. Recent credits include dramaturg and music supervisor for the musical *The Trees*, along with performing and directing work across Bay Area companies including Berkeley Playhouse, Hillbarn Theatre, Korsa Musical Theater, and 42nd Street Moon. Offstage, Jay works as a therapist and coach - a background that shapes how they hold a room. Some credits appear under a former name.

Kevin Salfen is a musicologist, composer, filmmaker, and producer. He has been a member of Theatre Nohgaku since 2011. His compositions have been performed in Europe, Asia, and throughout the United States, and two of his intercultural projects with TN – the film *Phoenix Fire* and the performance/installation *In a Memory Palace* – have received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts. He curates and writes for the blog *Sound Trove*.

Gulshirin Dubash is an actor and director from Bombay, India. She has worked between the United States and India working with non-profits and groups like Clowns without Borders. She currently serves as theatre faculty at Interlochen Arts Academy. She started studying Noh in 2001 under the guidance of Richard Emmert and Mitsuo Kama and joined Theatre Nohgaku in 2008.

Valerie Jeannin is a mezzo-soprano and a graduate of Trinity University where she received two degrees, a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Master of Arts in Teaching in Music. She currently works in two very different worlds—music education and urban agriculture. She also sings with choral groups such as the San Antonio Chamber Choir and the Parish Choir at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Alexandra Jerinic, mezzo-soprano, is a classical singer active in concert and opera. She first joined *In a Memory Palace* during their workshop presentation in San Francisco in 2022. Recent credits include Madame Pernelle in *Tartuffe*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Dido and *Dido and Aeneas*, and covers of multiple roles in *Das Rheingold*. Other career highlights include First Musician in the world premiere of Maverick's *At the Hawk's Well*, Adalgisa in *Norma*, Carmen, and Fanny Price in *Mansfield Park*.

Umeya Kisaburō graduated from the Department of Traditional Japanese Music, Faculty of Music, Tokyo University of the Arts. He studied Nagauta instrumental music under the late Umeya Fukusaburo III, and noh performance and Kō-style kotsuzumi shoulder drum under Sowa Masahiro. In addition to extensive performance experience with NHK, the National Theatre, and other prestigious organizations in Japan, he has participated in several international tours in the United States, Europe, and Asia.

Kayu Ōmura is a kotsuzumi shoulder drum player of the Kō School. Daughter of Kita School shite actor Sadamu Omura, she was exposed to noh at a young age and began taking kotsuzumi lessons in high school. She graduated from the noh division of Tokyo University of Arts in 2009. In addition to her busy noh performance schedule, Ōmura teaches drumming in the Tokyo area and has appeared internationally in many fusion works.

Mika Oskarson-Kindstrand is an actor and assistant director from Sweden. Exposed to a blend of Asian and Western theatrical traditions from an early age through the World Theatre Project spanning Sweden, India, Mozambique, and China, Mika's journey in performance commenced at the age of 5. Since then, she has performed many roles across a spectrum of theatrical productions in Sweden and around the world.

Laura Salfen is a flutist and fundraising professional based in the San Antonio area. Originally from Gahanna, Ohio, Laura holds degrees in flute performance from the Ohio State University and the University of North Texas. Winner of the 2005 Flute Society of Kentucky Collegiate Artist Competition, Laura is a champion of new music and chamber music and has partnered with the Composers Alliance of San Antonio to premiere new works for flute and clarinet.

Monica Scott has performed throughout the United States, in almost every European country, Argentina, Canada and South Korea, engaging audiences with her energetic, eloquent playing. Since moving to the Bay Area in 1997, Monica has performed extensively with the avant-garde/improvisor/new music collective *sfSound*; she was the cellist of the award-winning San Francisco-based *Del Sol Quartet* from 2001-2005, and in 2006 Monica formed the cello-piano duo *martha & monica* with pianist Hadley McCarroll, with whom she still performs regularly.

Theatre Nohgaku is an international performance ensemble whose members share a passion for noh and a conviction that it has profound power for audiences today. We perform traditional and contemporary work that reaches across boundaries of culture and language to tell stories that reflect our shared humanity.



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