

Akane NAKAMURA

Born in Tokyo in 1979, performing arts producer Akane Nakamura became involved in performing arts while she was an undergraduate in the Nihon University College of Art. She handles tasks in a wide variety of areas, such as production of the activities of contemporary theater and dance artists and companies inside and outside Japan, holding of site-specific festivals, and execution of programs for interdisciplinary human resource development.

Major production activities in Japan and other countries

Nakamura founded precog Co., Ltd. in 2006, during her stint as program director at the NPO ST Spot Yokohama (2004 - 2008), and has been its Representative Director since 2008.

Since 2004, she has produced the works of numerous artists and companies that are driving Japan's contemporary theater and dance, in Japan and other countries. The list includes chelfitsch & Toshiki Okada, Nibroll, the Mikuni Yanaihara Project & Mikuni Yanaihara, the Azumahashi Dance Xing, Masako Yasumoto, Norimizu Ameya, Yudai Kamisato, and Chiharu Shinoda. She has handled international tours and co-productions in 70 cities in 30 different countries, and done much to introduce Japan's contemporary theater scene to the international community since the second half of the 2000s. In October 2009, she established NPO Drifters International together with the producer Kao Kanamori

and the architect Teppei Fujiwara. In 2011, she produced Contemporary Little Theatres of the World vol.1 Germany in a project of co-curation with the theater HAU Habel am Ufer Berlin. In 2012, she served as director of Musicity Tokyo (sponsored by the British Council), as part of a new project linking music and cities. In the same year, she produced KAFE9, a performing arts festival at the Kanagawa Arts Theatre (KAAT). As this indicates, she has been involved in the conception and production of many international programs. Over a period of three years beginning in 2016, she produced performances of *Pratthana - A Portrait of Possession* in Bangkok in collaboration with the Japan Foundation Asia Center, and subsequent performances of the same work at the Pompidou Center in Paris, the Tokyo Metropolitan Theater, and the Schaubühne Theater in Berlin. Additionally, this work was nominated for the 2020 Yomiuri Theater Award. She has been broadening the activities of precog to encompass projects with an inclusive perspective, as evidenced by its service in 2019 as the secretariat of the True Colors Festival. This event is organized by The Nippon Foundation and aimed

at transcending disabilities and differences in aspects including gender, generation, language, and nationality.

Projects for human resource development

Nakamura held the Drifters Summer School program, which is based in Yokohama, over the years 2010 - 2013, and served as a part-time instructor in the Nihon University College of Art over the years 2011 - 2015. In 2020, she served as co-director of Re / Creation, a school for the conception, planning and publicizing of interdisciplinary projects. This program is sited in Shibuya QWS, a members-only facility on the 15th floor of SHIBUYA SCRAMBLE SQUARE, and brings together creators, business persons, artists, and other people. She is also involved in the development and examination of Conneling Study together with workshop designer Takashi Usui. Continuing since 2019, this is an art appreciation project that applies the viewing of performances for a learning experience.

Site-specific approaches and space management

Nakamura manages activity space of various types. In a project of co-production with Mujinto Production and Azumabashi Dance Xing, she established SNAC (2010 - 2013), a place for socializing to breed new value, in a downtown district of Tokyo. She opened PUNTO PRECOG, a creative space, in the city of Beppu, Oita Prefecture, in May 2012. This is also a site for the birth of new projects, right in the central district of Beppu. Nakamura opened a rehearsal studio in what had been a printing factory in Yamabuki-cho, a district in Tokyo's Shinjuku Ward. In addition, she is putting efforts into activities rooted in the local community. In 2012, she helped to organize the Sumidagawa Parade, which featured 100 cheerleaders, along the Sumida River in collaboration with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. Over the years 2012 - 2014, she was performance program director for the Kunisaki Art Festival (co-sponsored by Oita Prefectural Government and the governments of the cities of Kunisaki and Bungotakada). She also produced "*Irikuchi Dekuchi*" (*Entrance Exit*), a 12-hour bus-tour work that became one of the signature works of Norimizu Ameya and Mariko Asabuki. In addition, she produced *Inuto Imago*, a collaborative piece by Kazuhisa Uchihashi and the Indonesian musical unit Senyawa, at the Inujima Performing Arts Program in the Setouchi Triennale 2016. In 2016, she relocated to Bangkok after receiving a grant from the Asian Cultural Council, and embarked on research of performing arts in Southeast Asia during her stay, which ended in 2018. She proposed and is one of the directors of the Open Network for Performing Arts Management (ON-PAM).