## Ishikawa Orchestra Foundation proudly presents "Mugen Noh-Pierrot Lunaire"

A renowned soprano, Akiko Nakajima who is active in Europe as well as Japan produced a stage production, "Mugen Noh" play, entitled "Pierrot Lunaire" in December 2012 to celebrate 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Schoenberg's master piece.

As the title indicates, the play is a merge between two art forms. Arnold Schönberg's composition, which has broken new ground in twentieth-century European music, and Noh theater, the oldest extant professional theater in the world from Japan. The attempt to explore new possibilities and dimensions of expression is a completely unique concept.

The principal Noh actor is interpreted by Mr. Junnosuke Watanabe of the Hosho School of Noh Theater (Important Intangible Cultural Property recognized by Agency of Cultural Affairs of Japan) accompanied by 2 other musicians who are named with the same title and 3 male singers. The role of Pierrot is interpreted by Akiko Nakajima, conducted by Niels Muus played by an ensemble of 5 instrumentalists.

*Mugen Noh-Pierrot Lunaire* is a complete performance piece. With refine additional Noh scenes woven into the original Pierrot Lunaire, 35 minutes length program is presented here as an1 hour and 15 minutes program. The stage sets are minimal, and the visual art is used for both artistic effects and subtitling which brings the music of Schönberg clearer and help to bring the performance closer to the audience. Having minimal stage sets, we succeed in keeping the authenticities of the two diverse world, and it enables the production to be performed in various kinds of concert halls and stages.



Act 1evening tale



Act2-Nightmare

Act3-Nostalgia

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