# **家東三根**

## Yanagiya Tozaburo III Rakugo Performance



### Yanagiya Tozaburo III's Rakugo Performance in Spring 2018

Date & Time: 2:15pm-4:25pm on the Wednesday, March 14, 2018 Place: Room E-500, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Admission:

Free but RSVP at <a href="http://bit.ly/lagccEventReg">http://bit.ly/lagccEventReg</a>
The performance will be in Japanese with the English subtitle Note: tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu / 718-482-5484 or visit https://bit.ly/2ry66Ph Inquries:



#### **EVENT DESCRIPTION**

LaGuardia Community College is hosting a Rakugo (Japanese sit-down comic storytelling) performance by Yanagiya Tozaburo III, the Shin'uchi (highest) rank rakugo performer, on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

Rakugo has entertained generations of Japanese since the 17th century. From ghosts to geisha, samurai to salaryman, a solo performer brings scores of characters vividly to life in tales punctuated by various tones of voice, gestures, and facial expressions with a folding fan and hand towel as his only props.

During this performance, Yanagiya Tozaburo III will present the Rakugo stories in English as well as with English subtitles in order to introduce this unique storytelling art of Japan to a broad audience in the U.S.

#### YANAGIYA TOZABURO III

Born and raised in Tokyo, Yanagiya Tozaburo III (柳家東三楼) became a disciple of master Rakugo performer Yanagiya Gontaro III in 1999 after dropping out of a prestigious private university. After years of training, he was promoted to the master Shin'uchi rank, the highest rank in the rakugo discipline, in 2014. Ever since, he has performed all over Japan and appseared in many television programs in Japan.

Tozaburo excels in the classic Rakugo stories such as Ikuyomocshi, a love tale set in Edo Period, Meguro no Sanma, comedy about Shogun's misunderstanding and Toki Soba, depicting a silly man trying to cheat a soba noodle vendor. He is ambitious in expanding his horizons by adapting Rakugo stories into stage plays and vice versa. He created a Rakugo version of "The Darling" by Anton Chekhov in 2010 in celebration of Chekhov's 150th anniversary.

#### **TENTATIVE PROGRAM**

- 1. Introduction of Rakugo (in Japanese with an interpreter)
  Tozaburo will give a brief lecture of Rakugo and its characteristics.
- 2. Rakugo Workshop
  - Tozaburo will demonstrate how to use a folding fan and Japanese hand towel and give workshop for the participants to do Rakugo movements.
- 3. A classic Rakugo "The Zoo" performed in English A lazy guy finds an easy, high-paying job at a zoo. But his job turns out to be pretending to be a tiger. One day, a lion enters his cage...
- 4. A classic Rakugo "Toki-soba (Time and Soba Noodle)" performed in Japanese with English subtitles A foolish man in Edo tries to cheat a soba vendor, but he winds up paying more.
- 5. Q & A session, questionnaires

#### **INQUIRIES**

If you are interested in attending the event, please register at <a href="http://bit.ly/lagccEventReg">http://bit.ly/lagccEventReg</a>. For more information, please see this flyer (<a href="https://bit.ly/2rxhavU">https://bit.ly/2rxhavU</a>) or visit the homepage at <a href="https://bit.ly/2ry66Ph">https://bit.ly/2ry66Ph</a>. For inquiries, please contact Tomonori Nagano at 718-482-5484 / <a href="mailto:tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu">tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu</a>. For more information, please contact Tomonori Nagano at 718-482-5484 / <a href="mailto:tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu">tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu</a>.

This event is supported by QQ English.