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JUN MATSUMOTO MASAMI NAGASAWA EITA NAGAYAMA
NOZOMI MURAOKA NOBUE IKETANI KAZUSHIGE KOMATSU
HIDEKI NODA NAOTO TAKENAKA

LOVE IN ACTION

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY HIDEKI NODA

FROM **TOKYO** TO **LONDON**:
A WILDLY CREATIVE
COURTROOM SPIN ON
DOSTOEVSKY'S
THE BROTHERS
KARAMAZOV

THU 31 OCT - SAT 2 NOV
SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE



A CONVOLUTED PREFACE THAT WILL MAKE MORE SENSE AFTER SEEING THE SHOW

The Daughter of Time, a masterpiece of British mystery fiction, explores the life of King Richard III, portrayed most famously by Shakespeare. The story poses the question: "who made Richard III, who was not a hunchback, into a hunchback?" and leads us to the conclusion: "truth is the daughter of time". It's not just Richard III. All of history portrayed as truth tends to be "the daughter of time," chronicled for the convenience of an era and passed on to future generations in hunchbacked form.

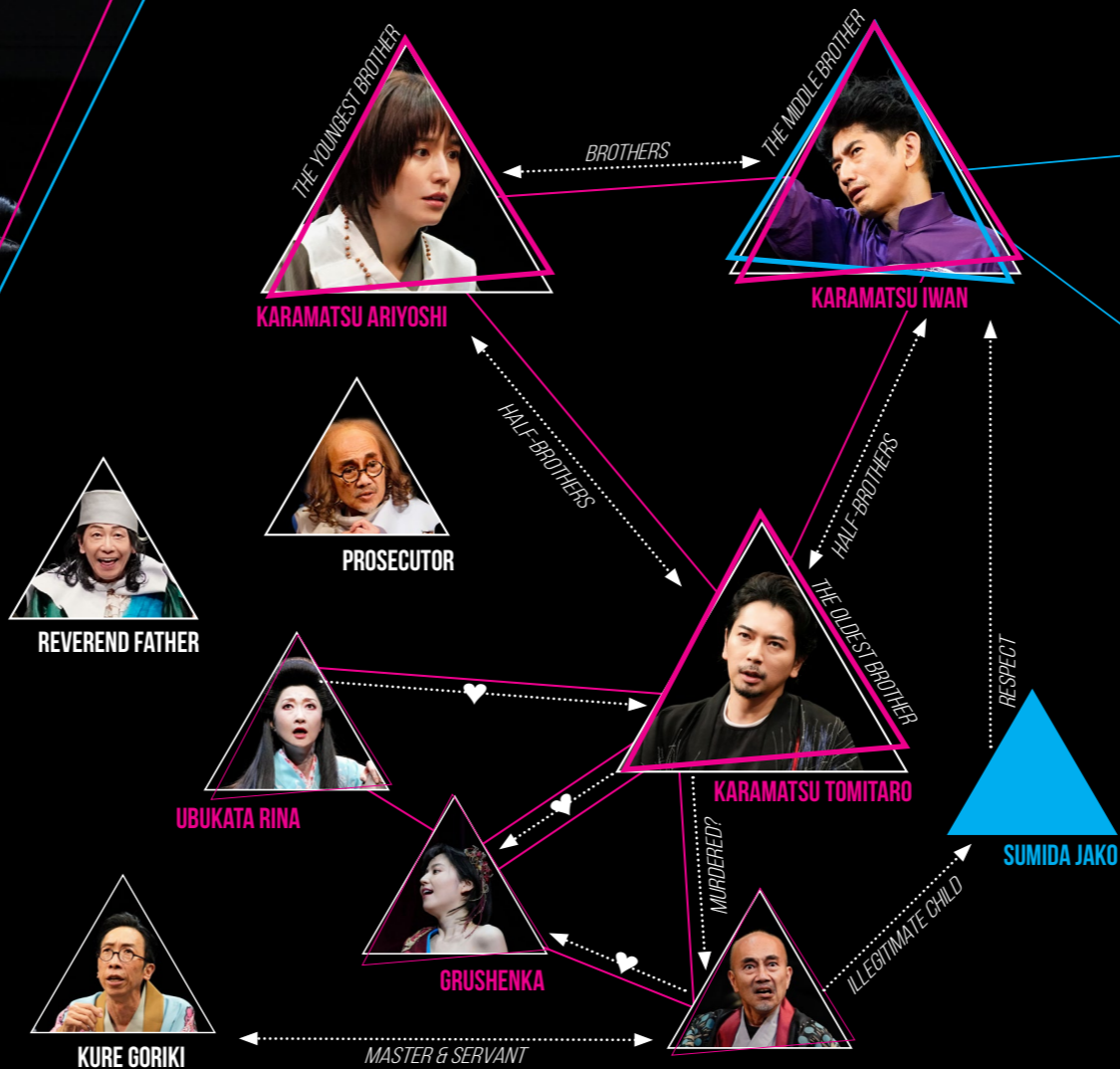
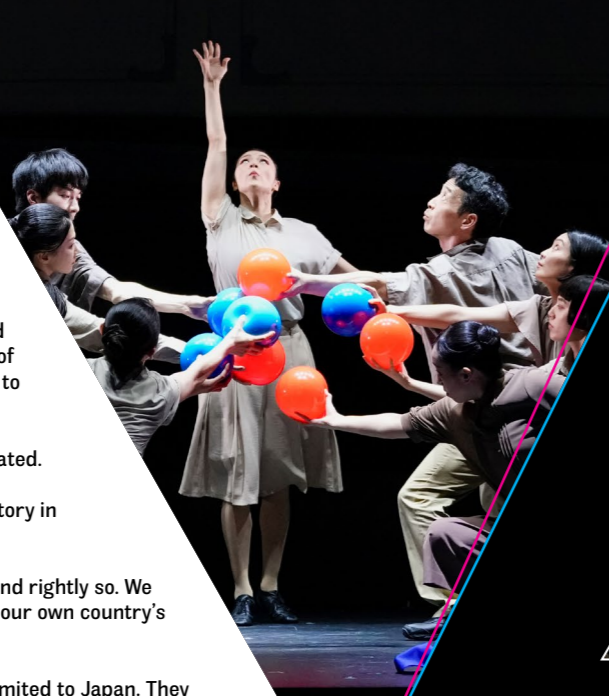
This play, *Love in Action* is half-true and more-than-half fabricated. A single piece of work made up of half and more-than-half is already rather dubious. Indeed, it tells the story of Japan's history in "hunchbacked" form, deviating from historical facts.

British audiences may not be interested in Japanese history, and rightly so. We all have enough on our plates dealing with the complexities of our own country's history, never mind anyone else's.

That said, the historical events portrayed in this play are not limited to Japan. They are a part of history that many people around the world know, or think they know. It's true that I am creating a new, distorted narrative from this history. But at a time when historical events are increasingly told as if they had been inevitable, I cannot help but see that therein lies "the daughter of time." **Hideki Noda**

ABOUT HIDEKI NODA AND NODAMAP

Hideki Noda was born in 1955 in Nagasaki, Japan. He is a Japanese playwright, director, and actor. While still studying at Tokyo University, in 1976, he founded the theatre company Yume no Yuminsha (Dreaming Bohemian). The company disbanded in 1992, and the following year he founded NODA MAP after studying in the UK. He has created many plays such as *Red Demon*, *The Bee*, *Egg*, *In the Forest*, *Under Cherries in Full Blossom*, and *Fakespeare*. He also writes and directs Kabuki plays and operas, showcasing his creativity in other forms of art beyond contemporary theatre. He has worked extensively in the UK: his *Red Demon* played the Young Vic in 2003, and *The Diver* was performed at Soho Theatre in 2008. The first show he wrote in English was *The Bee*, which was born from a workshop with London actors in 2006. It premiered at the Soho Theatre and received a 5 star review in Time Out, who called it a "highly unusual theatrical gem". *The Bee* subsequently played Tokyo in English and Japanese and has played New York. He frequently works with actress Kathryn Hunter, and has collaborated with international playwrights and thespians - his works have been performed in 28 cities across 13 countries, including Japan. In 2022, he brought *A Night At The Kabuki* to London and Taipei to great acclaim, and in January 2023, he became the first Japanese to receive the ISPA 2023 Distinguished Artist Award in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the international performing arts community. In 2008 he was appointed artistic director of Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre. He was awarded an OBE in October 2009. He continues working energetically beyond genres and borders.



KARAMATSU TOMITARO PLAYED BY JUN MATSUMOTO

The eldest son of the Karamatsu family. A firework maker by profession. He harbours resentment toward his father, Hyodo, for his tyrannical behaviour. To raise the funds needed to buy the freedom of his beloved Grushenka, he turns to Madame Russasky for help.

KARAMATSU ARIYOSHI PLAYED BY MASAMI NAGASAWA

The youngest son of the Karamatsu family and Tomitaro's half-brother. He works as a cook at the church. The kind-hearted baby of the family, he respects Tomitaro and, as a witness for the defense, pleads his brother's innocence.

KARAMATSU IWAN PLAYED BY EITA NAGAYAMA

The middle son of the Karamatsu family and Tomitaro's half-brother. He is a physicist by profession and is involved in research for a certain state-run programme.

UBUKATA RINA PLAYED BY NOZOMI MURAOKA

Tomitaro's fiancée. The daughter of a lieutenant colonel who runs the Navy munitions arsenal. She is a proud and uncontrollable woman.

MADAME RUSSASKY PLAYED BY NOBUE IKETANI

The wife of the Russian consul. She is unable to appear in court due to preparations for her move back to Russia. However, a tape recorder she sent to the court as her testimony contains an important secret.

KURE GORIKI PLAYED BY KAZUSHIGE KOMATSU

The head servant of the Karamatsu household, who has taken care of the three brothers since they were young. He takes the stand as a witness to testify about the events of the night when Tomitaro is alleged to have murdered his father.

SHIRANUI KATSUZO, THE DEFENCE LAWYER PLAYED BY HIDEKI NODA

A celebrated lawyer from Tokyo with an undefeated record. He has been requested by a certain client to ensure Tomitaro's acquittal.

THE REVEREND FATHER PLAYED BY HIDEKI NODA

The priest at the church where Ariyoshi works.

KARAMATSU HYODO PLAYED BY NAOTO TAKENAKA

The 13th head of the Karamatsu family of firework makers and the father of the three brothers. He is a good-for-nothing womaniser who squanders the family's money. He is embroiled in a conflict with Tomitaro over Grushenka.

PROSECUTOR KUGATACHI PLAYED BY NAOTO TAKENAKA

A humble local prosecutor. He feels honoured to be facing Shiranui in court.

GRUSHENKA PLAYED BY MASAMI NAGASAWA

A woman from the red-light district. She is a free-spirited and beautiful prostitute who is sought after by both Tomitaro and Hyodo. She takes the stand as a witness for the prosecution.

SUMIDA JAKO

A loyal servant and illegitimate child of Hyodo. He idolises Iwan.

DID TOMITARO MURDER HIS FATHER?

Inspired by Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*, Hideki Noda reimagines the story, setting it in Nagasaki, Japan in August 1945 during the final days of World War II. The plot centers on the three brothers of the Karamatsu Clan, a family of firework makers, as their tales unfold in a courtroom. At the heart of the trial is the eldest son, Tomitaro, accused of murdering his father. Was it a crime of passion fuelled by a tangled love triangle involving Grushenka, the woman who captivated both father and son?

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, FIREWORKS BURST INTO THE TWILIGHT SKY.
IF EVERYONE ON EARTH HAD LOOKED UP AT THE SKY IN THAT SAME FLEETING MOMENT,
THE WORLD WOULD HAVE BEEN A HAPPY PLACE.
WHEN WE LOOK UP AT THE SKY TOGETHER, WE EXPERIENCE TRUE HAPPINESS



CAST

JUN MATSUMOTO
NOZOMI MURAOKA
HIDEKI NODA

MASAMI NAGASAWA
NOBUE IKETANI
NAOTO TAKENAKA

EITA NAGAYAMA
KAZUSHIGE KOMATSU

YUGA AKIYAMA
TAKETO KUBOTA
MASAHIKO SHIROTA
YUTA MATOBA

SHIORI ISHIKAWA
YOKO GOTO
KURODO HACHIOJIN
SAWAKA MINAGUCHI

HONOKA KANEMITSU
AYAKA KONDO
AYAKA HIKIMA
MASAKAZU MORITA

MASANORI KIKUZAWA
YUJI SHIRAKURA
NATSUMI MASE
TOMOHIRO YOSHIDA
SOJIN LEE

STAFF

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

TAKAYUKI MATSUURA
MASASHI SHIMIZU
MASAKO KUNISHIRO
AKIKO MORIYA
MOMOKO KASAHARA
MOEKO KATO
TAKUMI TANASE
KEIGO MATSUI
YAKO SUZUKI

HAIR & MAKE-UP

KAZUMI MATSUYAMA
NAOMI AKIYAMA

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CHIHIRO NAGANO
YUKINO AKIMOTO
RIN ISHIKAWA
AIKO KODAIRA

SOUND OPERATOR

ERIKO SEKI

VIDEO & SURTITLE TECHNICIAN

KAORI YAMAMOTO

VIDEO OPERATOR

XIAN LI

ASSISTANT SET DESIGNER

SAYAKA UTO

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

AKIKO SATO

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KIMIKO SHIGA
NAO NAGAI
JUNA SHAI
MARI YOSHIDA
RIKO NAKAZONO

COMPANY MANAGER

YASUKO AOKI

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

ATSUSHI TAKEDA

SURTITLES OPERATOR

SHUKO NOGUCHI

ASSISTANT SURTTITLES OPERATOR

KEISUKE SHIMOHIRA

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KEISUKE ODA
SEISUKE YAMASAKI

ENSEMBLE ADVISOR

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AYAKA KONDO

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TAKASHI OKAMOTO

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AYAKA ISHII
(KOTTO DORI LAW OFFICE)

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TOMMY LUCK

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GDL



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YUKIO HORIO
Set Design

MOTOI HATTORI & MAKOTO KITAZAWA
Lighting Design

KODUE HIBINO
Costume Design

MARIHIKO HARA
Music

JUNKO FUJIMOTO
Sound Design

SHIGEHIRO IDE
Choreography

ERI AKAMATSU
Hair & Makeup

TAIKI UEDA
Projection Design

MASATAKA SESAKI
Stage Manager

AYUMU POE SAEGUSA
Production Manager

HIROYUKI SUZUKI
Producer

SUSAN HINGLEY & JO ALLAN
Surtitles

IKUMI KURONAGA
Co-Producer

YUKI KATSU
Assistant Producer
NODA-MAP

IKU ITO
PR
NODA-MAP

MIE TANIGUCHI
Administration
NODA-MAP

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Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre

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