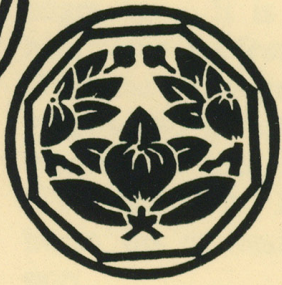


橘日本舞踊の会



This performance is dedicated to the memory of Jimmy Kubo and Reverend Shunshin Kan who, each in his unique way, has been an inspiration to the members of the Tachibana School.

Jimmy Kubo was an active Tachibana supporter since his daughter Ellen began studying as a child almost twenty years ago. It is thanks to his initiative that we have a handsome professional stage created by church members. Over the years he documented our history with his photographs and generously gave them to us. As an honorary member of the group he even joined us for the Tokyo - NY Sister City Parade and the OCS Obon. A child at heart, his enthusiasm and humor gave us all moral support.

More behind the scene than Jimmy, Rev. Shunshin Kan was also a strong supporter of the Tachibana School. He encouraged us to branch out and introduce dance to a wider community. By establishing buyo classes at the Ken Zen Dojo he opened rooms for our rehearsals and even installed a mirror and heater for our yukata-clad dancers. A master calligrapher, he painted the shuji for our T-shirts. A reticent man, his presence always gave us a sense of strength and encouragement.

Frank Hurlant Sahomi  
Larry Hoi Yoni Wong Sahobyo Satatae  
GEN De Wong  
Anji Nakai  
Joniett Ken Kodiyama  
Velun Gadata Peter Hesikuh  
Jessica Lenny James JAMES EDWARDS  
Tim Dolan Miwa Melissa Yoshikami

## Sahomi Tachibana Student Dance Recital June 26th 1988

### PROGRAM

#### 1. SHICHIFUKUJIN

Gary Moi

The seven happy gods are portrayed in this congratulatory dance. The gifts of the Treasure Ship of the Gods - Takarabune - are revealed to us. Ebisu catches the fish of prosperity, Bishamon shoots his arrow of good fortune, Hotei frolics with young children.

#### 2. SHIOKUMI

Atsuko Yuma

The Salt Water Bearer is portrayed in this dance. It is an excerpt from the long dance by the same name. The section performed describes the scenery along the seashore where seagulls and sandpipers glide over waves, boatmen row out to sea, and smoke rises from salt refining huts through lush pine groves.

#### 3. SAKURA NO HANA

Jessica Yakata, Su Wong

Children love to play under flowering cherry trees especially when the petals begin to fall. Gathering the petals, they pretend to make goodies to give to their friends.

#### 4. GENROKU HANAMI ODORI

Anju Nakai, Miwa Yoshikami, Yani Wong

This is a gay and colorful dance depicting the merriment of cherry blossom viewing as enjoyed by everyone during the vibrant Genroku era.

5. **KANAWA-JIMA**

Lenny James

The famous ten year Kanawa jima battle between the Takeda and the Uesugi clans was fought in the mid-sixteenth century. This dance describes the battle and one of the brave warriors.

6. **FURI TSUZUMI**

Tomie Hahn, Akemi Kochiyama

Merry sounding tambourines help young maidens to describe the joys of love. This is one quarter of the famous and popular classical Japanese dance, Asazuma Bune.

7. **NAGARE NO BOTAN BAKEH**

Yoshie Mooney

A Kabuki female impersonator who must travel to make his living, spares a brief moment to quietly walk in the misty rain and listen to the song of the crickets. He contemplates his stage portrayals and the difficulty of fulfilling each role as well as his unfulfilled love. Every time the Kabuki music is played, with sadness in his heart, he dutifully returns to the stage.

8. **TSURUKAME**

Peter Kisiluk

The Stork and Turtle are symbols of longevity and prosperity in Japanese culture. They perform a congratulatory dance (goshugimono) in their garden of jewels wishing all good luck, long life and much happiness. This dance was originally a 14th century Noh play later adapted into Kabuki. It is performed at felicitous occasions.

9. **KYO NINGYO**

Sahotae Tachibana, Sahotoyo Tachibana

Jingoro, a woodcarver has carved a beautiful life-size doll in the image of Umegae, a courtesan with whom he has fallen in love. As he is celebrating this occasion, the doll mysteriously begins to move and imitates his every move. Jingoro remembers that a mirror is in the soul of a woman so he puts a mirror, which once belonged to Umegae in the dolls chest. To his surprise the doll comes to life resembling Umegae. Overjoyed, Jingoro spends a pleasant evening in her company.

**INTERMISSION**

15 minutes

10. **EHIGASA**

Su Wong, Jessica Yakata

Young girls explore the bright joys of spring with their parasols. They play with the birds, butterflies and falling cherry blossoms.

11. **KAWATARO**

Lenny James

Kawataro is a river creature known as a "Kappa". He is on his way home after a party. In good spirits he stumbles into a pumpkin field, but hearing festival music in the distance Kawataro is ready to go dancing again.

12. **SORAN BUSHI**

Anju Nakai, Yani Wong, Miwa Yoshikami

This is a merry folk dance showing the way of life of the people in a fishing village in Northern Japan.

13. **MUGIYA BUSHI**

Peter Kisiluk, Gary Moi

This folk dance is in memory of the defeated Heike clan of long ago who settled in the countryside and became farmers. At one time brave samurai warriors, these dancers wear a sword and use farmers' straw hats.

14. **MOMIJI GASA**

Sahomi Tachibana

As summer ends and the autumn breeze begins to cool the air, boatmen hearing wind chimes look forward to cooler days. Chatty sparrows tease scarecrows in their torn hats guarding over golden rice fields. Dolls made of chrysanthemum flowers are on display. Festival drum beats signify a good harvest as dancers gather to celebrate. Soon villagers will be busy in preparation for the coming New Year.

**15. AYAKOMAI**

Tomie Hahn, Akemi Kochiyama

This dance is considered to be the origin of today's Kabuki. It is believed to have been originally performed by Okuni, the creator of the Kabuki some 350 years ago. This dance has been preserved as national treasure in Niigata prefecture. The headdress worn by the dancers is symbolic of the long trailing hair style worn centuries ago.

**16. SHOCHIKUBAI**

Sahomi, Sahotae and Sahotoyo Tachibana

The pine, bamboo and plum blossoms are symbols of long life, strength and endurance in Japan. This dance expresses these characteristics, wishing everyone good luck, happiness and good fortune.

Sahomi Tachibana and her students would like to express their deep appreciation to:

Sam Kunihiro and his crew for putting up the stage and preparing the hall for the recital.

David Matsushita and his crew for the lighting, audio and stage cues.

Walter Hahn for his calligraphy on the program cover.

New York Buddhist Church for the opportunity for allowing us to present our annual recitals.

We would also like to add a special thank you to our friends and family (parents, siblings, etc.) who lent their physical, moral and financial support to this annual venture. Your patience, understanding and encouragement meant a great deal to us all.



## 1988 OBON DANCE

The New York Buddhist Church will be holding its annual Obon Dance Festival on July 16th (Saturday) from 5:30 p.m. in Riverside Park Mall (entrance on 103rd Street). All interested are welcome to join us. In preparation for this event regular instruction practices will be held at the Church from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the following evenings:

### Tuesdays

July 5th

July 12th

### Thursdays

June 30th

July 7th

July 14th

There will be combined English/Japanese Obon Service on July 17th from 11:00 a.m.

Seabrook Buddhist Church will be holding its Obon Dance Festival on July 13<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) from 8:00 p.m. in Seabrook, New Jersey. <sup>9</sup>

There will be a bus going from New York Buddhist Church for those interested in dancing at Seabrook's Obon Festival. Interested individuals who wish to sign up for the bus are asked to get in touch with the Church during the dance practices. There will be a cost of \$8.00 per person for the bus trip.



