

# SOPHIA SYMPOSIUM **FRANZ KAFKA**

– INSPIRATIONS, TRANSLATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS –

A two-part Symposium on Kafka's continuing influence on writers and artists. Kafka's works in translation, in dance performance, and his influence on contemporary fiction.

## PART ONE

WRESTLING WITH KAFKA, DANCING WITH KAKFA

2019. **12.14.** (Sat.) **10:00-18:00**

Sophia University Central Library 9F,

Room **L921**

**Takashi Kawashima** (Associate Professor, Kyoto University)

**Jitti Chompee** (Choreographer)

**Anucha Sumaman** (Principal Dancer at the Thai National Theatre)

Film Screening of "**Red Peter**"  
(Kafka's *A Report to the Academy*)

## PART TWO

GHOSTING KAFKA, FOLLOWING KAFKA

2019. **12.22.** (Sun.) **13:30-18:00**

Sophia University Central Library 9F,

Room **L921**

**Nicole Krauss** (Novelist)

**John Williams**

(Film Director, Professor at Sophia University)

Moderator:

**Marc Kaufman**

(Writer, Associate Professor at Sophia University)



Language: **English** (No Translation)

No registration required

Admission free



## Program

### **PART ONE** *WRESTLING WITH KAFKA, DANCING WITH KAKFA*

Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

Sophia University Central Library 9F, Room L921

10.00 Open doors

10.15-10.30 Introduction to the Symposium by John Williams

10.30-12.00 Translating Kafka into Japanese – Takashi Kawashima “Is Translation a kind of Adaptation?” Talk and Q and A

12.00-13.30 Lunch Break

13.30-14.00 Reading – *A Report to the Academy*, John Williams and Marc Kaufman

14.00-15.15 *Red Peter* – a Film of a Dance Performance, Choreographed by Jitti Chompee, based on Kafka’s short work, *A Report to the Academy*

15:15-15:30 Short Break

15.30-16.00 Live Dance Performance by Anucha Sumaman and Explanation by Anucha Sumaman and Jitti Chompee

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-18.00 Talk by Jitti Chompee and Anucha Sumaman, Discussion and Q and A

### **PART TWO** *GHOSTING KAFKA, FOLLOWING KAFKA*

Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Sophia University Central Library 9F, Room L921

13.15 Open doors

13.30-15.00 Adapting Kafka into Film – John Williams will talk about his adaptation of *The Trial* into a Japanese film

15.00-15.30 Coffee Break

15.30-16.00 Nicole Krauss - Reading from *Forest Dark* by Nicole Krauss

16.00-18.00 Nicole Krauss talk on *Forest Dark* and Discussion – Moderator Marc Kaufman



**Jitti Chompee** graduated from Chulalongkorn University. He was awarded a scholarship from the Jean M. Wong School of Ballet in Hong Kong, and the Ailey School in New York. Jitti returned to Thailand and founded 18 Monkeys Dance Theatre in 2010. In 2011, he won the Outstanding Young Choreographer Award from the Goethe Institute and worked with Total Brutal Company in Bangkok and Berlin. He choreographed *Lieber Adzio* in collaboration with German composer Dirk P. Haubrich and visual artist Yoko Seyama. Jitti’s work has been performed at dance festivals in Malaysia, Japan, the Netherlands and Germany. As artist in residence at the Institut Français in Morocco in 2013 he produced *Tightrope Walker*. At the Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris 2014 he created a new dance piece for La fete 2015. He founded and runs *Unfolding Kafka*, an arts and performance festival in Thailand.



**Takashi Kawashima** was born in Kyoto in 1976, studied German literature at Kyoto University where he earned his doctorate in 2005. He worked from 2009 to 2013 as a lecturer (and later as an associate professor) at Shiga University. Since 2013, associate professor at the Graduate School of Letters of Kyoto University. One of his research focuses is to discuss Franz Kafka’s texts in the context of orientalist discourses of his time. He is also interested in media studies and German children’s literature. He translated Kafka’s *The Trial* into Japanese in 2015.



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**Nicole Krauss** has been hailed by the New York Times as “one of America’s most important novelists.” She is the author of the international bestsellers, *Forest Dark*, *Great House*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award and the Orange Prize, and *The History of Love*, which won the Saroyan Prize for International Literature and France’s Prix du Meilleur Livre Étranger. Her fiction has been published in The New Yorker, Harper’s, Esquire, and Best American Short Stories, and her books have been translated into thirty-six languages. This year she is an artist-in-residence at Columbia University’s Mind, Brain, and Behavior Institute.



“Shinpan”  
at Cinema Novecento

**John Williams** (Professor, Sophia University, Department of English Studies, Film Director)  
His latest film *Shinpan*, an adaptation of Kafka’s *The Trial* is being screened at Cinema Novecento, Yokohama from Dec 7<sup>th</sup> until 15<sup>th</sup> 2019.

**Marc Kaufman** (Associate Professor, Sophia University, Department of English Studies)  
is a fiction writer whose work has most recently appeared in Narrative Magazine, Friction Online, and Silk Road Review. He teaches classes in creative writing and contemporary fiction and serves as the faculty editor for the student writing journal Angles.



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