

Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Finalists Chosen
24 Finalists from Entries in a Wide Range of Genres
160 Entries from 8 Countries
The Youngest Is Just 16 Years Old



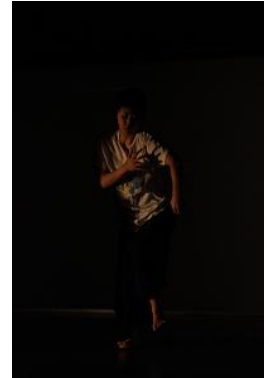
Neji Pijin
Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011
Competition I: Dance Composition Division
Jury Prize



Kunimoto Bunpei
Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011
Competition I: Dance Composition Division
The French Embassy Prize for Young
Choreographer



Takeuchi Azusa
Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011
Competition I: Dance Composition Division
MASDANZA Prize



Kawamura Mikiko
Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011
Competition II: New Choreographer
Division
Outstanding New Artist Prize

Yokohama Dance Collection EX, the largest contemporary dance festival in Japan, has selected the finalists in the two competitions that comprise its main program, the Dance Composition Division (Competition I) and the New Choreographer Division (Competition II). (For profiles of each of the finalists, please see the attachment.)



Suzuki Takuro (left)
Toyofuku Akifumi (above)
Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011
Competition II: New Choreographer
Division
Encouragement Prize

Competition I: Dance Composition Division

The Dance Composition Division attracted 140 entries from eight countries (China, France, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, the Philippines, Switzerland, and the United States). The preliminary judging led the selection of 12 finalists, who are from Japan and Korea. These daring choreographers, who stretch themselves and expand their creative worlds to address dance from innovative points of view, will perform before the judges during Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012. On the last day of the festival, Kawamura Mikiko, who won the Outstanding New Artist Prize in the New Choreographer Division (Competition II) in 2011, will also perform her new work.

■ Competition I Finalists (place of origin and age, as of August 10, 2011, follow each finalist's name)

Ara Yuhei (Saitama; 25)

Ishii Takeo (Okayama; 27)

Lee Jae young (Korea; 28)

Lee Ji hee (Korea; 29)

Kaido Chikako (Kanagawa; 32)

Kim Jun gi (Korea; 33)

Sakai Yukina (Kanagawa; 25)

Suzuki Yuriko (Gunma; 25)

Yamaguchi Yoshiko (Okayama; 41)

Iwabuchi Teita and Seki Kaori (Kanagawa and Saitama; both 31)

<CRUSH THE TYMKS> Yokoyama Ayano, Takahashi Moto, Tomari Maiko (Nagano; 23, 22, 21)

<nmatu-posu > Kodama Takafumi and Toyofuku Akifumi (Miyazaki; 27 and 22)

(12 finalists)

Competition I: Dance Composition Division Overview

Final performances: Friday, February 10, to Sunday, February 12, 2012

Performances begin at 7:00 p.m. on February 10 (Friday), at 4:00 p.m. on the 11th (Saturday), and at 3:00 p.m. on the 12th (Sunday).

Location: Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No. 1, 3rd Floor Hall

Who may compete: Choreographers who have a solid mastery of the foundations of dance and

1. Whose work has been publicly performed,
2. Who presented their first work less than 10 years ago, and
3. Who have not previously received either the Jury Prize (from 2011 on), the French Embassy Prize for Young Choreographers, or the Yokohama Prize for a Brilliant Future (formerly the Yokohama Arts Foundation Prize).

Judges: Ono Shinji (producer, Aoyama Theatre/ Aoyama Round Theatre), Shindo Hiroko (dance critic), Maeda Keizo (board director, realcities, an NPO), Hamano Fumio (senior editor, Shinshokan Dance Magazine), Murobushi Ko (dancer, choreographer), Rebecca Lee (director, L'Institut Franco-Japonais de Yokohama), Aymar Crosnier (vice-director, Centre national de danse contemporaine Angers).

Supplementary prizes:

Jury Prize: 200,000 yen and the right to present work at the Prize winners performance in Yokohama Dance Collection EX in the following years.

French Embassy Prize for Young Choreographers: Residence in France for from 2 to 6 months during the year 2012.

MASDANZA Prize: Right to participate in the MASDANZA Contemporary Dance Festival (Spain)

Competition II: New Choreographer Division

The New Choreographer Division (Competition II), which was initiated last year, attracted 20 entries in a wide variety of genres, including street dance, ballet, and theater as well as contemporary dance. The twelve finalists are young – the youngest is 16, and their average age is 20.8 – and dance with fresh power.

■ **Competition II finalists** (place of origin and age, as of August 10, 2011, follow each finalist's name)

Kaneko Manaho (Hyogo; 21)

Kigawa Sei (Wakayama; 21)

Goto Masumi (Fukuoka; 19)

Koyama Yuka (Nagano; 21)

Takahashi Kazumasa (Aomori; 22)

Tsukada Ami (Saitama; 22)

Toji Kurumi (Tokyo; 22)

Nakamura Yo (Tokyo; 23)

Nishimura Tsumugi (Tokyo; 20)

Nishidate Noriko (Kanagawa; 23)

Matsui Eri (Fukuoka; 16)

Morooka Misato (Tochigi; 20)

(12 finalists)

Competition II: New Choreographer Division Overview

Final performances: Tuesday, February 7, to Thursday, February 9, 2012. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No. 1, 2nd Floor

Who may compete:

1. Regardless of experience as a choreographer,
2. Choreographers 23 and under (born after April 2, 1988), who are
3. Residents of Japan (regardless of nationality) and
4. Who have not won a prize at Yokohama Dance Collection R in the past.

Judges: Hamano Fumio (senior editor, Shinshokan Dance Magazine), Tateishi Kazuhiro (magazine editor), Sumiyoshi Chie (art producer, director).

Supplementary prize: Outstanding New Artist Prize: Comprehensive support for the creation of a new work and its performance at the Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No. 1.

Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Schedule

The rich 2012 program will include the competition, Joint performance by previous winners, the Contemporary Dance Showcase, and the overseas festival exchange program. In a new addition to the program, winners of Competition II (which was initiated at Yokohama Dance Competition EX 2011) will present their new work. In addition, Osanai Yumi, winner of the Jury Prize in the 2009 competition and the French Embassy Prize for Young Choreographers and MASDANZA Prize in the 2010 competition, will perform as part of Joint performance by previous winners. She will also appear in a collaborative project between Yokohama Dance Collection EX and the Seoul Performing Arts Festival, launched as part of this year's festival. Many directors of theaters and dance festivals overseas will come to Japan for the festival. The performing arts year kicks off in 2012 in Yokohama!

(Ticket sales for the following programs begin on Sunday, December 18.)

January 28 – 29 (Sat. & Sun.) Japan-Korea Collaborative Project (with Osanai Yumi)

February 5 (Sun.) Overseas festival exchange program

February 7 – 9 (Tue. - Thu.) Competition II: New Choreographer Division

February 10 – 12 (Fri. - Sun.) Competition I: Dance Composition Division

※On the final day of the Competition I performances, Kawamura Mikiko, who won the Outstanding New Artist Prize in the Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2011 Competition II: New Choreographer Division, will perform her latest work.

February 15 (Wed.) Yokohama Dance Collection Joint performance by previous winners –

TPAM Direction Plus – with Osanai Yumi, Furuie Yuri, and Park Eun Young (Korean)

February 5 – 19 (Sun. – Sun.) Contemporary Dance Showcase

(live performances, a photograph exhibition, and other events)

February 13 – 19 (Mon. – Sun.) TPAMiY 2012, the Performing Arts Meeting in Yokohama 2012, will be held concurrently with Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012.

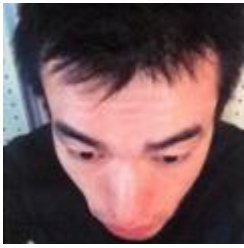
Program and performers are subject to change.

Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition I: Dance Composition Division

Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10,

2011.



Ara Yuhei (25; from Saitama, resides in Tokyo)

Title: *Better together*

Born in Aomori in 1985, Ara is single. He began dancing by happenstance at the age of 20. The summer he was 22, he spent a month roaming the Middle East. He has participated in the work of <Makoto cluv>, <Junjun science>, <Co. Yamada Un>, and <CI bu>, among others. He began solo performances at about the age of 24, thanks to the many who have assisted him.

Ishii Takeo (27; from Okayama, resides in Tokyo)

Title: *Nonsense*

A dancer who works in no conventionally defined style, Ishii takes Sabar dancing from Senegal, Africa, as his base line for the many varieties of dances he performs. His multifaceted activities include stage performances, club showcases, television appearances, and serving as a dance contest judge. He also has experience in breakdance, house, hip-hop, contemporary dance, and acrobatics. His forte is free-style dance in which he utilizes his body to the full.



Lee Jae young (28; Korea)

Title: *The Rest*

Lee Jae-young graduated from the dance department of Seoul Institute of the Arts in 2004 and the dance department of Hansung University in 2006. He was awarded the Gold Prize in the 2004 National University Dance Concours and, in 2005, the Silver Prize in the Korean Modern Dance Institute Concours. In 2006 he performed "*Nephilim*" in the choreography division of the Seoul Dance Contest to considerable acclaim. "*The Babe*", which he performed at the third Seoul Dance Collection, earned the comment that he is a talented newcomer able to choreograph a variety of powerful movements into just one minute's performance.



Lee Ji hee (29; Korea)

Title: *Shadow me*

The many awards Lee Jihee has received in Korea include second place in the 2003 Dance and People Competition, third place in the 2005 Seoul International Dance Competition, and 36th prize in the Dong-A Dance Competition in 2006, in 2008, an award for services to the National Dance Competition hosted by the Seon Hwa Dance Competition, the choreography prize at the National Dance Competition hosted by Se-Jong University, and a 2011 award for Young Choreographers Creative Performance. Works she has choreographed include "*Hidden Hostility*" (2008), "*The Transparent Door*" (2009), "*An Informed Decision*" (2009), "*Pure Black*" (2010), "*Shadow Me*" (2010), and "*Slaves of Memory*" (2011).



Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition I: Dance Composition Division

Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10, 2011.

2011.



Kaido Chikako (32; born in Kanagawa, resides in Germany)

Title: *Shadow lines*

A native of Yokohama now living in Germany, Kaido was a member of the Folkwang Tanzstudio led by the late Pina Bausch and Rodolpho Leoni, as a dancer and choreographer. She went freelance in 2010.

She won second place at the 2007 Masdanza, first place at the 2008 Soloduo Festival, and was nominated for the Kurt Jooss Prize in 2010. She is also participating in the 2011 project to commemorate 150 years of friendship between Germany and Japan.

Kim Jun gi (33; Korea)

Title: *Skin*

Kim Jun gi composed "If I see" – and performed it in September, 2010, at the NGF Dance Festival 2010. He performed "color colour", which he also co-choreographed, at the October, 2009, Asia Africa Dance Exchange 2009 and the Seoul International Dance Festival 2009. He choreographed "Hot, Bitter, and Sweet", which he performed at the August, 2009, Seoul Fringe Festival 2009, and "Skin" at the June, 2009, International Modern Dance Festival 2009. He also choreographed "You Are and I Am", performing it at the August, 2008, Seoul Fringe Festival 2008, where he won the Fringe Network Award, and choreographed "Within People", performing it at the October, 2007, Dancing City Seoul International Dance Festival 2007.



Sakai Yukina (25; born and resides in Kanagawa)

Title: *Spica*

Born in 1985, Sakai has studied modern dance since the age of five. A graduate in Department of Musical Creativity and the Environment from Tokyo University of the Arts, she presented "Hard Hearing Pearl/Night in June" at the i.e. project03 in 2010. Her work now includes stage pieces in collaboration with musicians and cartoonists as well as theatrical and music video choreography and performance.

Suzuki Yuriko (25; born and resides in Gunma)

Title: *BORN/2012*

Suzuki began studying with Kisanuki Kuniko at the age of sixteen. A graduate of the contemporary dance program at the Nihon University College of Art, she has performed in work by Hamaguchi Ayako and Muramoto Sumire. She has been training at the Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance since 2008 and took part, at the BODHI Project, in works by Majej Kejzar <Rosas> and Maya Lipsker. She directs the energy from her passionate investigation of the possibilities of her own physicality into creative activity. "BORN/2011" was performed in five European countries and won the prize for Best Choreographic Direction at Act Festival 2011.



Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition I: Dance Composition Division

Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10, 2011.

2011.



Yamaguchi Yoshiko (41; born and resides in Okayama)

Title: *Here is Midori's Room*

Yamaguchi realized in early childhood that dancing was life; for her, a place to dance, with her body alone, is all. She has studied with Sato Yoshiko and Senju Machiko. Until 2009, she was a member of <Zunchacha>. She has performed at *We're Gonna Go Dancing!* and the Fukuoka Dance Fringe Festival, among other events. The leader of <R40>, she performs in Hasegawa Takashi x violism x Yamaguchi Yoshiko (=ART x MUSIC x DANCE).

Iwabuchi Teita and Seki Kaori (both 31; born in Kanagawa and Saitama , now reside in Tokyo)

Title: *Hetero*

Iwabuchi studied theater and Japanese dance at university; Seki has studied classic ballet since childhood. Amidst other activities, in 2007 they organized <Mure>, a unit consisting of artists of about their age. In 2008, they were artists in residence at Asahi Art Square. They performed at *Wanna See Dance!* in 2009 and in an abandoned building in 2010. They co-choreographed "*Sabua*" in 2010 and "*Hetero*" in 2011.



CRUSH THE TYMKS (Yokoyama Ayano, Takahashi Moto, and Tomari Maiko) (23, 22, and 21; Yokoyama was born in Nagano, resides in Tokyo)

Title: *Predawn where star doesn't fall*

"Live!" is the motto of this intensely human unit, which formed through an audition with KENTARO!!, its godfather, in 2009.

Reflecting the perspective of young women in its work, it seeks originality while positively incorporating existing techniques, aiming for an open style through pure dance that will reach a wide stratum of audiences. It was selected to perform at the Komaba Agora Theater Festival 2010.

nmatu-posu (Kodama Takafumi and Toyofuku Akifumi) (27 and 22; Kodama was born and resides in Miyazaki)

Title: *Hurdle*

Both Kodama Takafumi and Toyofuku Akifumi of <nmatu-posu> were raised to be sportsmen. They encountered contemporary dance at Miyazaki University and since then have been honing the bodies they had trained for competitive sports into powerful means of creative expression. Their chosen terrain is a liminal area between sports and art in which they saunter about, steadily expanding their terrain and the scope of their work. Theirs is indeed <nmatu-posu> (inverted sportsman in Japanese) dancing.



Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition II: New Choreographer Division
Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10, 2011.



Kaneko Manaho (21; born in Hyogo , resides in Saitama)

Title: *Nostalgia and loneliness are always the same time, A gentle person is an alarmist.*

A fourth-year student at Japan Women's College of Physical Education, Kaneko began studying classic ballet in her childhood and contemporary dance in college. She was responsible for the choreography, composition, and performance of "Naisho", an independent performance by its dance production research group. She has assisted in choreography for <Fujiyama Annette> and performed in work by Kasai Mitsutake x Uemura Naoko and by Imada Kojiro, among others.

Kigawa Sei (21; born in Wakayama , resides in Tokyo)

Title: *,no MIKATA*

"Just put everything you've got into it" is Kigawa's motto. Since moving to Tokyo, he has begun dancing in his own style as well as participating in works on stage by Moriyama Kaiji, Baobab and Banana Junjo Otomegumi and at the Asian Performing Arts Festival. He also choreographs live music events and has earned a name as an event planner. He won a special prize at the Theater Green Student Art Festival for his unusual solo dance work. He is currently studying in the Moving Images and Performing Arts program at Tama Art University.



Goto Masumi (19; born and resides in Fukuoka)

Title: *Away*

Goto cooperated in the creation of and performed in *47 Memories*, planned by the Fukuoka City Foundation for Arts and Cultural Promotion, in November, 2010. That December, he won the Co.d.ex Prize for "Untitled", a solo work he performed at the Fukuoka Dance Week, organized by Co.d.ex. He performed "Little Stories about SOS/Part 1", realized at the Japan Contemporary Dance Network's We're Gonna Go Dancing!!, at Izumu Hall in Fukuoka in February, 2011, and at Ai Hall, Itami, in March.

Koyama Yuka (21; born in Nagano , resides in Kanagawa)

Title: *Marking*

Koyama has studied classic ballet with Segawa Rina and jazz dance with Segawa Nami since early childhood. Upon entering the performing arts department of Tamagawa University, she encountered contemporary dance and began choreographing works under the instruction of Tamagawa Sayaka. In July of 2011 she performed in "Dance Myself", a presentation of the results of the Ito Kaori Dance Workshop.



Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition II: New Choreographer Division
Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10, 2011.



Takahashi Kazumasa (22; born in Aomori , resides in Tokyo)

Title: *I.K.I*

Takahashi won the Special Prize at Big Bang!! Tokyo Spring 2010, a nationwide student street dance contest, and at Osaka Spring 2011. He leads the art unit <Innervision>. In May, 2010, they held a live dance event, "Xemotion", at AMPcafe in Koenji; that December, they held another live dance event, "Spectrum", at SuperDeluxe in Nishi Azabu.

Tsukada Ami (22; born and resides in Saitama)

Title: *I and this and that*

Tsukada began studying classic ballet at the age of three. At fourteen, she joined her junior high school's creative dance club and learned how fascinating the act of creation can be. In 2008, she entered the performing arts department of Tamagawa University, where she is studying with Tamagawa Sayaka.



Toji Kurumi (22; born and resides in Tokyo)

Title: *KISS*

Tokyo-born Toji graduated from the contemporary dance programing at the Nihon University College of Art, having studied with Kato Miyako since matriculating there. She is now vigorously expanding her range into fields such as film and theatrical performance.

Nakamura Yo (23; born and resides in Tokyo)

Title: *half*

Nakamura began contemporary dance in the modern dance club at Waseda University. Since 2009, she has performed in work by Onodera Shyuji, Kondo Ryohei, <Fujiyama Annette>, and Kasai Mitsutake. In 2011, she appeared in a work by Kondo Ryohei performed at the Japan Society in New York; she also played the role of Go Hiroko in Go Hiromi's "Egao ni Kampai" music video. She is now focusing on creating her own works.



Yokohama Dance Collection EX 2012 Competition II: New Choreographer Division
Finalist Profiles

Note: Finalists' ages are stated as of August 10, 2011.



Nishimura Tsumugi (20; born and resides in Tokyo)

Title: *She,*

Now a second-year student in the Moving Images and Performing Arts program at Tama Art University, Nishimura is 20. In 2003, she appeared in "A Day of Africa" with Yamazaki Kota. Since July, 2011, she has been working intensely in contemporary dance. She performed, in 2011, in "Do Music Lovers Dream of Marionettes" and "Unsatisfying Last Supper".

Nishidate Noriko (23; born and resides in Kanagawa)

Title: *break*

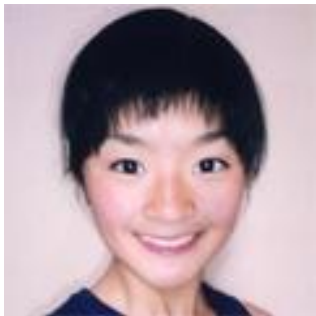
Nishidate, who was born in 1988, graduated as first in her class from the Japan Women's College of Physical Education in 2011. In 2007, she became the youngest member of Kim Ito + <the Glorious Future>, taking part in it for a year. She then began working with Nakamura Shinji's <Natural Dance Theater>, participating in many performances throughout the country. She has also appeared in work by Kawano Mako, Junjun, Ohashi Kakuya, Kasai Mitsutake, and Uemura Naoka. The group she organized while in college has also presented a number of works and won various awards.



Matsui Eri (16; born and resides in Fukuoka)

Title: *Pray*

Matsui has studied ballet, jazz and tap dancing, hip-hop, and breakdance since childhood. Recently she has also been mastering aspects of Japanese traditional culture, including Japanese dance and karate. She was a back dancer for a Harada Shinji concert in 2007 and for a-nation TRF in 2008. In 2009 she won third prize in the junior division of the Nakano International Dance Competition, in Tokyo, and took sixth place in the Kitakyushu & Asia Whole Country Dance Concours. In 2011 she performed in Tokyo with the Ken Dance Company, which was visiting from L.A.



Morooka Misato (20; born in Tochigi , resides in Tokyo)

Title: *idly*

Morooka, a native of Tochigi, studied with Matsuda Naoko. She dances in search of a world that is simple, showy, beautiful, tasteful, emotional – and always thrilling.

