WHAT'S THE THEATRE OLYMPICS?

The Theatre Olympics is an international fair of theatre arts, established in 1993 in Delphi, Greece, by Suzuki Tadashi, Theodoros Terzopoulos and other world renowned directors and playwrights.

What distinguishes the Theatre Olympics from other theatre festivals is that it is organized through the collaboration of theatre artists. The role of artistic director for each Theatre Olympics event is performed by the international committee member of the host country, and is responsible for its planning and operation. In addition to showcasing the world’s highest level of performing arts, the Theatre Olympics also conducts workshops, symposiums, and educational programs.

OVERVIEW OF THE 9TH THEATRE OLYMPICS

Hosted in Toga, Nanto city, and Kurobe city, Toyama prefecture

■ Artistic Director
   Suzuki Tadashi

■ Dates
   23rd August – 23rd September, 2019

■ Venues
   Toga: Toga Art Park of Toyama prefecture
   Kurobe: Unazuki International Hall “Selene”
            Maezawa Garden Amphitheater (Open Air Stage)

■ Organized Projects
   30 programs from 20 countries
   (Including symposiums, workshops, etc.)

*The detailed program will be announced in summer 2018
THEATRE OLYMPICS CHARTER

1. This entity shall be entitled *Theatre Olympics*, and sub-titled Crossing Millennia, which implies the cross-fertilization of the past with the future.

2. An international committee shall be formed. This committee is responsible for planning and management of all activities undertaken by Theatre Olympics.

   The members of the committee are:
   - Theodoros Terzopoulos (Chairman/Greece)
   - Nuria Espert (Spain)
   - Antunes Filho (Brazil)
   - Tony Harrison (England)
   - Yuri Lyubimov (Russia)
   - Heiner Müller (Germany)
   - Tadashi Suzuki (Japan)
   - Robert Wilson (USA)

3. The members of the committee shall not only be responsible for expressing opinions in the planning stages, but shall also work interactively, thus making this organization unique.

4. In principle the committee shall meet once a year.

5. Additional members of the committee, recommended by one of the existing members, must gain a two-thirds approval.

6. The committee shall be chaired by Theodoros Terzopoulos.

7. The administrative headquarters of Theatre Olympics shall be located in Athens, Greece.

8. The first several Theatre Olympics events shall be held, in principle, in the countries of the committee members. The committee member whose country hosts the Theatre Olympics event shall be responsible for its artistic direction. This host committee member shall plan the theme and programming for the Theatre Olympics event and submit his or her proposal to the committee for approval.
9. In each host country, a national committee shall be formed to meet that country’s respective needs so that the success of the Theatre Olympics event is ensured. This national supportive committee shall consist of prominent figures in that country’s cultural life.

10. An official logo shall be used in each of the Theatre Olympics’ activities.

11. The content of the Theatre Olympics event:

   a. Every few years a Theatre Olympics event shall be held, presenting high level productions as well as symposiums and workshops.

   b. In addition to the above, ongoing projects including conception, production, and education programs shall be held in various places.

   c. The preservation and documentation of historical work in the performing arts. Although texts remain as writing, a system needs to be created by which directorial work and actual productions can be preserved.

   d. Creation of an international network of theatre artists.

   e. Training and encouragement of younger artists.

June 18, 1994 Athens, Greece
THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THEATRE OLYMPICS INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Theodoros Terzopoulos
1947~, Greece
A director, a representative of Attis Theatre, a founding member of the International Institute of the Mediterranean Theatre, and a former member of the board of the North Greece National Theatre. As a director, he has worked all over the world. As an artistic director, he worked at the Delphi International Theatre Festival and the Mediterranean Sea Theatre Festival. As a theatre organizer, he plays an important role in Europe.

Nuria Espert
1935~, Spain
A renowned director and actress of contemporary Spanish theatre. She gained international fame as a director of Yerma, written by Federico Garcia Lorca. In addition to leading her own theatre company, she has worked in Spain’s National Theatre, directed operas, and presented her pieces in many different countries.

Antunes Filho
1929~, Brazil
He is a representative of Grupo di Teatro Macunaima. As a top Brazilian director, he has been working in America and in European countries. In addition to creating his own works in Brazil, he has also contributed to the development of South American theatre by introducing foreign performing arts and by educating younger artists.

Tony Harrison
1937~, UK
A prominent English poet, playwright, and director. Most of his plays became a part of the repertory of England’s National Theatre. His many works are about Greek tragedies, and he raises pointed criticism about the role of classics in modern society.
Yuri Lyubimov
1917~2014,  Russia
In 1964, he founded the Taganka Theatre in Moscow, now known as the world’s center for contemporary theatre. As a permanent director, he presented shocking pieces on the stage of the Taganka Theatre. He fled from his country in 1984 and returned to the Taganka Theatre in 1989. During his exiled period, he directed many plays and operas in Europe. His works have greatly influenced to world theatre.

Heiner Muller
1929~1995,  Germany
A playwright and director. He is described as one of the most important playwrights of the 20th century. He worked as an artistic director at the Berliner Ensemble, founded by Bertolt Brecht. Although his works based on Greek tragedies and Shakespeare were banned in his own country East Germany for a long time, they were still performed at many festivals over the world.

Suzuki Tadashi
1939~,  Japan
A director, founder of the Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT). He organized the first international theatre festival in Japan, the Toga Festival, in 1982. He presented his works in many countries and co-produced many co-works with famous artists. His acting method, the Suzuki Method of Actor Training, has been adopted in many countries. His modern interpretation of classics such as Greek tragedies and his unique pieces based on his actor training have influenced theatrical artists around the world.

Robert Wilson
1941~,  U.S.A
A director. His works, synthesizing performing arts, music, art, and architecture, have shocked world audiences. Working as a visual artist on one side, he also founded the Watermill Center, NY, to encourage international collaboration among artists. He leads the world with his art practice that embraces many different genres of art.
## HISTORY OF THE THEATRE OLYMPICS

### 1st (1995)
- **Country**: Greece
- **City**: Delphi, Athens and Epidaurus
- **Theme**: Tragedy
- **Period**: August 19th - 27th, 1995
- **Artistic Director**: Theodoros Terzopoulos
- **No. of Participating Countries/Works**: 9 works from 7 countries

### 2nd (1999)
- **Country**: Japan
- **City**: Shizuoka
- **Theme**: Creating Hope
- **Period**: April 16th - June 13th, 1999
- **Artistic Director**: Suzuki Tadashi
- **No. of Participating Countries/Works**: 42 works from 20 countries

### 3rd (2001)
- **Country**: Russia
- **City**: Moscow
- **Theme**: Theatre for the People
- **Period**: April 21st - June 29th, 2001
- **Artistic Director**: Yuri Lyubimov
- **No. of Participating Countries/Works**: 97 works from 32 countries

### 4th (2006)
- **Country**: Turkey
- **City**: Istanbul
- **Theme**: Beyond the Borders
- **Period**: May 11th - June 6th, 2006
- **Artistic Director**: Theodoros Terzopoulos
- **No. of Participating Countries/Works**: 38 works from 13 countries
5th (2010)
Country: Korea
City: Seoul
Theme: Sarang: Love and Humanity
Period: September 24th-November 7th, 2010
Artistic Director: Choi Chy-rim
No. of Participating Countries/Works: 48 works from 13 countries

6th (2014)
Country: China
City: Beijing
Theme: Dream
Period: November 1st-December 25th, 2014
Artistic Director: Liu Libin
No. of Participating Countries/Works: 46 works from 22 countries

7th (2016)
Country: Poland
City: Wroclaw
Theme: The World as a Place for Truth
Period: October 14th-November 13th, 2016
Artistic Director: Jaroslaw Fret
No. of Participating Countries/Works: 86 works from 14 countries

8th (2018)
Country: India
City: New Delhi and other 16 cities
Theme: Flag of Friendship
Period: February 17th-April 8th, 2018
Artistic Director: Ratan Thiyam
No. of Participating Countries/Works: 465 works from 35 countries