

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

**Kaso Jogi
(Japan)
The Gate
by Saori Aoki**



Breathtaking physical dance-theatre, set to original live music, as Kaso Jogi take you on a rollercoaster musical theatre tour through children's songs from Japanese folklore

As audience members arrive for this roller-coaster noir mystery tour through Japanese children's folklore songs, they're greeted by the striking original live music of **Saori Aoki's** collaborator, **Makoto Honda**, a gate standing alone on the stage – and a mysterious gatekeeper welcoming 'all ye corpses' with the suspect smile of one who might be an angel, a boatman on the Styx... or an emissary from hell. After that, though audiences might ordinarily feel safe once they've taken their places in a theatre, as **The Gate** moves on they're unlikely to stay seated through this conceptual musical with a difference – and then some!

Saori Aoki first took part in the Edinburgh Fringe with the prestigious Tokyo-based **Ryuzanji** contemporary theatre company in 2012, when she directed and performed in their acclaimed musical *Hanafuda Denki* (A Tale of Fantastic Traditional Playing Cards), which drew five-star ratings and subsequently toured the USA and Canada.

This time, she returns to the Fringe with her company **Kaso Jogi** (Virtual Ruler), and her latest new work, **The Gate**, which she directs and performs in along with her colourful troupe of young actors who bring elements of their other lives as a painter, musician, translator, designer and comedian to the multi-dimensional, 45-minute piece.

'Spooky and aesthetically delicious, Hanafuda Denki is an entirely enjoyable piece of entertainment' Theatre is Easy on *Hanafuda Denki*

'Performed with full-tilt commitment and unusual discipline by the Ryuzanji Company, the show, directed by Saori Aoki with little flourishes of the grotesque, has rowdy, propulsive energy that almost never flags' *New York Times* on *Hanafuda Denki*

'A piercing revelation at the climax will haunt you on your way out' *Time Out New York* on *Hanafuda Denki*

C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

general manager
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artistic director
Hartley T A Kemp

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5 Alexandra Mansions
Chichele Road
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during the Fringe in August

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Listings Information

Venue **C too**, St Columba's by the Castle, Johnston Terrace, EH1 2PW, venue 4
Dates 23-28 Aug
Time 13:45 (0h50)
Ticket prices £8.50-£10.50 / concessions £6.50-£8.50 / under 18s £4.50-£6.50
C venues box office 0845 260 1234 / www.CtheFestival.com/2017/the-gate
Fringe box office 0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Nobuko Tanaka at Kaso Jogi on +81 90 8437 5495 / nobukoipj@hotmail.com or the **C venues** press office on 0845 260 1060 / press@cvenues.com

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