



September 6th, 2017

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Tokyo Festival 2017 begins

September 22

Pre-event also held September 16

A performing arts festival held in the Ikebukuro area,
the Tokyo Festival 2017 will finally open on Friday, September 22!

The Tokyo Festival 2017 performing arts festival, which kicked off last year and is held around the Ikebukuro area in Toshima-ku, Tokyo, will finally launch on Friday, September 22. This year's event will span 74 days and will feature 28 programs.

Also, prior to the opening of the event, on Saturday, September 16, the "Tokyo Festival 2017 Pre-Event" will be held at Minami-Ikebukuro Park, featuring free performances by two up-and-coming artists.

Summary of Tokyo Festival 2017 Pre-event

Date & time: Saturday, September 16, from 4 pm to 8:30 pm
*In case of rain or stormy weather, the event will be rescheduled for Sunday, September 17

Venue: Minami-Ikebukuro Park
(2-21-1 Minami Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo; a 6-minute walk from the East Exit of JR Ikebukuro Station)

Details of Event (scheduled):
Performance in the park also open to a general audience

- **Gorilla's Speech** by FAIFAI

Time: 4 pm to 5:30 pm (two performances)

Summary of event: A gorilla makes a sudden appearance in Minami-Ikebukuro Park! The actor performing as the gorilla speaks via an interpreter.

Profile: Formed in 2008. A creative group that challenges our complex reality and media situation using diverse, pop-style techniques. Their 10th-year masterpiece *My name is I LOVE YOU* was the first Asian work to win the ZKB Patronage Prize at the Zürcher Theater Spektakel festival. The group's recent work *CATFISH (17)*, performed in a hotel suite, also attracted a lot of public attention.

- **Tokyo Festival Switch 2017** by Switch Research Institute

Time: 4:45 pm (single performance)

Summary of event: Short theatrical works of 3 to 30 seconds in which "something" happens when a "switch" is flipped.

Profile: Formed in 2015. Created as a public performance project by theatrical group mamagoto by actors working through a process of trial and error. The group is dedicated to performing a new "switch" form of theater in response to the question "Why not start some theater with the consent of another person?" under conditions of performing in public space.

- Artists' talk

Time: From 6 pm (single performance)

Summary of event: In addition to talks by artists faifai and Switch Research Institute, the Tokyo Festival starting on Friday, September 22th, will also be introduced!

Original merchandise (shoulder bag with logo) will be distributed, only available here
Tokyo Festival 2017 original photo frames

- Cute photo frames by illustrator Erii Murata make an appearance in the park!
- Take a picture and upload it to social media to receive an original ballpoint pen with LED light.