

Tokyo Festival Farm 2022 Farm-Lab Exhibition

Open Call: Performers for an Exploratory Performance Presentation

Directed by Serena MAGILIW

[Deadline: Monday, June 27, 2022 5pm (JST)]

Farm-Lab Exhibition is a trial creation program that brings together emerging artists based in Asia to work with other participants from various cultures, nationalities and backgrounds. This year, two different teams will join a residency program held in Tokyo.

- A performing arts piece directed by Serena MAGILIW (Directed by an artist based in Asia, outside Japan / Open Call for performers based in Japan)
- A performing arts piece directed by y/n (Directed by an artist based in Japan / Open Call for performers based in Asia, excluding Japan)

| **Tokyo Festival Website** <https://tokyo-festival.jp>

Organized by Tokyo Festival Executive Committee [Toshima City, Toshima Mirai Cultural Foundation, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture (Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre & Arts Council Tokyo), Tokyo Metropolitan Government]

Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan in the fiscal 2022
Sponsored by Asahi Group Japan, Ltd.



About the production

Concept: "QUEER ASIA"

"Queer" is not new in Asia. It is something that has existed in the regional context before the usage of the English term. Asian countries share similar histories of colonization and local queerness, based largely on the experiences and origins of each region. There is a need for us to reclaim queer identities that exist in Asia, separately from the binary notions of gender and sexuality in the West. How does the juxtaposition of unconventional identities, culturally unique expressions, transnational movements, and the circulation of images, ideas, and appropriations affect the formulations of gender and sexuality in people's embodied experiences? What are the social and cultural processes through which heteronormativity is articulated, enforced, transgressed and challenged? Through these processes, how is the multiplicity and mutability of sexual subjectivities revealed, in spite of state discourses and individual actors which work to attach specific meanings to particular bodies?

There is a need to represent non-conforming genders and sexualities through interconnected issues such as ethnicity, race, class, gender, religion, nationality, and immigration, where marginalized sexual subjectivities are formed and inhabited across the Asian region. Despite several strong representations of local queer visibility, there has also been an alarming rise in authoritarianism in the region, which has heightened the risk of our erasure and oppression. By locating and identifying these structures, we underline the importance of space and body in understanding and examining the lived reality, rather than being limited to the abstract concept of queer folk. By fully committing to a regional performance of queerness, our focus is to legitimize our existence and rich experiences, opening up further intraregional dialogue beyond the project.

Serena MAGILIW

■ About the creation

The project will involve a collaborative process of devising and documentary theater where the narratives of the participants will serve as focal points of the work's theme and exploration of the concept: "Queer Asia."

From Serena MAGILIW's past creations

Spill the T, a collaboration between Jzar Tabilin and Serena Magiliw (2021)

(a weeklong residency at the Research Institute for the Mapping of Barely Perceptible Light)

Online creation process: Devising and identifying areas for the collaboration.

Photo from the culmination of the collaboration.

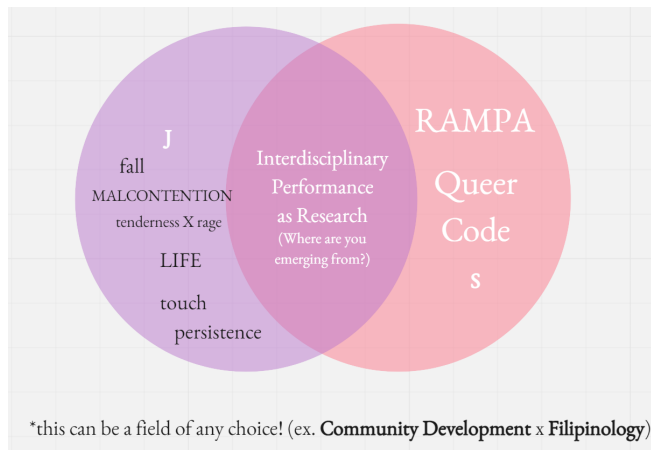


Photo by Gio Potes

RAMP+RAGE=RAMPAGE (2021)

Documentation and assessment of Serena Magiliw's work-in-progress *Rampa* at the Tokyo Farm Festival 2021 Asian Performing Arts Camp.

RAMP+RAGE=RAMPAGE (2021), 6th Solidarity in Performance Art Festival x Tokyo Festival Farm 2021 Asian Performing Art Camp WIP.

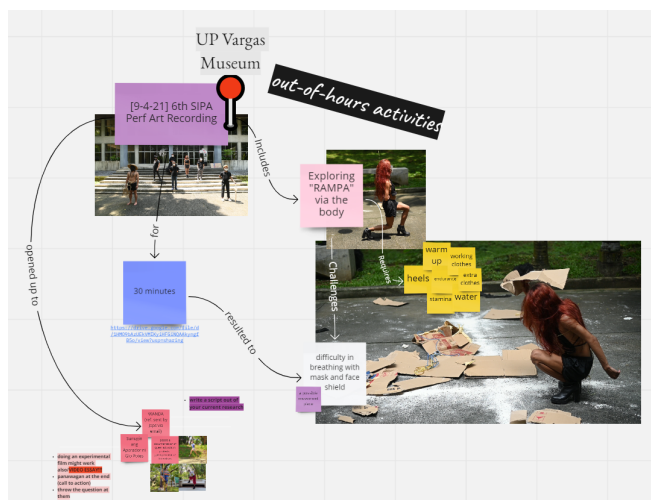


Photo by Wedgie Baluyot

■ Message from the Director

As an emerging artist, I am very much honored and thrilled to be participating in this year's Tokyo Festival Farm. I am hopeful in learning and collaborating with artists, activists, and/or researchers in Asia with diverse backgrounds and gender variants! Our existence and experiences as trans and queer people are a continual process of becoming, constantly testing the limits of our body through practices, such as modern acts of embodiment that are vital to our being. And we must not forget that for a long historical period, we were once celebrated and revered in many cultures. Thus, I invite you to map out together the contemporary politics of our ancient identities while reflecting on questions of our current state and future prospects as siblings. Let us confront the challenges we now face and navigate an expanding sense of community fueled by our truths! Let us resist conformity and constantly challenge the assumptions of heterogeneity imposed on us by cistems! Because queerness is not only a cultural concept, but also political!

■ Director's biography



Photo: Gatch Chan

Serena MAGILIW

Manila (The Philippines)

Serena MAGILIW (b. 1998) is a transpinay* actor, performance artist, activist, and student of Filipinology at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. They utilize multidisciplinary and transmedia storytelling to present trans narratives as an invitation towards an in depth understanding of what it means to free oneself from the boundaries of cistems. She is a member of the Concerned Artists of the Philippines, an organization of Filipino artists, musicians, writers, filmmakers, and cultural workers from various disciplines that work towards a nationalist, people-oriented art and culture. Serena was also an Asian Performing Arts Camp 2021 participant.

*Pinay means "Filipino". It is used by people with Filipino roots to refer to themselves. "Pinay" and "Pinoy" are the feminine and masculine forms of the same noun, respectively.

Farm-Lab Exhibition Program Overview “To places you cannot reach alone”

Farm-Lab Exhibition, part of Tokyo Festival Farm, is a trial creation program in which emerging artists based in Asia collaborate with other members from various cultures, nationalities, and backgrounds. The product will be a work-in-progress presentation, with the ambition of ultimately showing at Tokyo Festival and elsewhere in Asia. This year will feature two teams, each with different directors: Serena MAGILIW, based in Manila, The Philippines (a past participant of Tokyo Festival Farm 2021 Asian Performing Arts Camp); and y/n, based in Japan (a unit consisting of director/actor HASHIMOTO Kiyoshi and critic/dramaturg YAMAZAKI Kenta). NAKAJIMA Nanako, a dance dramaturg who is active in both Japan and overseas, and NAGASHIMA Kaku, dramaturg and co-director of the Tokyo Festival Farm, will act as mentors to support the creation process.

Collaboration begins online in early August, and participants will come to Tokyo for a 10-day residency in late September. In early October, they will perform their work-in-progress to the public at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre's Atelier East and Atelier West (TBD), where the artists will receive feedback from the audience to further improve themselves and their work.

* This overview is for those applying to participate in the performing arts piece directed by Serena MAGILIW.

■ Program Schedule

Dates: Thursday, August 4 - Monday, October 10, 2022

● Farm-Lab Exhibition Activity Schedule

| | Location | Dates |
|---|--|--|
| Meet-and-greet | Online (via Zoom) | Thursday, August 4 4:00pm – 6:00pm (JST) |
| Online rehearsals | | Wednesday, August 17, 2:00pm – 5:00pm (JST) Wednesday, August 24, 2:00pm – 5:00pm (JST) Wednesday, August 31, 2:00pm – 5:00pm (JST) Wednesday, September 7, 2:00pm – 5:00pm (JST) Wednesday, September 14, 1:00pm – 4:00pm (JST) Wednesday, September 21, 1:00pm – 4:00pm (JST) |
| Residency | Suitengu Pit (Tokyo) | Monday, September 26 – Monday, October 3 Time TBD |
| Exploratory Performance Presentation (open to the public) | Atelier East or Atelier West at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (TBD) | Tuesday, October 4 – Sunday, October 9 *Rehearsals and Exploratory Performance Presentation to be scheduled between the above dates. |
| Wrap Up /Closing Ceremony | Atelier East or Atelier West at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (TBD) | Monday, October 10 Time TBD |

● Events common to all Tokyo Festival Farm participants

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---|
| Lectures, Exchange etc. | Online | Wednesday, August 17, 6:30pm – 9:00pm (JST) Monday, August 22, 6:00pm – 8:00pm (JST) Monday, August 29, Time TBD Friday, September 2, Time TBD Sunday, October 16, Time TBD |
|-------------------------|--------|---|

* Participants may be asked to join additional activities on dates not listed above (Viewing some programs of Tokyo Festival etc.).

* Participants will also be in regular communication (via Slack etc.) on days without scheduled activities.

*** Please note that the program is subject to change based on COVID-19 conditions (for example, we may hold the Tokyo residency portion online).** In the event that the Tokyo residency becomes impossible, we will make necessary adjustments to continue the program. Under those circumstances, we do not expect to make changes to the schedule, fee, or other conditions for participation.

■ Venues

Creation period: Online (Zoom), Suitengu Pit (a two-minute walk from Suitengu Station on the Tokyo Metro Hanzomon Line)

Exploratory Performance Presentation period: Atelier East or Atelier West at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (a two-minute walk from West Exit of Ikebukuro Station)

■ Creation environment

- Communication between participants will mostly be conducted in English. Interpreters will be present throughout the meetings and rehearsals to assist communication with many of the Japanese-speaking organizers and staff members.
- During the residency, we will follow a strict code of measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Support for communication and the creation process will be provided by those listed below:

Producer: TADA Junnosuke (Tokyo Festival Farm Director)

Mentor: NAKAJIMA Nanako, NAGASHIMA Kaku (Tokyo Festival Farm Co-Director)

Communication Design Team: Art Translators Collective

Production: Farm-Lab Office

To ensure a safe creative space that is non-discriminatory to individuals of all social categories, Tokyo Festival Farm Lab will follow the “Tokyo Festival Farm Lab Guidelines” (https://tokyo-festival.jp/en/tf_farm). We expect all participants to adhere to these principles.

Open Call Overview

This is an open call to participate in a performing arts piece (work-in-progress) directed by Serena MAGILIW.

■ Eligibility

Participants must meet all nine conditions.

1. Must be based in Japan.
2. Must be able to come to the rehearsal studio and venue in Tokyo without any financial support.
3. Must be aged 35 or younger (as a general rule).
4. **Must be of diverse SOGIE (i.e. LGBTQIA+), as well as able and willing to share their own lived experiences as queer and/or trans folx. The project will involve a collaborative creative process, and documentary theater where the narratives of the participants will serve as focal points of the work's theme and exploration of the concept: “Queer Asia.”**
5. **Must be a performing artist (involved in music, dance, theater, performance art, etc.) with experience working with themes of local trans and queer identities.**
6. Must be able to attend all the above dates (see p.5).
7. Must be able to cooperate with the advertisement and PR activities conducted by Tokyo Festival for the participant’s program.
8. Must have access to a suitable online environment that includes the following:
 - A secure internet connection.
 - A robust internet connection able to support group video calls, video streaming, large file downloads, etc.
 - A device on which the participant can use online tools such as Zoom’s video calls*, Slack, or One Drive (the tools used may vary according to participant circumstances and program content)

*System requirements for Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023>

 - We do not encourage the use of smartphones as the only device for communication.

9. Participants are expected to demonstrate the following attitudes and interests:

- A willingness to actively communicate in English.
- A motivation to communicate with people of different backgrounds and values, and gain new perspectives.
- An interest in exploring and practicing communication strategies in settings of international collaboration.
- The intention to continue international activities in the performing arts after the Farm-Lab Exhibition.

■ Fee

100,000 JPY (transfer fees, tax, and similar costs may be deducted from this amount)

■ Available Support

- Japanese-English interpreters will be available throughout online and in-person rehearsals and meetings with Japanese staff members.

*Please note that there will be many instances, such as Slack messages or everyday interactions outside of rehearsals, where interpretation will not be provided.

- The Communication Design Team will assist with facilitating collaboration in a multicultural and multilingual setting. They will give lectures on multicultural communication, share guidelines among participants, and provide support for any questions or concerns on the topic during the creative process.

■ Number of Participants

Around 3 people

■ Application Schedule

The participants will be selected by Serena MAGILIW, Tokyo Festival Farm Director TADA Junnosuke, Tokyo Festival Farm Co-Director NAGASHIMA Kaku.

| | |
|---|--|
| Registration | <u>Application Deadline: Monday, June 27, 2022 5:00pm (JST)</u> Registration will be available through an online form. |
| Initial Selection: Application screening | Applicants will be notified of their results via email by Monday, July 4. |
| Final Selection: Interview | Interview period: Monday, July 11 - Friday, July 15, between 2:00pm – 6:00pm (JST) •The interviews will be conducted online (via Zoom). •Further details will be notified to those who pass the Initial Selection. |
| Results | Applicants will be notified of their results around Monday, July 18. |

- All applicants will receive a notice of the result of their application via email (farm@tokyo-festival.jp). Please be sure to set your devices to receive emails.

■ How To Apply

Fill out the application from the link below.

Application Form: <https://form.run/@fle2022-magiliw>

[Form]

- **Please fill out the form in English. If Japanese is your first language, please fill out the form in both Japanese and English unless otherwise instructed (please ensure the answers are as consistent as possible in both languages).**

1. Full name or artist name
 - Gender pronouns you usually use (let us know how you would like to be called and addressed; he, she, they, your name etc.)
2. Nationality
3. City in which you are based (if you have more than one, list them all)
4. Date of birth
5. Email address
6. Mailing address (Japanese residents only)
7. Phone number (include the country code)
8. Profession (and organizational affiliation if any)
9. Artist bio (120 words or less in English, 300 characters or less in Japanese)
10. Artist photo (acceptable formats: jpg or png; 5MB or less)
11. Website (if any)
12. Video links (YouTube, Vimeo, etc) of artworks you participated in (if any).
 - What role did you play in the creation of the artwork?

*Please apply viewing restrictions as applicable.
13. Please tell us why you're applying for this opportunity (150 words or less in English, 400 characters or less in Japanese).
14. Please share with us something about your local queer experience or community. How are you being celebrated? What are your struggles and how do you respond to them? (250 words or less, 500 characters or less in Japanese)
15. The process of creating the "Exploratory Performance Presentation" will involve collaboration and inputs from each member of the team. Please share to us your own way of performance-making. If there is a process that you would like to offer and think would be helpful in the conceptualization and rehearsal stage, what will it be? You can cite any previous work that you have done as an example. (150 words or less, 300 characters or less in Japanese)
16. How would you best describe your English abilities? (Select from below)
 - a. Able to hold a basic conversation, and introduce yourself.
 - b. Able to explain the nature of your practice, with some preparation beforehand.
 - c. Able to explain views and opinions in your area of expertise, using abstract concepts.
 - d. Able to engage in discussion, based on c.
 - Is there anything you would like to add to the above? (if any)
17. Select the equipment you plan to use during the program. (Select all that apply)

*For information on the required online environment, refer to the Eligibility section of this document. (p.4)
18. The type of internet service you will be using.
19. Dates/timeframes when you are unavailable from 2pm – 6pm (JST) during the final selection period (from Monday, July 11 - Friday, July 15), if any.

*Please be sure to list all dates in JST
20. Other Tokyo Festival Farm programs you plan to apply / have already applied to (if any).

*Applicants may apply to other Farm programs conducting open calls within the same period.
21. Any other information you wish to relay.

■ All personal information will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used for the purpose of contacting the applicant for the purpose of this program.

Tokyo Festival Farm 2022 Theme: Unlearning Cities

“Cities ≠ Gathering”

This year's Tokyo Festival Farm 2022 will be held under the theme “Unlearning Cities.” Drawing on last year's core question, “Why Cities?,” this year we aim to actively reassess our understanding of the city as a site of gathering. In recent years, the final products of Tokyo Festival Farm's international online programs have shown us that the purpose and function of the “online” are shifting—from sharing information and time to creating actions and experiences. There are increasingly more things that can be done without physically gathering. As we let go of conventional values, perhaps our understanding of the city as a site of gathering will no longer be the standard. Still, I believe cities have a function, and that is to ensure diversity. I feel the potential of cities comes from how they allow a wide spectrum of people to gather and coexist, rather than from sheer numbers.

In this year's program, we will have two teams taking on international co-creation, exploring various possibilities of collaboration with members from different fields and backgrounds.

The online art camp will be holding an open call for participants from all over Asia. For those based in Japan, some programs will be open to visitors, and there are also assistant/internship programs to engage with sites of international co-creation. We hope you also look forward to our education outreach programs aimed at students. In all of our work, we will make efforts to prevent harassment and foster a safe environment for the performing arts based on our guidelines.

The future of this decade still remains uncertain. Tokyo Festival Farm is a site for us to create the future we want to see. We invite you to come and join us.

June 2022

TADA Junnosuke, Tokyo Festival Farm Director



Toward a New Space for Coexistence and Collaboration

Common sense is changing drastically. Even within the field of art, the sensibilities and ideas that were once considered the norm no longer apply. Once effective ways of doing things are not only no longer working today, but are beginning to cause harm. These approaches were likely never harmless to begin with, but what was once overlooked is now clearly destructive or hurtful toward people.

Changes in common sense began even before the pandemic. I believe that this has become more noticeable with the thorough “reconsideration” of behavioral patterns and value systems over the past two and a half years.

Over the past two and a half years, what we have experienced is not so much a process of learning, but rather an “unlearning” or uninstalling of what we had internalized without realizing. It was a time to observe, unravel, and reexamine the value contained within, or lacking in, the things we had unconsciously or uncritically been enjoying and taking part in. How can we build on that to create a form of collective creation and collaboration that is fair and brings everyone joy? How do we rediscover and reconstruct the city as a symbol of coexistence and exchange with others? (And do we need to?) This year's theme, “Unlearning Cities,” reflects such ambitions.

Tokyo Festival Farm is a place where people who feel wary of conventional approaches and have hopes for a different future can come together to cultivate the soil, sow seeds, and nurture seedlings of change at a time of great shifts in society. If this sounds like something you'd like to be a part of, please join us.

June 2022

NAGASHIMA Kaku, Tokyo Festival Farm Co-Director



About Communication Design

Tokyo Festival Farm is a site of international collaboration that brings together members from different cultures and countries, and the Communication Design Team is involved in program design from an early stage to ensure an environment in which all participants, regardless of their background or social status, can feel at ease in their creative endeavors.

Communication Design Team

Art Translators Collective

Team Lead: TAMURA Kanoko

Members: YAMADA Kyle, HARUKAWA Yuki, MORIMOTO Yume, MIZUNO Hibiki, UEDA Haruka

<Select initiatives>

■ Implementing and maintaining guidelines for Tokyo Festival Farm Lab

We have created guidelines to prevent discrimination, harassment, and other abuses of human rights, and ask all people involved in Tokyo Festival Farm to comply with them. In addition, the contents of the guidelines are reviewed annually to ensure their continuous improvement.

■ Confirming gender pronouns and respect for gender identity

To prevent misgendering*, since last year's festival we have created a field in the application form for people to enter the pronouns (or names, etc.) that they would like to use. We will continue to share knowledge and awareness throughout the festival period to ensure that each individual's pronouns are respected.

*The discriminatory act of addressing a person as something other than their self-identified gender (e.g., using personal pronouns or honorific titles that are based on assumptions of gender based on appearance).

■ Art translations that respect diversity in language and communication

English is the common language for communication within the Tokyo Festival Farm, which attracts participants from many Asian countries. However, the way English is spoken varies greatly between places and cultures. The Communication Design Team respects the forms of English spoken by all, designs an environment in which both fluent and non-fluent English speakers can communicate on an equal footing, and provides interpretation and translation services that go beyond language conversion. There are also differences in communication that arise due to cultural differences and other factors. Rather than forcing people to conform to a single cultural norm (e.g., Japanese manners), the kinds of communication necessary for the occasion will be explored through the individual perspectives that participants bring to the table.

■ Providing learning opportunities

Participants will be provided with guidance, lectures, and workshops in advance of the program to help them understand the above initiatives.

About Tokyo Festival Farm

Tokyo Festival Farm is a framework for education outreach and creative talent development within Tokyo Festival. It was launched in 2021 by combining Asian Performing Arts Farm (APAF), a platform promoting exchange and growth among young artists in Asia, with Festival/Tokyo (F/T)'s Research Program and Education & Outreach Program.

This year, Tokyo Festival Farm will be holding various programs under two categories: "Lab" for supporting the growth of emerging artists through research and development, and "School" for education outreach. "Lab" aims to cultivate young professionals who are able to freely navigate the many increasingly fluid borders of our world. The initiative encourages artists to explore the interdisciplinary and interregional "transfield" through collaboration with others. "School" provides young audiences, mainly university students, with opportunities to explore and interact through stage works by attending lectures, participating in talk events, and writing reports.

Tokyo Festival Farm https://tokyo-festival.jp/en/tf_farm