

Juichi Kobayashi

Actor / Ballet Dancer / Choreographer



Date of Birth : March 11, 1969

Nationality : Japanese

Speaks : Japanese, French, English

Height : 175 cm (5 ft. 7 inch.)

1969 : Born March 11, in Tokyo

-His grandfather was one of the late Living National Treasures of Japan in the Rakugo Arts field (Japanese traditional sit-down storytelling comedy), Kosan Yanagiya. Juichi's younger brother, Karoku Yanagiya took after their grandfather and is now a famous Rakugo Artist whereas Juichi takes path in ballet following his mother's strong insight.

1979 (10): Starts taking ballet lessons in the neighborhood

1985 (16): Joins summer class of Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) in the UK

-Wins Best Dancer in the Phyllis Bedells Competition

January 1986 (17): Wins Gold Medal in the Adeline Genée Award at RAD.

April 1986 – 1989 (17-20): Goes to New York to join the School of American Ballet (SAB)

-Chosen as Principal of the school program stage for 3 consecutive years

August 1989 – 2003 (20-34): Joins Bejart Ballet Lausanne, Switzerland

-Appears in many ballet stages, including the acclaimed stage “M” in which Maurice Bejart, the founder of the company, produced the stage inspired by Yukio Mishima, the Japanese writer, and had given Juichi the magnificent role of “Shi” in the piece. He was also appointed as choreographer of the “Bejart style” to offer the method in different countries on behalf of Maurice Bejart.

2003 (34) : Leaves Bejart after suffering lumbar disc herniation.

2004 (35) : Debuts in a theatrical play “Elizabeth Rex” in Japan.

2006 (36) : Appears in a TV drama (Nippon TV) in the role of a ballet school instructor along with many other famous actors and actresses.

March 2010 (40): Makes a major appearance in a Japanese movie, “Sweet Little Lies” starring Miki Nakatani and Nao Omori.

December 2010 : Juichi dances “M” for the first time in 7 years. He performs 2 shows in Tokyo for the Tokyo Ballet, receiving great applause and waves of positive reviews.

Present - Since 2004, he has been in many plays and occasional musical productions, and has proven he could act and sing.

Juichi loves the stage, and especially acting – “while still in the midst of learning”, he would humbly say.

Being fluent in Japanese, French and English, and with his dancing and acting backgrounds, his career opportunities can take him almost anywhere in the world. His possibilities are infinite!