



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER

2022

THE INSTITUTE FOR JAPANESE STUDIES, JAPAN  
AMERICA SOCIETY OF CENTRAL OHIO (JASCO),  
JAPANESE STUDENT ORGANIZATION, DEPARTMENT  
OF EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES,  
JAPANESE CONVERSATION CLUB AND JAPANESE  
GRADUATE STUDIES ASSOCIATION PRESENT:

## A NIGHT OF RAKUGO STORYTELLING YANAGIYA TOZABURO

### RAKUGO Association of America

Rakugo (落語) is a traditional Japanese form of solo storytelling in a style similar to "stand-up" comedy but performed entirely in a kneeling position seated on a zabuton cushion. With only a folding paper fan and a folded handkerchief as props, rakugo storytellers rely on eye movements, facial expressions, and body language to help convey their stories. Yanagiya Tōzaburo is a master rakugo performer with the shin'uchi title. His performance will include Japanese storytelling, "Tengu sabaki" 天狗裁き ("Goblin's Judgment"), with English subtitles and English storytelling ("SHINIGAMI"), followed by Q&A. Come and join us for an evening of exposure to one of Japan's classical forms of entertainment.

Born in Tokyo, **Tozaburo "Zabu" Yanagiya III** trained under master RAKUGO performer Yanagiya Gontaro III and was promoted to the master shin'uchi rank, the highest rank in the RAKUGO discipline, in 2014. He has performed on stages across Japan and appeared on the Shōten RAKUGO show and other TV programs. His storytelling repertoire ranges from the classics and modern RAKUGO to original works. He was awarded the 2016 Rookie/New Artist Award in the category of popular entertainment (The 71st Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan National Arts Festival). Since 2018 he has performed in English. He is currently the president of RAKUGO Association of America. He acquired the first American Artist VISA in the history of RAKUGO and moved to New York, USA, to promote Japan's comedy "らくご (落語)" as "RAKUGO" to the world.

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DECEMBER  
Friday  
6:00-7:30pm  
Sullivant Hall 220



**Free and open to the public**

<https://easc.osu.edu/events/ijs-event-yanagiya-tozaburo-night-rakugo-storytelling>

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The Ohio State University East Asian Studies Center