

# SCHINICHI SAKUMA

After graduating in Tokyo at the University of Arts and ranking himself as the 17<sup>th</sup> student of Research Opera of the Tokyo Nikikai, in 1975 he goes to Europe to study at the National Music Academy Verdi in Italy.

During his ten years in Europe he takes part at the Macerata Summer Outdoor Opera Festival, at a recital sponsored by the Japanese Embassy and he performs as soloist in the National Synphonic Orchestra of the Turin Radio. He performs in numerous operas such as "Tosca", "Festival di Verdi", "La forza del destino", "Don Carlo".

Back in Japan in 1987, he founds the Kumamoto City Opera Association, producing in 1999 the trilateral lyric show "Aida" between Japan, Italy and Hungary. In 2013 he designs and produces a special opera show, "Tsubakihime", to celebrate Verdi's birth 200th anniversary.

The Kumamoto City Opera Association gained the "24th Shitori Music Award" for its contribution to promoting Classical music strongly tied to the community.



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