

## Message from Hirokazu Ishizuka

Thank you for coming to our “TERRA” performance today. This is our fourth performance and I am pleased to conduct this performance in the same month of becoming Japan’s new era of Reiwa in May. The theme of “TERRA” is the Earth. The Earth is a beautiful planet and “Only One Earth” for all of us. We, humans, are a part of the Earth and I wrote this story hoping this performance will give you an opportunity to think about the importance of being a part of the Earth.

Today, any global issues need to be addressed considering each country’s own ethnic groups, religions, identities, and cultures coupled with having a wide perspective of being a part of the Earth and see things from the Earth’s view.

Now, we are entering a new era of Reiwa in Japan, the Japanese’s unwavering hope for peace and smile will be more necessary than ever for the rest of the world.

This vision of “TERRA” reflects an idea of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which was adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. I especially sympathize their belief of “No one will be left behind” and I am thankful to make this performance come true with the cooperation from many people.

This performance expresses the story without any words, which is very unique and consists of extraordinary direction and choreography by Eiki Asai. I will be happy if this performance can send a message to the world that our thoughts and actions are an important factor to create the Earth without any hatred by realizing that we are all a part of the Earth.

In addition to that, we are generating a synergistic effect with other talented artists: a flutist, Baisen Morita, an artist, Kyoko Kotsugai, an artist from Nepal, Neeti Sawarthia, and a calligrapher, Saho Konno.

Another theme of this performance is “forgiveness.” Anger and sadness usually turn into hatred. Hatred is the most troublesome emotions of humans. The only the solution to overcome the emotion is to forgive others and forgive yourself. When you can experience feeling of being forgiven, forgiving others and yourself, you can start respecting and accepting each other’s presence and finally the light came back to the Earth with joy.

Bring back peace and happiness to the Earth is our mission and hope it will be a guide to establish a mission for us to follow for the next 1,000 years, next coming 2,000 years.

~ Peace and happiness for the people of the world Pax Terra ~