

Annual Report for Joint Research in FY2014
The Digital Archive Research Center for Japanese Cultural Resources,
Art Research Center, Ritsumeikan University

Date (year/mm/dd): 2015/04/24

1. Title of the Research Project	
Archiving and Utilization of Japanese Performing Arts Materials on GloPAD (Global Performing Arts Database) and JPARC (Japanese Performing Arts Resource Center)	
2. Research Leader	
Name	Organization and title
Katherine Saltzman-Li	Associate Professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara
3. Co-researcher (Total: persons) *Please put a circle inside a box of "ARC Member" if that is the case.	
Name	Organization and title
Monica Bethe	中世日本研究所所長
Ann Ferguson	Special Collections Librarian, Seattle Public Library
Beng Choo Lim	Associate Professor, National University of Singapore
Diego Pallecchia	ARC Research Project Associate
Nicolai Pesochinsky	Vice Rector and Professor, St. Petersburg State Theatre Arts Academy
Joshua Young	Program Manager, Cornell University East Asia Program
永井 彩子	立命館大学文学部研究科博士前期課程 M2
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4. Overview of the Research Project (About 150 words) Note: If you have changed your project since the time of application submission, please write clearly where you made changes.

The Global Performing Arts Consortium (GloPAC) runs a database (GloPAD) and a resource center on Japanese performing arts (JPARC) that use the material on the database to build contextual content. When the Consortium was set up, in the late 1990s and early 2000s, it was a cutting-edge project in the digitization of performing arts materials and in developing metadata specifically useful for the performing arts. By now, internet technology has advanced far beyond the tools available fifteen years ago, and while the site has been upgraded in the past, it is again in need of modernizing.

The joint research project with ARC addressed a number of areas for moving forward, primarily for the JPARC site. This involved building new material, discovering new ways of involving young and established scholars in the consortium, and reevaluating the pros and cons of the database and resource center. On all these scores, we considered the first six months as a time for taking stock and establishing approaches for further action. Indeed, at the end of the period, though there were not many “deliverables,” a great deal was accomplished in terms of research, consultation, evaluation and analysis of approaches, and setting up projects that can now be realized.

We set out to do four projects, work on three portals on the JPARC site, and establishing the groundwork for setting up a digital conferencing and online article archive. In addition, we ended up spending a lot of time evaluating the structure of JPARC and thinking about its redesign.

5. Overview of the Research Results Note: We may use this section for the Center’s PR.

We are concurrently working on five projects, three for building content, one for developing an online archive of PARC-related articles, and one to revamp the menu structure and redesign the look of JPARC.

1. Nobumitsu Research Portal

This site provides access to material about and by the neglected, but very influential noh performer and playwright, Kanze Kojiro Nobumitsu (1435?-1516). For this we created content and held a workshop including related papers and a lecture demonstration by a noh actor, which we filmed.

2. Enhancing the *Kabuki* portal

The goal of this project is to build a storehouse of kabuki-related material on JPARC that is as extensive as the noh material, and that presents kabuki plays in a way that appropriately demonstrates their dynamic and adaptable nature. We spent time analyzing the present portal and deciding on directions for improving

3. Interactive Noh Costume Project

The Noh/kyōgen costumes consist of layered ensembles of garments, with their presentation on the stage constituting an important part of an actor’s interpretation of a play. This interactive portal will draw visitors into the process of thinking about noh/ kyōgen costumes as performance elements and as textiles. The first six months were spent on setting up prototypes for templates and focusing on the costumes used in Funa Benkei as a sample.

Concurrently, we have begun photographing and filming workshops in the Nishijin weaving district of Kyoto in order to create a virtual tour of Nishijin, where the costumes are woven, dyed, embroidered, and sewn.

4. Online Research Exchange and Repository for GloPAC Scholarship

Our long-term goal is to establish an international conferencing system built on the online exchange of ideas and article drafts by registered correspondents. We began by setting up rules and objectives and defining a workflow.

5. Redesigning the JPARC site.

Work on each of the four projects outlined above revealed a necessity for revamping the menu system on JPARC to be more intuitive for users. We have spent time analyzing the present site pages and their interlinking and propose more rational organization. We aim at making the entire menu consistently bilingual, at presenting each theater art form in all its aspects and at the same time encouraging cross-referencing and comparison of elements across different arts. Certain topics need regrouping and others, particularly in the kabuki portal, need to be supplemented. In the next year we hope to implement changes based on the results of this preliminary investigation. To realize this, ARC has set up a virtual platform of the site where trial versions can be assessed.

6. Research Activities

(1) Books

(2) Articles

“Esthetic Evolution in Masks Portraying Young Women” in 『見つめる能面、能面を見つめる』, 神戸女子大学古典芸能研究センター, forthcoming. Monica Bethe.

(3) Presentations

“Discussant“ Nov. 29-30, 2014 at 見つめる能面、能面を見つめる at 神戸女子大学古典芸能研究センター.
Monica Bethe

“*Funa Benkei* as representative of Kanze Nobumitsu’s *furyū* style noh” March 3, 2015 at **Tales Retold and their Representation in Traditional Japanese Theater**; LIM Beng Choo

“Costuming *Funa Benkei*, with a look at weaves and draping” March 3, 2015 at **Tales Retold and their Representation in Traditional Japanese Theater**; Monica Bethe

“A Preliminary discussion of staging in noh-derived kabuki” March 3, 2015 at **Tales Retold and their Representation in Traditional Japanese Theater**; Julie IEZZI (Guest from University of Hawaii, Manoa)

(4) Symposiums and/or research meeting you organized

- “Tales Retold and their Representation in Traditional Japanese Theater” ARC, March 3 and 4, 2015. 20 participants. Organized by ARC and GloPAC members.

(5) Other research activities (Lectures to the general public, and appearances in/contributions to mass media)

(6) Academic awards

(7) Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research -KAKENHI

(8) Competitive grants other than KAKENHI

(9) Other achievements