



# The 2009 Kyoto Prize Workshop in Arts and Philosophy

## Workshop “Boulez in Kyoto”

Laureate: Mr. Pierre Boulez

[Honorary Director, Institute for Research and  
Coordination Acoustic/Music (IRCAM)]

14:00 - 16:20, November 12, 2009 (Thu.)  
Kyoto Concert Hall

*In collaboration with Tokyo University of the Arts*

*Supported by Kyoto Prefectural Government, Kyoto City Government, and NHK*

*With the cooperation of Alban Berg Gesellschaft Japan, Japan Society for Contemporary Music, Kyoto City Music Art Cultural Promoting Foundation, The Musicological Association of Japan*

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# **Program**

## **Coordinator**

**Seiji Choki**

(Member, Kyoto Prize Selection Committee; Professor, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo)

## **Supervisor of Practice**

**Isao Matsushita**

(Professor, Performing Arts Center, Tokyo University of the Arts)

## **Moderator**

**Ichiro Nodaira**

(Member, Kyoto Prize Selection Committee; Composer, Pianist)

### **14:00 Opening Address**

Seiji Choki

### **Introduction of Laureate**

Seiji Choki

### **14:15 Workshop on Boulez: Sur Incises (1996-1998)**

Open Rehearsal

Pierre Boulez

Cond: Ken Takaseki

Pf: Shinji Urakabe, Ami Fujiwara, Yusuke Kikuchi

Hp: Shino Kataoka, Eri Shinoda, Keiko Nobukuni

Perc: Takafumi Fujimoto, Mitsuyo Wada, Kousuke Nakayama

### **Intermission**

Composer Commentary

Pierre Boulez (the Laureate in Arts and Philosophy)

Interviewed by Ichiro Nodaira

### **16:20 Closing**

## Program Note

Dr. Seiji Choki

Professor, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo

### Boulez: *Sur Incises* (1996-1998)

Written between 1996 and 1998 for three pianos, three harps, and three keyboard percussion instruments, *Sur Incises* was composed to mark the 90th birthday of the late Paul Sacher, a great conductor who devoted himself to the development and spread of 20th century music and to whom Mr. Boulez owes a great debt of gratitude. Mr. Boulez had also presented *Messagesquise* on the occasion of Sacher's 70th birthday. Like that previous work, *Sur Incises* is purely a piece of chamber music, without the use of any computers or electronic devices.

For the percussion part, two of the three players are assigned a vibraphone and one is assigned a marimba, which need to be joined by steel drums, crotales, glockenspiels, tubular bells, etc. Before arriving at this rather unorthodox configuration, however, Mr. Boulez originally based his composition on a short work for solo piano titled *Incises* (1994). He began by attempting to compose a concerto for an ensemble with a piano from this short piece. Later, realizing that it was impossible to produce the sound that reverberated through his mind at that time using the conventional ensemble with only one piano, he eventually settled on this configuration. For instance, Mr. Boulez once made a statement to the effect that the echoing sound for the piano part cannot be achieved by other instruments, and it is clear that behind this comment is a wealth of experience in composing, including real-time sound processing using computers and electronic equipment and its spatial sound placement. In this sense, *Sur Incises* should be regarded as a work which features a "manual" real-time sound processing technique.

The music proceeds as the three pianists each repeat imitation, processing, and echo as they vie with each other for virtuosity. Functionally unable to match the pianos, the harps complement the pianos like a shadow both in terms of harmony and tone color, while the percussion instruments contend with the pianos to demonstrate their masterly techniques.

The piece takes about forty minutes to play all the way through, but for this occasion, which is a public rehearsal, only excerpts of the important portions will be performed.

## **Musicians**

### **Conductor**

#### **Ken Takaseki**

Resident Conductor, Sapporo Symphony Orchestra

### **Piano**

#### **Shinji Urakabe**

Attended classes at Yamaha Music School from the age of four. Has played his own compositions with various orchestras on many different occasions, including a United Nations concert in 1981. Joined the Music Department of the Tokyo Metropolitan High School of Music and Fine Arts in 1985 and joined the Paris Conservatory in 1987, from which he graduated with a Premier Prix in harmony, fugue, and accompaniment, and a Second Prix in counterpoint. In 1994, he won first prize at the International 20th Century Piano Music Competition in Orleans, and subsequently gave a series of recitals in Europe. In 2003, he released the CD *Petrushka* from Aurora Classical. Currently busy with his projects for chamber music and accompaniment.

#### **Ami Fujiwara**

Graduated from Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA) and the Paris Conservatory with a Premier Prix awarded by the unanimous vote of the panel of judges. Won first prize in the International 20th Century Piano Music Competition in Orleans in 1998. While in France she performed constantly, playing as a solo player and accompanist on Radio France's music programs, and in many other venues throughout the country. Currently based in Tokyo, she performs across the nation as a solo pianist and a member of a chamber orchestra, and has been involved in the first public performances in Japan of a great many compositions. Currently a member of Tokyo Sinfonietta and Ensemble sans-limite, and a part-time instructor at Tokyo College of Music and Nihon University College of Art. Since 1999, she has released seven solo CDs from Regulus.

#### **Yusuke Kikuchi**

Born in Tokyo, he won second prize in the Music Competition of Japan in 1994, when he was in his second year at high school. Upon graduation from high school he went to Europe, graduating from the Paris Conservatory and Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hannover. Has studied under Nobuyoshi Kato, Jacques Rouvier, and Arie Vardi. Won first prize in the Maria Canals International Music Competition of Barcelona and the Porto International Music Competition, and was highly placed in many other international music competitions, including the Geneva International Music Competition and International Beethoven

Competition for Piano. Released the CDs *Images Françaises* in 2008 and *B-A-C-H* (Record Geijutsu magazine's CD of Editor's Choice) in 2009 from DENON. Also published a revised score for *Partita No. 2 for Solo Violin (for solo piano)* from Zen-On Music Company Limited, which also includes music of his own arrangement. Involved in the training of future generations at Tokyo University of the Arts and Tokyo College of Music.

## Harp

### Shino Kataoka

Began practicing the Irish harp at the age of six and the grand harp at ten. After graduating from the Music High School attached to the Faculty of Music of Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA), she received her bachelor's degree from the TUA Faculty of Music and master's degree from the TUA Graduate School of Music. Passed an audition for TUA's chamber orchestra. Won first prize in the Duo for Flute and Harp Division of the 11th Nippon Harp Competition. Has studied Irish harp under Mieko Inoue, grand harp under Ayako Shinozaki, Isabel Perrin, Mieko Inoue, and Sonoko Hata, and chamber music under Kazuo Yukawa.

### Eri Shinoda

After graduating from the Music High School attached to the Faculty of Music of Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA), she received her bachelor's degree from the TUA Faculty of Music and master's degree from the TUA Graduate School of Music. Has studied under Ayako Shinozaki and the late Shosaku Tsutsumi. Won second prize in the Advanced Division of the Nippon Harp Competition, the Special Prize in the Fukui Harp Music Awards Competition, and second prize in the Professional Division of the Nippon Harp Competition. Won the 3rd Keizo Saji Prize as a member of the Contemporary Music Ensemble Tokyo (COmeT) in 2004. A versatile harpist, Shinoda plays solo, chamber, and orchestral music, in addition to recorded music and performances for television. She has given the first public performances in Japan, or in the world, of a great many songs. Having served as part-time instructor of the Kunitachi College of Music Senior High School from 2003 to 2005, she is now an instructor of harp classes offered by H. Matsuo Music Instruments Co., Ltd. and a member of COmeT.

### Keiko Nobukuni

After graduating from the Music High School attached to the Faculty of Music of Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA), she received her bachelor's degree from the TUA Faculty of Music and master's degree from the TUA Graduate School of Music. While in high school, she placed high in the Youth Division of the 2nd Nippon Harp Competition. In 1996, she passed an audition for the Saitama Prefecture New Musicians' Concert, and won second prize in the

Advanced Division of the 8th Nippon Harp Competition. In 1998, she passed a summer seminar audition for the Chigiana Musical Academy of Siena, Italy, and played at their final concert. While playing for orchestras, ensembles, and other musical vehicles, she is also active in musical activities for school and preschool education. Has studied under Ayako Shinozaki and the late Sumire Kuwajima.

## Percussion

### Takafumi Fujimoto

Won second prize at the Geneva International Music Competition and the International Percussion Competition Luxembourg. Currently serves as an associate professor at the Faculty of Music of Tokyo University of the Arts and a part-time instructor at Tokyo College of Music. Formerly first timpanist of the Kanagawa Philharmonic Orchestra. Representative of the percussion quartet SHUN-KA-SHU-TOH and MARIMBA ENSEMBLE quint.

### Mitsuyo Wada

Completed the Percussion Course of the Department of Instrumental Music, Faculty of Music of Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA) and graduated from the TUA Graduate School of Music. Won third prize in the 7th Japan Wind and Percussion Competition. In 1998, she gave a solo recital at TUA's Sogakudo concert hall. In 2002, won third prize in the Kyogaku V, a contemporary music performance competition. Currently performs for recordings by various players, as well as for chamber orchestra and symphony orchestra. Performed at the Asia Music Festival in 1997, Festival Internacional Música Contemporánea, Alicante, in 2001, Festival a Tempo in 2005, Plaisance Music Festival in 2008, and International Gaudeamus Music Week in 2009. Member of the Tokyo Sinfonietta, percussion quartet SHUN-KA-SHU-TOH, and percussion unit UNZARI.

### Kosuke Nakayama

Born in Yokohama, Japan. Began practicing piano from his infancy and percussion from junior high school. Graduated from the Hachioji High School Art and Music Course. Entered Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA) immediately after high school and graduated from the university. Currently enrolled in the TUA master's course and studying under the NHK Symphony Orchestra's academy program. While playing in an orchestra, he has also branched out to piano accompaniment and arrangement. Member of Percussion Quartette UNIQUE. Performed at the Yomiuri Annual Concert by New Musicians and the Kanagawa Prefecture Doseikai New Musicians' Concert. Has studied under Chieko Sugiyama, Kazunori Momose, Seimon Ariga, Masaya Takeuchi, and Takafumi Fujimoto.