

Nagoya Festival Float with Mechanized Dolls



Nagoya developed as the castle town of the Owari family which is one of the three major branches of the Tokugawa Shogun. The region in which Nagoya is situated is called Owari and its festival floats “Dashi” have more than 400 years of history starting with the rise of the Tokugawa Shogun in the 17th century. The prosperous Owari region is reknown for the artisan skills which are mainly used for Buddhist altar fittings.

The Dashi which was on display at the Shanghai World Expo in 2010 was made without nails as in ancient pagodas and temples. It is elaborately decorated with Japanese lacquer, metal ornaments and gold leaf gilding . This particular Dashi is named “Do-ji-sha” (children’s float) as it was created to transmit traditional techniques and culture to our future generation.

Normally, only the residents of the town are allowed to touch these floats. Our project breaks this taboo. The children of the world are most welcome to learn how to manipulate the mechanized dolls and try their hands in making some of the decorative elements adorning the Dashi. For this, a group of artisans will travel to Geneva. Such an opportunity is extremely rare even in Japan.

The programme contains:

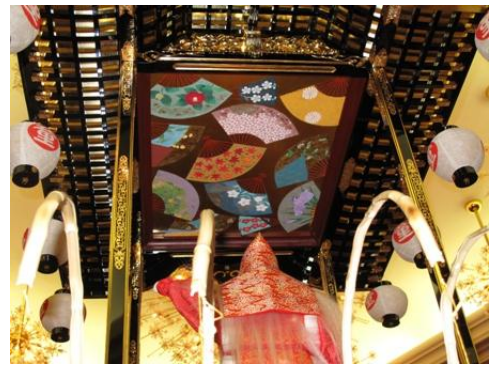
- The Dashi on display
- Demonstration of mechanized dolls
- Musical performance of festival music by Nagata team with dancing mechanized dolls
- Traditional handiworks on display

Requirements: One day of assemblage and one day of dismantlement. Once assembled, the Dashi measures 1.8m wide, 3.6m height and 3.6m long





← Very elaborate metal ornaments



Inside the Dashi→



← Mr. Noyori of Dashi Research Group

Other things on display



Japanese embroidery

Wood work without nail →

