



# MIRAGE

## Performing Arts



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“...the audience was dazzled by their **perfectly synced performance.**”

- *Central Japan Press*

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## About Us

**MIRAGE Performing Arts** is a collaborative group of musicians and dancers who explore artistic expressions that push the boundaries of disciplinary divides and broaden the horizons of Classical music and Ballet with the mission of creating a meaningful performance experience for a wider audience.

Founded in 2019 by choreographer **Yuki Tokuda** and pianist **Rie Tanaka**, they have since co-directed nine original productions and performed them at a variety of venues from city streets to concert halls in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Japan.

They have been featured on StarTribune's "The Week's Best Classical Concert," Pioneer Press and Chunichi Shimbun (Central Japan Press). They have partnered with local, regional and international organizations such as Meet Minneapolis, Minneapolis Downtown Council, Minnesota Fringe Festival, City of St. Louis Park, Japan America Society of Minnesota, and Compassion International. Their performance appearance includes Hamlin University, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Peavey Plaza, Westminster Hall, Winona County History Center, Hastings Arts Center, Applā Takaishi Hall in Osaka (Japan), and Kinomoto Stik Hall in Shiga (Japan).



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# Founders



**Yuki Tokuda**, originally from Japan, moved to New York in 2000 to study ballet in New York at the Joffrey Ballet School. Since then, Tokuda has danced professionally with USA Ballet, Peoria Ballet, Metropolitan Ballet and she was the principal dancer at Continental Ballet for seven years. Ms. Tokuda is a faculty member at James Sewell Ballet and Ballet Co. Laboratory, and taught master classes in Japan and the US including at Cathedral Dance Festival and Interlochen Center for the Arts. She is a three-time grant recipient of the Minnesota State Arts Board, and is awarded the 2023 McKnight Dancer Fellowship.

Dr. **Rie Tanaka**, a native of Osaka, Japan, enjoys a multifaceted career as a performing artist, educator, and artistic director. Praised for her "brilliant and lyrical tone" (Central Japan News) and "lovely sensitivity" (Pioneer Press), she has been featured by Minnesota Public Radio, Wisconsin Public Radio, Chamber Music America, and Listen Magazine by Steinway and Sons. She is a prize winner of MTNA Young Artist Competition, Rosenstock International Piano Competition, Schubert Club Competition and Chautauqua Piano Competition.

Tanaka is a faculty member at MacPhail Center for Music, and has previously taught at Macalester College and University of Minnesota. Tanaka received her MM and DMA in Piano Performance from the University of Minnesota, and BM from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.



Photography by Brian Kowalski

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“Solo piano music and dance are  
**woven together**

in an **unusual  
collaboration**

between Twin Cities pianist Rie  
Tanaka and the ballerina and  
choreographer Yuki Tokuda.”

- *StarTribune*  
“The Week’s Best Concerts”

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## Reviews

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“You realized what the famous  
French philosopher Paul Valéry said:  
'It is a miracle how the discrete set  
of sounds in a musical score can  
evoke continuous movements.'  
You realized and not only evoked  
continuous, real and very human  
movements, gestures.

And all of that with **a  
remarkable  
congruence of  
sound and gesture.**

My strongest congratulations to this  
very feminine great achievement.  
More of that would help understand  
better what music is about.”

- *Dr. Guerino Mazzola*  
*Professor of Music, University of Minnesota*



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# Videos

Watch some of our works we have done in the past



# Downloads

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Publicity Photos

[\[Download\]](#)

Press Kit

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Photography by Alice Gebura



Photography by Brian Kowalski



Photography by Sara Van Vreede

# Contact

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Email:

[yuki.tokuda@hotmail.com](mailto:yuki.tokuda@hotmail.com)

Website:

[mirageperformingarts.com](http://mirageperformingarts.com)

