

**Aki Sato-Johnson** is a Japanese-American actor whose work fuses the physical precision of a trained dancer with the vocal and emotional expressiveness of an actor. For 17 years, she was a core member of the Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT), performing leading roles such as Renée in *Madame de Sade*, Electra in *Electra*, Andromache in *The Trojan Women*, and the Rabbit in *Kachi Kachi Yama*. Her performance as Renée in the 2022 Tokyo revival of *Madame de Sade* at Kichijoji Theatre earned her the Teatro Theatre Magazine Award for Exceptional Performance.

With SCOT, Aki toured to more than 28 cities across 17 countries, appearing at international festivals including the Theatre Olympics (Budapest, St. Petersburg-Toga, Wroclaw, Beijing, Seoul), Edinburgh International Festival, Jerzy Grotowski Theatre Festival, Singapore Arts Festival, Napoli Teatro Festival Italia, Istanbul International Theatre Festival, Seoul Performing Arts Festival, and Shanghai International Arts Festival, among others.

An experienced teacher of the Suzuki Method of Actor Training, Aki has led workshops for the bi-annual Suzuki Toga Camp and taught internationally in Vladivostok, Jakarta, and Bali. She holds a BFA in Acting from Ithaca College, New York, and trained in classical ballet from an early age.

Now based in Boorloo (Perth), Aki is excited to expand her practice into film, television, and commercial work. She has also been exploring new creative areas including devising, directing, and developing her own physical theatre training method. She made her Australian debut as a deviser and performer in Undercurrent Theatre Company's *Passports*, directed by Sam Bruce. Most recently, Aki and Sam have been developing a new physical adaptation of Eugène Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* as artists-in-residence at Subiaco Arts Centre, while also facilitating weekly physical training sessions for performers in the Boorloo region.