

On Friday, May 6 at 7:30 pm Boston will have the rare opportunity to experience the beauty and magnificence of a renowned Classical Japanese Dancer, Nishikawa Mitsu from Kyoto, perform at the First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., near Harvard Square.

Classical Japanese Dance extends back more than 400 years and incorporates elements of Buddhist invocation dance, dance accompanied Japanese ballads, Noh Theater and Kyogen Comedy. It is also called Kabuki dance, from where it originated.

The Nishikawa style, one of the five big schools of Classical Japanese dance, was established in the 18th century.

Nishikawa Mitsu will perform, along with other dances:

- Echigoji, a kind of old fashioned Pierrette dance from Echigo, an area in the north part of Japan. In the Edo period, dancers made a living collecting money from performing on the street. This dance uses a special technique with long white cloths.
- Kurokami, a traditional dance, with slow, delicate movements to characterize a woman in love, suffering. The stage is bare except for a single light, a Japanese screen and snow falling outside.

This special appearance includes a presentation about Classical Japanese Dance, other Japanese Traditional Arts and the city of Kyoto, the capital of Japan and the seat of the Imperial Court from 794 A.D. to 1868.

Admission is \$20, discounts for children, students and seniors. Further info: westeastcontactarts@gmail.org, WE-Contact.org