

Ancient Japanese Story 'Kaguya-Hime' Shines at the Aratani Theatre



The cast came out on stage for the curtain call.

The opera “Kaguya-Hime,” composed, written and conducted by Hideaki Hirai, was performed on August 22 at the Aratani Theatre in Little Tokyo.

The story was based on the classic Japanese folktale “Taketori Monogatari” (Tale of the Bamboo Cutter), in which a baby found inside the stalk of a glowing bamboo plant grows rapidly into a beautiful young woman. Although many men, including the Emperor, seek her hand in marriage, she reveals to her parents that she must return to her people — on the moon.

Singers from Japanese choral groups, including four soloists, and musicians from the Los Angeles area received enthusiastic rounds of applause from the audience.



Nobuko Takahashi performed as Kaguya-Hime.