

Little pearl Imeka

Akemi Takeya, a bundle of energy from Japan, is dancer, performer and choreographer in one person. Japan is symbolised by the setting sun, the red point. For Takeya, it becomes a signal from a world far away in her inner self. Thus, we experience her transformation: from the unconscious of her embryonic cocoon, like a pearl in an oyster, she steps into the loud, multicoloured world of childhood; past the silly giggling of shy teenagers she leads us through the first passionate devotion to her womanhood.

As her pseudonym Imeka, she gargles and squeaks, laughs and cries, yells and chokes: changes from child to sumo to faun, or to fury, male or female. But she never loses the right sense for the changes from loud to quiet, fast to slow, comical to serious. The sparse settings, the grotesque yet beautiful costumes, the application of colour, light and music additionally make for an enchanting atmosphere one cannot withstand.

When Imeka like a lotus flower withdraws to her inner self, this image holds us captivated like a tender dream. With rapt attention, we remain, and only when Akemi returns once more we are brought into reality again.

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