

The 1st Press Conference

**Announcing LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA 2013  
in Matsushima**

Date: Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Venue: Swiss Residence

## LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA 2013 in Matsushima

Two years have passed since the unforgettable earthquake and tsunami occurred in East Japan. As time goes by and the momentum for support of reconstruction wanes, LUCERNE FESTIVAL one of Europe's leading music festivals, has formally launched the LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA in association with a Japanese concert management company with the aim of bringing hope through music to regions afflicted by the Great East Japan Earthquake that struck on March 11, 2011. LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA 2013 in Matsushima will be held this autumn in Matsushima-machi, Miyagi Prefecture.

International architect Arata Isozaki is collaborating with India native and UK resident sculptor Anish Kapoor to develop a mobile concert hall with a capacity of 500 people. In this hall and the surrounding area, called ARK NOVA, various programs will be held during the period, blending performances of world artists, centered around LUCERNE FESTIVAL, and musical expression activities of the Tohoku region.



《LUCERNE FESTIVAL SUMMER 2012》 © LUCERNE FESTIVAL, Peter Fischli



《Matsushima-machi》

## About LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA

LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA was initiated immediately after the great earthquake by LUCERNE FESTIVAL, the Swiss international music festival.

“ARK” as in “Noah’s Ark,” and NOVA, meaning “new.”

In the famous great flood legend of the Old Testament / Book of Genesis, Noah boards his family and animals on an ark, and after the floodwater recedes, a rainbow is formed. In a nod to this story, we named the Project “new ark” = ARK NOVA with the hope that it will become a symbol of recovery immediately after the great earthquake disaster.

ARK NOVA obviously can’t carry people and animals to escape from disaster, but we conceived the ark to travel packed with music and various arts, from the perspective of long-term rebuilding of culture and spirit. We also recalled a key concept that Japanese folklorist Shinobu Orikuchi coined as “marebito (sacred guests).” This is the concept that “marebito” from foreign lands brought religions and festivals and revitalized society as a result. This could also be considered the principle of how the arts came into existence. ARK NOVA will visit all over the disaster regions as a “marebito” and generate activities putting the spotlight on each location as it interacts with locals. Although the Project was born as a result of the earthquake, we aim to develop a structure that can extend beyond rebuilding to create “ARS NOVA,” meaning “new arts.”

## About LUCERNE FESTIVAL and LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

In 1938, the music festival began with a gala concert conducted by Arturo Toscanini in front of Richard Wagner’s lakeside villa at Lucerne and has grown to a music festival of global importance over the decades. Today, an internationally top-class orchestra, conductor, and musicians gather at the medieval town surrounded by some of the most spectacular landscapes in Europe.

Formally named “Lucerne Festival” since 2001, three music festivals are held yearly: LUCERNE FESTIVAL at Easter in spring, LUCERNE FESTIVAL in Summer, and LUCERNE FESTIVAL at the Piano in fall. At the main summer festival, an internationally top-class series of concerts focusing on a certain composer, musician, or theme is held.

The history of LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA began at the same time the music festival was founded. The first festival was held in 1938, with renowned soloists and chamber musicians of Europe gathering in Lucerne and performing with Toscanini as conductor. The Swiss Festival Orchestra was established as a permanent music festival orchestra and was active until 1993. This tradition entered a new chapter with the founding of LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA in 2003 by Claudio Abbado (Artistic Director of LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA) and Michael Haefliger (Artistic and Executive Director of LUCERNE FESTIVAL). LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA is comprised of prominent musicians and participates in LUCERNE FESTIVAL held every summer.

## Outline of Concert Hall

The concert hall ARK NOVA created by Arata Isozaki and Anish Kapoor is an air-inflated membrane structure which equipped with the necessary stage and sound equipment. The membrane can be folded up and the equipment dismantled and loaded on a truck, so they can be brought to each site.

The interior is a single uninterrupted space which, depending on the arrangement of equipment, is a multistage format which can accommodate various events from orchestras to chamber music, jazz, the performing arts or exhibitions.

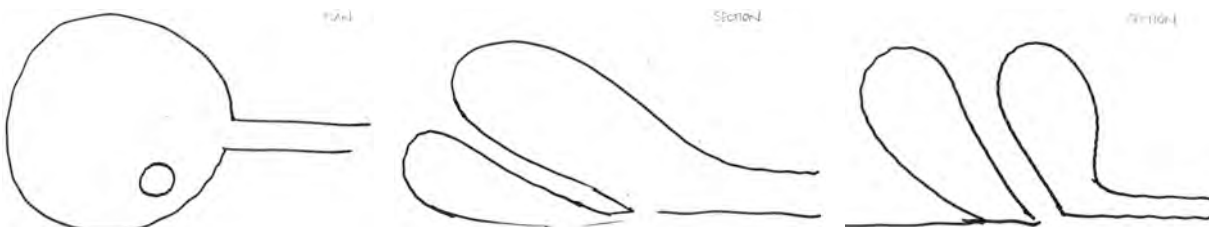
It is envisioned to seat 500 during an orchestra performance, and is planned to have a width of 30m, length of 36m and maximum height of 18m.



《study models》



《sketches by Arata Isozaki》



《drawings by Anish Kapoor》

## Outline

Official Project Name=	LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA
Official Event Name=	LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA 2013 in Matsushima
Venue=	Matsushima-machi, Miyagi Prefecture
Period (tentative)=	Friday, 27 September 2013 – Monday (National Holiday), 14 October 2013
Organizer=	ARK NOVA Executive Committee Matsushima Executive Committee (Matsushima Town, Matsushima Town Board of Education, Go and Partners, Inc, others)
Artistic Directors=	Michael Haefliger (Artistic and Executive Director of LUCERNE FESTIVAL) Arata Isozaki (Architect) Anish Kapoor (Sculptor) Ryuichi Sakamoto (Musician) Masahide Kajimoto (Chairman of ARK NOVA Executive Committee)
Cooperation of Planning and Production of Programs=	KAJIMOTO
Cooperation of Architectural Design=	Isozaki, Aoki and Associates
Founding Partners=	UBS AG, Nestlé S.A., Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited
Cooperate Subsidizer=	Foundation For Cultural Heritage and Art Research
Project Fund=	LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA Fund (Secretariat: KAHOKU SHIMPO PUBLISHING CO.)
Cooperation=	<u>Music Program</u> Secretariat of the Sendai Classical Music Festival (Sendai Cultural Foundation), Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra <u>Music Program with Children</u> Matsushima Town Board of Education, Matsushima Junior High School, School Music Revival <u>Citizen's Program</u> Matsushima Tourism Association, The Jozenji Streetjazz Festival Executive Committee (tentative) <u>Zuiganji Cedar Project</u> Zuiganji Temple, Forest Owner's Cooperative Association of Miyagi chuo., Ishinomaki Laboratory

## Music Program

LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA 2013 in Matsushima will consist of a program overseen by LUCERNE FESTIVAL and a program put together from Tohoku, including traditional arts, citizens and children. In addition, there will be special programs by internationally active artists and musicians such as Ryuichi Sakamoto who approve of the project.

■PROGRAM 1: Program is overseen by LUCERNE FESTIVAL.

Performances by international musicians are planned, focusing on classical music, including LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA and YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF CARACAS.

■PROGRAM 2: A program of music and the community coming together, sent from Tohoku to the world.

Performance by the Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra is planned. Besides classical music, there will be Music Program with Children, Citizen's Program and Traditional Program.

### Music Program with Children

Music programs will be conducted year-round in the Tohoku region. During the festival, children in the afflicted Tohoku regions will perform various genres of musical expression, including wind ensembles, orchestras and Rock/Pop music, as well as traditional arts and performances themed on the earthquake disaster (plays, musicals). Joint performances with artists such as Ryuichi Sakamoto are also planned.

### Citizen's Program

A music program open to all people who love music will be implemented. In collaboration with the Jozenji Streetjazz Festival, Japan's largest citizen's music festival held every autumn in Sendai, the citizen's events are planned to envelop the whole town of Matsushima in music.

### Traditional Program

The Tohoku region is rich in folk arts, including drums (*TAIKO*) and Shinto music (*Kagura*), and a variety of folkways are expanding. The traditional program will gather Shinto music groups of each area and be centered on the traditional arts rooted in the Tohoku region, and top talent in the folk performing arts will be drawn from all over the country.

\*Special programs and details of the content will be announced at a later date.

## Related Project

### Zuiganji Cedar Project

The beautiful pathway surrounded by cedar forests at Zuiganji Temple, a symbol of Matsushima, was a beloved presence to locals over the years. Sadly, many of the trees were trimmed because of tsunami damage and ground sinkage. LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA conceived the idea of effectively using the wood as materials for acoustic reflectors/boards and chairs in the ARK NOVA hall to revive those cedars. Zuiganji Temple has agreed with this concept, and has authorized use of the precious cedarwood. Production will be in collaboration with Forest Owner's Cooperative Association of Miyagi Chuo and Ishinomaki Laboratory, which is located in Ishinomaki city, one of the regions hardest hit by the disaster.



《pathway》



《logged cedars》

### LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA Fund

A broad range of projects conducted by LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA are extensively supported by generous assistance from individuals, enterprises and associations. LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA Fund serves as a contact point and a facility to offer information on various support services.

Secretariat: KAHOKU SHIMPO PUBLISHING CO.

#### **About Donation**

**Bank: 77 bank**

**Branch code: 100**

**Account number: 8012687**

**Account name: ARK NOVA KIKIN**

## Reference material: Personal biography of the persons concerned



### Arata Isozaki

Born in 1931 in Oita Prefecture, Isozaki is a world-renowned and one of the Japan's leading architects. He established Arata Isozaki & Associates in 1963. His representative architectural works include Oita Prefectural Library (present Art Plaza), The Museum of Modern Art, Gunma, Art Tower Mito, Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, Nara Centennial Hall, Akiyoshidai International Art Village, Shanghai Himalaya Center, Qatar National Convention Center. Photo © Keizo Kioku



### Anish Kapoor

Born in 1954 in Bombay (present Mumbai), Kapoor has lived in London since the early 1970s. Over the past thirty years, he has held solo exhibitions at various art museums in the world. In 2009, he became the first living artist to have a solo exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts in London. In 2010, he held his solo exhibitions at NGMA in Delhi and Menboob Studio in Mumbai, followed by large scale installations at Fabricca del Vapore in Milan and Grand Palais in Paris. He has participated in a great number of group exhibitions in the world. He participated in the Paris Biennale in 1982 and the Venice Biennale in 1990 as the British representative. At the Venice Biennale, he was awarded the "Premio Duemila". He was awarded a Turner Prize. He is one of the most influential sculptors in the contemporary art world. Photo ©Sergiy Illin, 2012



### Michael Haefliger

Born in 1961 in Berlin, Haefliger lives in Switzerland. Throughout his career, he has been deeply associated with major European festivals. Haefliger began his career as a violin player and he was appointed as Artistic and Executive Director of LUCERNE FESTIVAL in 1999. Since then (his contract has been extended through 2016), he has improved the distinguished reputation of the Festival and intensified its commitment to new music. Among his many initiatives are re-establishment of LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA with Claudio Abbado in 2003 and joint-establishment of the Lucerne Festival Academy with Pierre Boulez in 2004. In January 2000, he was selected as a "global leader of the next generation" by the World Economic Forum (Davos Forum). He still serves as a board member of numerous international organizations.



### Ryuichi Sakamoto

Born in 1952 in Tokyo, Sakamoto has been living in New York, U.S. since 1990. He earned a master's degree at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Sakamoto made his solo debut with "Thousand Knives" in 1978. In the same year, he formed the band called "YMO". After the group disbanded, he has expanded his sphere of activities including music, cinema, publishing and advertising. In 1984, he won a British Academy of Film and Television Arts Award for the film "Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence" in which he starred and for which he composed the score and won an Academy Award and Grammy Award for composing the score for the film "Last Emperor". His attitude of constantly pursuing innovating sounds has gained international acclaim. Since the production of his first opera "Life" in 1999, Sakamoto has become active in mentioning environmental and peace issues and has been involved in a wide range of activities including the foundation of the artists 'power which is a group of artists advocating a promotion of using renewable energy and the foundation of the "more tress" which is a forest preservation group. In addition, since the Tohoku earthquake in 11th March in 2011, he has been actively involved in a movement to abandon nuclear power.