

## KODO brings heart of Japan to Lied

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sion is necessary.

Performers have a minimum of three years training. After completing a two-year apprenticeship, trainees will go on to a probationary junior year and upon successful completion, their position in the troupe is determined.

Kodo is involved in a number of projects including "Earth Celebration" where it collaborates with other villages on Sado Island. The ensemble is also involved in the Cultural Foundation, managing the KODO Apprentice Centre and conducting cultural research programs and workshops.

There has been an overwhelming response to

KODO performances, Rosen said. Audience members commented they have left the show feeling energized and transformed.

People who have heard about the show or seen a picture may have certain expectations prior to the show, Rosen said.

"That does not make them prepared for what KODO does," Rosen said. "They are surprised by what they feel."

Rosen was careful not to reveal specific details and elements in the performance and said that audience members are better left in the dark before the show.

"Come with an open mind, leave preconceptions at the door and try to take it in with all your senses," he said.

## Taiwanese movie long but engaging

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text.

Those who speak Taiwanese will have no problem, but those who do not would be wise to bring their glasses and get a good night's sleep.

It is easy to see why Edward Yang won best director at the 2000 Cannes Film Festival, especially since they have all day to walk around and view films that are similar in nature.

Its direction is very easy on the eyes. The landscapes are breathtaking, and the director definitely didn't cut any corners on the awesome representation of bridges which do seem to be a theme in this movie.

Overall, I would recommend this movie to anyone who is intrigued with how a middle age crisis affects a family.

I would also recommend it to anyone who has a night to kill - I mean a whole night.

"YI YI" Not rated. Directed by Edward Yang. Starring WU Nienjen, Issey Gogata, Elaine JIN, Kelly LEE, and Jonathan Chang. Starting Thursday at the Mary Riepma Ross Film

## Malkovich, Dafoe shine in 'Shadow of a Vampire'

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to the grainy, dreamy black and white of early film.

What is achieved through this is a disconnect between the two worlds within the movie. The events of the real world, in which Mernau is filming a Dracula picture, are forgotten when the crank begins turning. As long as the camera is rolling, we're in a different reality.

Mernau sums it up nicely when he says at one point, "if the lens doesn't see it, it doesn't exist."

What begins then as what looks like a corny little picture about an eccentric German director takes on a deeper, more recalcitrant subject - that of where reality ends and our own phantasms begin. The subject is approached through a mixture of reality and illusion.

Nearly every actor in this film works to create this effect, particularly Dafoe and

Malkovich, the main characters. Dafoe, who earned a Best Supporting Actor nomination for the performance, is delightfully sinister as Schreck playing Dracula, and even somewhat comical in certain parts.

Malkovich plays director Mernau with his usual precision. Even Mernau's outbursts and fanatical tendencies are counterbalanced by Malkovich's steady control over his character.

This film is not for everyone, but not because it's overly offensive, raw or violent. On the contrary, it feels like entering a dream, like drawing back an ectoplasmic curtain and walking in on the subconscious. But some people may not make the connection with the film and will simply find it boring.

This movie is made for those who crave the unorthodox, the eclectic and the strange. Whether you decide to venture into this film depends largely on the degree of that craving.



## Elton John 'big fan' of Eminem

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because "artists are tuned to artistic expression, and I don't think any of them would favor stifling that."

One of the few gay artists who has voiced disdain for Eminem is Boy George, whose gender-bending ways with the band Culture Club pushed the boundaries in the 1980s.

"Nobody wants to sort of battle against success. It's one of those things; if you slag him off, you on the one hand will appear bitter, and on the other hand you will appear uncool," George said.

"If Pol Pot had a successful record, people would probably be running around him as well."

He accused John of performing with Eminem simply to bolster his own hipness.

"Eminem is a really cool young artist, and Elton I guess feels it's good for his career. I don't think it's anything deeper than that," he said.

"The thing is, Elton John is fine, Elton John is a multimillionaire - Elton John lives in a bubble," George said. "But what about all the little kids who live in the projects, the effeminate boys or lesbians and gays out there in the real world, getting beat up? What about people like Matthew Shepard? They don't live in that bubble."

John has said he does not believe Eminem is hateful.

"I'm a big fan of his music, and I said I would be delighted to perform with him, the British superstar told the Los Angeles Times. "If I thought for one minute that he was (hateful), I wouldn't do it."

When Eminem's Grammy nominations were announced last month, Recording Academy President Michael



Rapper Eminem reaches out to his fans during a concert April 21, 2000, in Montreal.

Greene defended artists' right "to say things that anger people."

He called Eminem's lyrics "truly some of the most repugnant things that we've heard recorded this year," but added: "He hates everybody. He hates himself. He uses the microphone as a therapist most of the time and doesn't edit himself."

Gay activists plan to picket

the awards ceremony.

George supports the rally, but wonders whether attention paid to Eminem isn't counterproductive.

"I think sort of blacklisting him is just as bad," he said. "The more people moan about him being there, the more people moan about what he's saying, the more records he seems to sell."



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