

KOKORO NEWS

NO.69 2008.6

The Actroid-DER2 goes on to international stardom!



JAPAN! culture + hyper culture (Washington D.C., U.S.A.) February 5 ~ February 17, 2008



"JAPAN! culture + hyper culture", the event to introduce Japanese culture, was held in Washington D.C. sponsored by the National John F. Kennedy Center. Various things ranging from Japanese traditional culture to the cutting-edge robot technology were introduced in this international festival.

Kokoro's "Actroid-DER2" was invited to the event among famous artists from Japan and introduced as one of the robots which represent Japan. Fans of Japanese culture were very much fascinated to see the dream combination of the state-of-the-art robot and the Japanese classic costume "Kimono".

The Actroid-DER2 was always surrounded by a lot of people throughout the event and met their expectations with speaking fluent English.

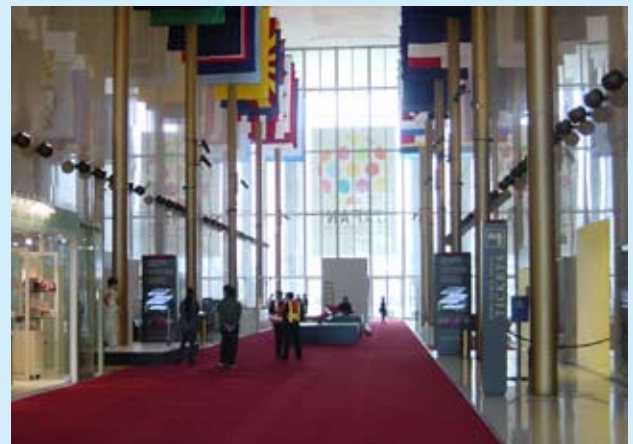


The center of American art "Kennedy Center"

The Kennedy Center is formally called the "John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts". More than 2000 stages of good pieces of work at home and abroad are yearly performed there for the purpose of introducing excellent performing arts all over the world and important pieces of work in the field of education.

Cultural figures from different areas participated in the event.

The wide program lineup ranged from classical art forms to animation. A total of 467 artists were invited to the event including a stage director Yukio Ninagawa (who directed a theatrical play "Shindokumaru"), "Mansaku-No-Kai" which performs Kyogen plays, a puppet play troupe "Yukiza", a dancing company "Sankai Juku", a contemporary dancer Jo Kanamori, a conceptual artist Yayoi Kusama, an architect Tadao Ando, an animation project "Genius Party" and a fashion designer Junko Koshino.



The Kennedy Center
<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/festivals/07-08/japan/>

kokoro
a company of Sanrio Group

© KOKORO CO.,LTD.

KOKORO COMPANY LTD

Tel: +81 3-3779-8506 Fax: +81 3-3779-8426

20F Osaki New City TOC Building No.1,1-6-1,Osaki, Shinagawa-ku,Tokyo 141-8603 JAPAN

web: <http://www.kokoro-dreams.co.jp/english/index.html>

Special topic on performances of the Actroid technologies.

Technologies brought through the production of the "Actroid" have been utilized in various areas including amusement, research and medicine.

Android Holon



Holon (The android on the assumption that it was made on January 25, 2060.)

Holon is the android which has autonomic development type artificial intelligence (AI). Added the secretary function program, it manages general desk works at Haru's office. (Haru is the main character of the animated work.)

© Production I.G, Masamune Shirow/NTV, VAP, IG, DNDP

Humanoid robot created from an animation character.

Kokoro completed the assumed "2061 android" by using the best technology which enabled more moving points than the Actoroid-DER2. The name of the android is "Holon" which is an animation character appearing in an animation program "RD Senno Chosashitsu" broadcast nationwide (excluding some areas) in Japan by affiliates of Nihon TV. It was released in "Tokyo International Anime Fair 2008" as part of the media mix. It was the first attempt of Kokoro to re-create an animation character realistically and it caused ohhing and ahhing from the audience. The animated work was produced by the animation studio "Production I.G" which is internationally known for popular series such as "Koukaku Kidoutai [Ghost In The Shell]". The promotion of the android Holon will be advanced with the success of the animated work.

Humanoid robot for research

Geminoid HI-1

ATR Intelligent Robotics Laboratory

The Geminoid HI-1 was built on the purpose of studying the "presence" of human beings. This copy robot has completely re-created every detail of Dr. Hiroshi Ishiguro by taking a cast of his head and using MRI images of his brain. Dr. Ishiguro is a visiting researcher in ATR Intelligent Robotics Laboratory and a professor in Osaka University and is in charge of the study himself.

It incorporates 46 moving points in its body. It is the product achieved by making the most of Kokoro's Actroid technologies.

ATR Intelligent Robotics Laboratory
<http://www.irc.atr.jp/index-j.html>

Dr. Hiroshi Ishiguro is a researcher who represents Japan. He was selected as one of the "Top 100 Living Geniuses" by Creators Synectics, a global consultant firm, and also selected as one of the "8 geniuses that will change your life" by CNN.

The picture shows the Geminoid HI-1 sitting in a chair.



In the picture above, the left is "Geminoid HI-1" and the right is Dr. Ishiguro. The humanoid robot Geminoid HI-1 attracted more public attention after appearing in "Mechanical Love", a documentary film on the interrelationship between robots and humans directed by a Danish director Phie Ambo.

Derivations of the Actroid technologies playing major roles in various areas

Actroid Technologies

Attendant Robot

Actroid-expo

Actroid-DER
Actroid-DER2

Animation Character Robot

Android Holon

Humanoid Robot for Research

Geminoid HI-1
CAM-1
ReplieeQ1
ReplieeQ1-expo

Development of Special Material

Lighting Material

Medical Simulator Robot

Simroid