

# KATSURA SUNSHINE

Traditional Japanese Rakugo storyteller

**Friday, September 20, 2013**

**7:00pm (doors open 6:30pm)**

**Knight Auditorium, Spurlock Museum**

**600 S. Gregory St. Urbana,**

**University of Illinois**

**Free Admission**

## About Sunshine

Born and raised in Toronto, Canada, Sunshine began his career in entertainment as a playwright and composer of musical theatre.

In September, 2008, he was accepted as an apprentice to the great Rakugo Master, Katsura Bunshi VI, from whom he received the name Sunshine. He debuted as part of his master's solo show in Singapore. Sunshine is the only foreign Rakugo storyteller.

For more information about Sunshine, please visit <http://sunshineinenglish.wordpress.com/>

## What is Rakugo?

Rakugo is a form of traditional Japanese comic storytelling. After a history of 400 years, it remains immensely popular even today. Since a performer plays several characters in a story, the use of facial expressions and pantomimes is essential to capture the audience's imagination.



## PROGRAM

- A brief introduction to Japanese storytelling by Chiho Kitagawa
- Rakugo story by Katsura Sunshine
- Intermission
- Rakugo story by Katsura Sunshine
- Question and answer session

Sponsored by the Japanese government, the Japanese Embassies in Ottawa and Washington DC, the Japan Foundation, Spurlock Museum and the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies at the University of Illinois