From Corporeal to Cerebral to Spiritual

The sporting spectacle of the Tokyo 2020 Games was given a scintillating cultural counterpoint in Tokyo Tokyo FESTIVAL.

by Jordan A. Y. Smith

While the world celebrated the athletic excellence on display in stadiums and other arenas during the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, elsewhere in Japan’s capital on streets, in parks, and even on buildings, a celebration of arts and culture was also taking place. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) planned and executed Tokyo Tokyo FESTIVAL (TTF) as a major showcase of art, architecture, music and technology, and more to promote Tokyo’s appeal as a city of arts and culture in its Olympic and Paralympic year. The postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Games allowed TTF a second lease on life, and its reassembled lineup of attractions captivated the public over the summer of 2021.