

## Robot to take starring roles in S.Korea plays

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This photo released by the state-run Korea Institute of Industrial Technology (KITECH) shows South Korea's android robot "EveR-3" (Eve Robot 3) wearing a costume for the play "Robot Princess and Seven Dwarfs" in Seoul. The lifelike EveR-3 is 157 centimetres (five feet, two inches) tall, can communicate in Korean and English.

A South Korean-developed robot that played to acclaim in "Robot Princess and the Seven Dwarfs" is set for more leading theatre roles this year, a scientist said Wednesday.

EveR-3 (Eve Robot 3) starred in various dramas last year including the government-funded "Dwarfs" which attracted a full house, said Lee Ho-Gil, of the state-run Korea Institute of Industrial Technology.

The lifelike EveR-3 is 157 centimetres (five feet, two inches) tall, can communicate in Korean and English, and can express a total of 16 [facial expressions](#) -- without ever forgetting her lines.

Lee acknowledged that robot actresses find it hard to express the full gamut of emotions and also tend to bump into props and fellow (human) actors.

But he said a thespian android was useful in promoting the cutting-edge industry.

"[South Korea](#) is an active frontier in developing robots and we thought that making it would be a good way to promote our technology," Lee told AFP.

And just as visitors to New York flock to Broadway, tourists in Seoul may be drawn by a robot actress, he said. "We will try more plays this year with help from the National Theatre and the government."

Robots in future could also play a role as stagehands controlling music and lighting, Lee said.

South Korea has in addition developed a [walking robot](#) maid, a robotic penguin, koala and rabbit, and a variety of other models.

In 2007 a [robot](#) named Tiro was master of ceremonies at the wedding of one of its designers.

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