

鼓童

KODŌ

eNEWS

Issue 11

October 2010

About the Kodo Apprentice Centre

In a converted schoolhouse in Kakinoura on Sado Island, the young people who will continue and expand on Kodo's traditions are trained, not just in musical technique but also in body and spirit.

Beginning in April, apprentices live communally and train for two years. From this group, probationary members are selected in January of the second year. These chosen few spend one or more years as junior members, and if they are successful, they eventually become full Kodo members.



Lesson One: Apprentices make their own chopsticks from bamboo to use for the duration of the course.



An eager audience fills the street to see Kodo and [A Filetta](#) in the first outdoor performance at this year's festival.

We are looking for people of all backgrounds who are interested in becoming Kodo apprentices, and perhaps the next generation of Kodo players and staff. Apprentices live communally in the [Kodo Apprentice Centre](#) as they learn taiko, dance, song and other traditional arts in the rich natural and cultural surroundings of Sado. Are you ready to unleash your hidden potential?

Apprenticeship Details

As well as learning to live communally, you will learn about certain basics of traditional Japanese culture and how to develop your body and mind specifically to play taiko and dance over the two-year course.

Curriculum content includes: Music lessons (drumming, dancing, singing, playing flute, etc.), lectures on

continued on next page

Kodo Europe Festival Tour ~ Corsica, France & Gent, Belgium

In mid-September, a small Kodo ensemble was in Europe for performances at two festivals: [Rencontres de Chants Polyphoniques](#)

continued on page 3

In This Issue

[Kodo December Concerts](#) 4

[Kodo Online Store in English](#) 4

[Upcoming Kodo Performances](#) 5

Apprentice Center

continued from page 1

Sado's environment, culture, history and traditions, farming (rice culture and vegetable gardening), cooking, tea ceremony, Noh/Kyogen, film appreciation, reading, experiencing Sado's local festivals, physical training, on-site training through assisting taiko workshops, Earth Celebration, Kodo concerts on Sado... and more. You will be challenged to develop practical skills by participating in Kodo's activities.



Communally living, the apprentices cook, eat, sleep and study together.

Application Procedure

To apply for the [Kodo Apprenticeship Program](#), please contact the Kodo Apprentice Centre for details. Please include the following information with your request: name, age, address, telephone number, email address, and profession. Applications are accepted in October of every year, interviews are held the following January, and the course begins in April for successful candidates. Email kenshujo@kodo.or.jp

Apprenticeship Requirements

Any healthy person over 18 years of age may apply. Advanced Japanese



The apprentices learn not only technique, but also the taiko philosophy, history, and how to use one's body and soul when playing the drums. The wholistic Kodo approach to taiko requires a long and intensive study programme.



Early morning stretching before daily running

skills are required. (All instruction is given in Japanese.) Men and women of all backgrounds, experiences and nationalities are welcome.

Please Note

Our #1 F.A.Q. in English is "Do I need to be able to speak Japanese to become an apprentice?" The answer is yes. All instruction is given in Japanese, and it is important to understand

instructions and what is being taught thoroughly. Strong communication skills in Japanese are also essential to the communal living experience. If you do not speak Japanese but wish to apply for the Kodo Apprentice Centre program, please pursue Japanese language studies before you make your application.



Kodo Europe Festival Tour
continued from page 1

de Calvi, in Corsica, and OdeGand, Gent Festival van Vlaanderen in Belgium.

Here are some photos from the tour, and we thank everyone who came along to the shows. It was a real pleasure to take part in these long-standing cultural events. For detailed reports on EC and Rencontres with A Filetta, please see the upcoming autumn edition of *The Kodo Beat*.



Unloading the biggest drum in the Citadel in Calvi, Corsica. Our performances at this festival marked the island's first taiko shows in history.



Jean-Luc from A Filetta tries a hands-on approach to "Monochrome."



Kodo opens the finale of OdeGand on the canal-top stage with "Shake" & "Miyake," after two concerts at Capitole Gent in Belgium for the Gent Festival of Flanders. The audience looks on from boats, bridges and banks surrounding.



Kodo and A Filetta, after a summer of rehearsals and performances together at each other's festivals, say goodbye until next time.



Kodo and A Filetta thank the audience at Rencontres de Chants Polyphoniques de Calvi after a wonderfully received collaboration in Calvi's Place d'Armes.

KODO DECEMBER CONCERTS

Kodo is on the move all year, so the [Kodo December Concerts](#) are a chance to regroup and review, with each member of the cast bringing the fruits of the year's labors to form a collaborative culmination of the past year. As well as our regular opening night on Sado Island and performances in Niigata, Osaka, Nagoya, and Tokyo, this year we will be adding shows in Ashikaga, Sendai and Yokohama for a eight-city year-end national tour. We hope you'll join us this festive season.



Dec. 1 (Wed)

Amusement Sado, Sado Island, Niigata

Dec. 4 (Sat), 5 (Sun)

Niigata Kenmin Kaikan Dai-Hall, Niigata City

Dec. 7 (Tue)

Aichi Prefectural Arts Theater Concert Hall, Nagoya, Aichi

Dec. 8 (Wed), 9 (Thu)

Sankei Hall Breeze, Osaka City

Dec. 11 (Sat)

Ashikaga Shimin Kaikan, Ashikaga, Tochigi

Dec. 14 (Tue)

Tokyo Electron Hall, Sendai, Miyagi

Dec. 15 (Wed)

Kanagawa Kenmin Kaikan Hall Dai-Hall, Yokohama, Kanagawa

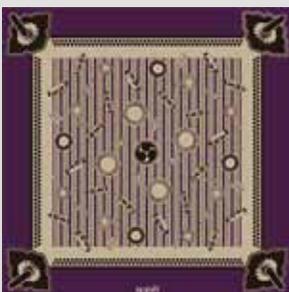
Dec. 17 (Fri) – 19 (Sat)

Bunkyo Civic Hall Dai-Hall, Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo

🌀 Kodo Online Store in English ~ Autumn Update 🌀

We are pleased to welcome some new items to the [Kodo Online Store in English](#): 6 (roku)-sun size (18cm) and 7(nana)-sun (21cm) size jangara cymbals, tassels to match, and a purple furoshiki (Japanese wrapping cloth, approx. 90 cm. square). Kodo members use furoshiki to carry and protect their stage costumes, which is just one of the many uses of this sturdy, elegant and versatile cloth.

If you are a Friends of Kodo member, please email your order to store.eng@kodo.or.jp with your membership number to receive discounts on selected products.



Furoshiki, featuring Kodo motifs including taiko, drumsticks, and lanterns



Jangara, designed by Kodo members for use on the Kodo stage



Jangara tassels, both functional and decorative



Kodo Performance Schedule 2010~2011

SOLO PROJECTS ABROAD

October-December: Shogo Yoshii in *"Babel"* by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Damien Jalet and Antony Gormley - Europe

ONE EARTH TOUR 2010

October-November: Europe & Israel - Switzerland, United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands, Austria

SCHOOL WORKSHOP-PERFORMANCE TOUR IN JAPAN

October-November: Niigata, Tokushima, Chiba, Yamanashi, Aichi, Kyoto, Mie, Kanagawa, Tokyo, Tochigi

KODO DECEMBER CONCERTS IN JAPAN

A compilation of the best of 2010, this show will set the tone for Kodo as the group transitions into its 30th anniversary year.

December: Sado, Niigata, Nagoya, Osaka, Ashikaga, Sendai, Yokohama, Tokyo

KODO PERFORMANCES 2011: COMING UP NEXT YEAR

In 2011 Kodo will celebrate its milestone 30th anniversary. We are planning tours in North America and throughout Japan next year.

ONE EARTH TOUR 2011

January-March: North America
May-December: Japan



A hush falls over the audience as the wind, taiko and voices fill the night air during "Monochrome"

Kodo One Earth Tour 2010 ~ Autumn

Israel, Switzerland,
United Kingdom, Germany,
Netherlands, Austria



- Oct. 1: Tel Aviv, Israel (The Israeli Opera)
- Oct. 2: Tel Aviv, Israel (Mann Auditorium)
- Oct. 4: Haifa, Israel
- Oct. 5: Jerusalem, Israel
- Oct. 9: Lugano, Switzerland
- Oct. 12: Aberdeen, UK
- Oct. 15: Gateshead, UK
- Oct. 16: Liverpool, UK
- Oct. 17: Manchester, UK
- Oct. 19: Bristol, UK
- Oct. 20: Cardiff, UK
- Oct. 21: Nottingham, UK
- Oct. 23: Edinburgh, UK
- Oct. 25-26: Munich, Germany
- Oct. 28: Rosenheim, Germany
- Oct. 30: Stuttgart, Germany
- Nov. 1: Nuremberg, Germany
- Nov. 3: Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Nov. 6: Vienna, Austria

For updated schedules and box office details, please visit our website:
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The ceramic arts have a long tradition on Sado Island. Of special interest is Mumyoiyaki ceramic ware, made with a clay taken from soil extracted from the gold mine. It contains a large quantity of fine iron and has a deep, rich color. Visitors to the Traditional Crafts Museum in Aikawa can try making traditional Sado ceramic ware for themselves.



KODO

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Aizome (indigo-dyed) hand-woven fabric; Sado Island.

Resources

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Photography in this issue: Benjamin MiNiMuM (Mondomix), Tadayuki Naitoh, Tam Stewart, and Kodo's Taro Nishita, Melanie Taylor

EC artwork: Hideaki Masago

Editorial, design and production: Melanie Taylor and Tam Stewart

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