
KODO 45TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE PERFORMANCE II
KODO ONE EARTH TOUR 2026
LUMINANCE

Kodo has been touring the globe under the banner “One Earth” for over four decades, giving over 7500 performances in 50 countries and regions around the world to date. Our mission remains the same: to connect myriad cultures and ways of life by reminding people of our common bonds as human beings. This ongoing journey has taken us from places of wonder—stellar concert halls and renowned festivals—to places of struggle—outdoor stages with neighbouring slums, and audiences of refugees who fled across borders from the horrors of war. Everywhere we go, we strive to bring people together through the resonant sound of taiko.

In Luminance, we will share signature pieces that Kodo has honed through decades of world tours, including the mighty O-daiko drum solo and climactic Yatai-bayashi finale. We will pay homage to Maki Ishii’s masterpiece Monochrome, celebrating its 50th year in 2026, and present new works born from the encounters and inspirations by current Kodo members, inspired by the sights and experiences of their global travels with the ensemble. For the first time in decades, we will also feature original compositions by guest artists from a range of genres—musicians we’ve connected throughout our journey.

We hope the sound and energy we conjure in Luminance will keep radiating outwards, making the world a brighter place tomorrow.

Programme

[Part 1]

Prologue (Composed by Yuki Hirata, 2025)

Shine a Light (Composed by Yuki Hirata, 2019)

Rejoice (Composed by Yuki Hirata, 2024)

Stride (Composed by Mitsuru Ishizuka, 2010)

Sepia Foothills (Composed by Yuta Sumiyoshi, 2024)

Kiyari, Miyake (Traditional, arranged by Kodo)

E from “Oni” (Composed by Keiko Harada, 2022)

Monochrome (Composed by Maki Ishii, 1976)

[Part 2]

Demon Scales (Composed by Yuta Sumiyoshi, 2023)

Ten-Ten, Games (Composed by Koshiro Hino, 2021)

O-daiko (Traditional, arranged by Kodo, Seita Saegusa, Kodai Yoshida)

Yatai-bayashi (Traditional, arranged by Kodo)

Directed by Yuki Hirata (Kodo)

Kodo Performers

Jun Jidai
Ryoma Tsurumi
Reo Kitabayashi
Kodai Yoshida
Seita Saegusa
Shun Takuma
Kei Sadanari
Moe Niiyama
Junpei Nonaka
Kazuma Hirosaki
Hana Ogawa
Shizuku Katsube
Toji Harada

The following pieces are based on these regional traditional performing arts:
Koe: Kanatsu-ryu Yanagawa Shishi Odori (Oshu, Iwate)
Miyake: Miyake-jima Kamitsuki Mikoshi Daiko (Miyake Island, Tokyo)
Demon Scales: Onidaiko (Sado Island, Niigata)
Yatai-bayashi: Chichibu Yatai-bayashi (Chichibu, Saitama)

“E from “Oni””: “Oni was composed for “Noism x Kodo” (directed and choreographed by Jo Kanamori, premiere date: July 1, 2022), a project planned and produced by Ryutopia Niigata City Performing Arts Center.

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Kodo

Exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, the taiko, Kodo is forging new directions for a vibrant living art-form. Since the group's debut at the Berlin Festival in 1981, Kodo has given over 7,500 performances on all five continents, spending about a third of the year overseas, a third touring in Japan and a third rehearsing and preparing new material on Sado Island.

Kodo strives to both preserve and re-interpret traditional Japanese performing arts. Beyond this, members on tours and research trips all over the globe have brought back to Sado a kaleidoscope of world music and experiences which now exerts a strong influence on the group's performances and compositions. Collaborations with other artists and composers extend right across the musical spectrum and Kodo's lack of preconceptions about its music continues to produce startling new fusion and forms.



Lighting Designer: Kenichi Mashiko (S.L.S.)
Technical Director: Kei Olivier Furukata
Stage Manager: Takeshi Arai, Kazuki Imagai
Assistant Stage Manager: Koki Miura, Natsumi Ikenaga
Production Manager: Mio Teycheney-Takashiro
Tour Managers: Natsumi Ikenaga, Natalie Hommel
Trainer: Kiyoaki Sakai

Promotion: Taro Nishita
Photographer: Takashi Okamoto
Promotional Video Director: Sokichi Sogawa
Promotional Artwork: Rie Kanamori (Signal Inc.)

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Government of Japan

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LUMINANCE Tour



Kodo Performers



Kodo Tours



Earth Celebration



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