

WARABE

Let your soul dance to the rhythm of life.

In Japanese, the word “Kodo” holds a double meaning. It can be translated as “heartbeat,” the primal source of all rhythm. However, our group’s name is written with different characters, which mean “drum” and “child.” This reflects Kodo’s desire to play the drums with the simple heart of a child. For our 40th anniversary, we created two works based on our name: “Tsuzumi” takes its name and theme from the drum character, and “Warabe” from the child element.

In “Warabe,” Kodo looks to its classic repertoire and aesthetics from the ensemble’s early days. This production blends simple forms of taiko expression that celebrate the unique sound, resonance, and physicality synonymous with Kodo—forever children of the drum at heart.

Come and experience the soul-stirring rhythm of life firsthand.

Director
Yuichiro Funabashi

Programme

[Part 1]

Koe

Composed by Yuta Sumiyoshi, dance arranged by Koki Miura (2021)

Miyake

Arranged by Kodo

Niwaka

Composed by Masayasu Maeda (2021)

Hae

Composed by Motofumi Yamaguchi (1982)

Uminari

Composed by Yuta Sumiyoshi (2021)

[Part 2]

Shinka

Composed by Koki Miura (2021)

Okoshi

Composed by Masayasu Maeda, dance arranged by Koki Miura (2021)

Dokuso

Composed by Reo Kitabayashi (2021)

Inochi

Composed by Ryotaro Leo Ikenaga (2021)

O-daiko

Arranged by Kodo, Kenta Nakagome/Kodai Yoshida

Yatai-bayashi

Traditional, arranged by Kodo

Kodo Performers

Eiichi Saito

Kenta Nakagome

Jun Jidai

Koki Miura

Reo Kitabayashi

Masayasu Maeda

Kodai Yoshida

Seita Saegusa

Chie Yamawaki

Taiyo Onoda

Shun Takuma

Moe Niiyama

Jumpei Nonaka

Kazuma Hirosaki



To Kodo Website> [Members of Kodo Taiko Performing Arts Ensemble](#)

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)

Okoshi: Onidaiko and Shishi (Sado Island, Niigata)

Yatai-bayashi: Chichibu Yatai-bayashi (Chichibu, Saitama)

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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 7,000 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.

Music Advisor: Tatsuya Shimono
Voice Instructor: Yumi Nogami
Posture & Movement Instructor: Tatsuo Kudo

Lighting Designer: Kenichi Mashiko (S.L.S.)
Technical Director: Kei Olivier Furukata
Stage Manager: Takeshi Arai
Assistant Stage Manager: Ryoma Tsurumi

Production Manager: Mio Teycheney-Takashiro
Tour Managers: Natsumi Ikenaga, Manami Kuriyama
Trainer: Kiyooki Sakai

Photographer: Takashi Okamoto
Promotional Video Director: Sokichi Sogawa
Promotional Artwork: Hiroomi Hattori (COM Works)
Special Thanks: Ranjo, Shingo Tokihiro, Kawachi Wakate, Rengebuji Temple, Kodo Cultural Foundation Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan

Planning & Production Company:
Kitamaesen Co., Ltd.



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Government of Japan

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Asakusa Concerts



Earth Celebration



Kodo Taiko School



Kodo Apprentice Centre



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