



amanojaku

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Amanojaku 20th Anniversary Concert “Soul Beat”

English Program

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the 20th anniversary of our taiko ensemble Amanojaku. Twenty years make up practically a generation, and today gives me an opportunity to look back on those years. We see life as a never-ending path as we strive to perfect our music and claim our place in the legacy of taiko as an art form.

Today, we are proud to present three new compositions:

- “Toshin Susano-o” is a rearrangement of a 1994 composition, which explores the limitless possibilities and diverse voices of the taiko drum.
- On “Goshiki no Taiko” each player showcases his or her individuality on the odaiko, forming a breathtaking vortex of sound with each beat.
- “Kaiun ~Inori·Negai~” expresses respect to our ancestors, and a deep gratitude for the blessed life that we have inherited. Through this music, we hope to instill the fading Japanese spirit in the hearts of the next generation.

We hope you enjoy today’s performance, and thank you always for supporting the music.

渡辺洋一

Yoichi Watanabe

Amanojaku Founder and Leader

This performance may not be recorded without the expressed written consent of Amanojaku.

Amanojaku

〒177-0035 5-9-11-101 Minami Tanaka Nerima-ku Tokyo, Japan

TEL:03-3904-1745 FAX:03-3904-9434 E-Mail: taikoshudan@amanojaku.info

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First Set

1. Toshin Susano-o (Composed 1994, Rearranged 2006 by Yoichi Watanabe)

When the spirit of the listener flickers as shadows on his back,
The ancient god possesses almighty power

2. Bujin (Composed 1994 by Yoichi Watanabe)

No one has ever witnessed such drumming
Now, the body fills with an awesome trepidation

3. Kagura (Composed 1994 by Yoichi Watanabe)

Sound pierces space
The heart remembers a forgotten past

4. Aioi (Composed 1994 by Mayumi Kawana and Hiromi Ogawa)

Time over time, the two breathe to coexist with a timeless moment

5. Dotou (Composed 1999 by Yoichi Watanabe)

A thunderous voice set free by the waves

Second Set

1. Goshiki no Taiko (Composed 2006 by Yoichi Watanabe)

The glorious world of light spreads, reaching all,
Turns into hues of five different colors

2. Kaiun ~Inori·Negai~ (Composed 2006 by Yoichi Watanabe)

The fountain of concentrated sound
The stoic guardian of the passage of time

3. Kokyo (Composed 1994 by Kyosuke Suzuki)

A fading melody
Tantalizing, exhilarating moods

4. Tamashii no Hibiki (Composed 1994 by Yoichi Watanabe)

The spiritual fire of life
The echoing beat of your soul

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