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For Immediate Release

Hear Amanojaku on the iTunes Music Store

(TOKYO) Amanojaku, one of the world's most respected taiko (Japanese drum) ensembles, released six of the group's trademark pieces for online purchase on the iTunes Music Store. (http://www.apple.com/jp/itunes/)

"We've always wanted to make our music more accessible, especially to people overseas, and the Internet has provided us with a great opportunity," said Yoichi Watanabe, who founded Amanojaku in 1986.

Individual songs cost JPY 150 (\$0.99 in the US) and the entire album "Soul Beat" can be purchased for JPY 1,500 (\$9.99). Among the songs is "Kagura," a piece that contains an expansive vocabulary of global percussion, from Japanese festival music to Latin rhythmical patterns. Another is "Bujin," which conveys the choreographical moves, staccato rhythms and selfless courage of samurai swordsmen, a work that is exemplary of the pioneering Amanojaku sound.

About Amanojaku - http://amanojaku.info

Amanojaku's sound features a distinctive modernity combined with traditional techniques. The group has toured over 40 nations, including Thailand ('06), the United States ('05) and Brazil ('04). Amanojaku has performed at the prestigious Japanese National Theatre four times.

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