

WADAIKO 遠 TOKARA

October 2013

Upcoming Performances and Workshops

- **October 19th - 24th:** *Japan week performances in Poznan, Poland*
- **October 30th:** *Kazakoshi World Tour Bis Zentrum Mönchengladbach, Germany 20:00 Uhr*
- **December 31st:** *Tokara New Year Mini Concert Hotel Keizan Hirugami Onsen, Achi Village, Nagano Prefecture, Japan*
- **January 1st:** *Tokara New Year Mini Concert, Seifuuen Hotel, Hirugami Onsen, Achi Village, Nagano Prefecture, Japan*
- **January 2nd:** *Tokara New Year Mini Concert, Hanaya Hotel, Hirugami Onsen, Achi Village, Nagano Prefecture, Japan*
- **April - May:** *Canada Tour*
- **June 28:** *Saiwai Shimoina Wadaiko Festival, Iida City Kouminkan Theatre, Iida City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan*
- **July 6:** *Kazakoshi World Tour, Kita Bunka Sho Gekijyo Nagoya City, Japan*
- **July 25:** *Kazakoshi World Tour, Ina City Youth Education Center, Ina City, Japan*
- **July 26:** *Kazakoshi World Tour, Performing Arts Forum Theater, Takayama City, Japan*
- **July 27:** *Tengei Japan Tour, Gujo City, Japan*



Working with Rhythms in Frauenfeld, Switzerland

To Deutschland and Beyond

Written by Dean Havixbeck.

Happy Autumn Tokara fans! We have been busy as usual so let's get right into it. So we have settled in Mönchengladbach Germany. And from here, launched into a flurry of workshops. We began by trekking to Frauenfeld, Switzerland for a weekend workshop. After two fun filled muscle tiring days, we were treated to a wonderful cheese fondu dinner. Plus, on the way back we were able to make a small side trip [here](#). Other workshops found us in Brussels, directing over one hundred

extremely excited participants; back in Antwerp with our friends from Feniks taiko hosting the space for a satisfying day of hard taiko training; then over to Frankfurt to see our friends at Sakura no Ki Taiko who provided space for a great two days of taiko practice and finally in our own back yard in Mönchengladbach. The studio here was literally on the first floor of our apartment building in which we are the only current residents, so no noise complaints for us.

As for performances, after the exciting time in Edinburgh, we wanted to make sure we took those good energies



The calm before a very lively workshop



Performing on the river in Gent, Belgium

with Art sensei himself striking one big DON! What happened after that, well you can watch it and some of our performance from [here](#).

Next we return to our back yard again. Not only do we have a rehearsal space for practicing and hosting workshops, but next door is also a small theatre where we performed to a sold out crowd! And what a crowd they were. I can safely say at this point I have been lucky enough to have played in a variety of venues for both large and small audiences. Thankfully every audience, although unique for each show, respond

with us, and boy did we ever do that when we went to Gent, Belgium for the Festival of Flanders. This turned out to be an extremely exciting weekend. Grete from Feniks Taiko joined us again and on concert day we performed two sets for increasingly enthusiastic audiences at the Capitole Theatre. The evening however, turned out to be the climax of the trip. We ended the night opening for the Symphonic Orchestra of the Vlaamse Opera on a stage built on the river running through the middle of the city. The beginning of the evening concert began



An explosion of sound



Studying control in Mönchengladbach

they kept their energy up right through the entire show, giving back to us as much as we gave to them. What a show to remember!

Finally, we arrive in Frankfurt to perform at the Internationales Theater. This was our first performance in the city since our wonderful adventure two years ago with the Japan Week festival. The workshop the weekend before, the lovely little town of Schmitten where we stayed for the week, and the concert were an excellent way to say farewell to September and hello to the autumn weather coming our way.



Smiling faces after the workshop in Frankfurt, Germany

positively to our performances. I must say though, the audience applause at Bis Zentrum theatre after our first song was so thunderous, that it felt as if we had just played the whole show. I also have to admit that it made me a little worried that they would not be so energized at the end. However, it was astonishing to see that



New banners on display for the concert in Mönchengladbach

So here we are in October, with winter approaching and the end of our European tour on the horizon. So stay tuned on Twitter and Facebook for updates on our continuing adventures and for the next newsletter for more highlights including our third appearance in the Japan Week festival in Poland! Until then, take care and have fun spreading rhythms around!

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Check out Wadaiko Tokara's first CD!!! Please
click on the link below to get your copy today!

www.tokara.net/info/ttuccd.html

To see videos and pictures of the 2013 tour,
follow the links below:

[Performance Schedule](#)

[Tokara on YouTube](#)

[Tokara on Facebook](#)

[Tokara on Twitter](#)

Upcoming Workshops and Classes

INADANI TAIKO DRUMMING COURSE GRAND TOUR

Beginners/Intermediate Course

June 23 - 28, 2014

This course is designed for the purpose of bringing the taiko practitioner closer to understanding the art that is Wadaiko in Japan. For this reason, the training site, nestled between the mountains of Shimoina, was specifically chosen to enhance an experience and atmosphere which cannot be had in any other country of the world. This course offers a unique experience as it takes place in the heart of Nagano Prefecture, Japan. Each participant will be surrounded by and immersed in the culture from which comes the heart and spirit of the Wadaiko.

Details can be found on the course website:

www.tokara.net/japantaikocourse.html

TOKARA WADAIKO BOOTCAMP

Intermediate Course/Advanced Course

August 11 - 15, 2014

The TOKARA Wadaiko Camp (also known as TOKARA Boot Camp) is an intensive course which introduces the participant to the training style of Tokara's full-time performing members. All material taught in this course are drills and performance pieces used by Art Lee and Tokara.

Registration details can be found at:

www.tokara.net/taikocamp.html

Thank you for supporting us throughout the years. We look forward to seeing you again in the near future.