

# WADAIKO 遙 TOKARA

Spring 2014

## Upcoming Performances

### Kazakoshi World Tour

May 2  
Kelowna Community Theater  
Kelowna, BC, Canada

July 6  
Nagoya Kita Bunka Sho Gekijyo  
Nagoya City, Japan

July 12  
Iida Kouminkan Theater  
Iida City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan

July 25  
Ina City Youth Education Center  
Ina City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan

July 26  
Performing Arts Forum Theater  
Takayama City, Japan

### Haruka naru Hibiki Japan Tour

May 16th  
Kelowna Community Theatre  
Kelowna, BC, Canada

June 7  
Higashimino Fureai Theater  
Nakatsukawa City, Gifu Prefecture, Japan

June 29  
Komaki Toubu Shimin Center Theater  
Komaki City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan

July 13  
Nihon Manmanaka Center Theater  
Gujō City, Gifu Prefecture, Japan

July 18  
Yao City Culture Center Theater  
Osaka, Japan

July 27  
Yaotsu Community Center Theater  
Yaotsu, Gifu Prefecture, Japan

August 1  
Kasugai Toubu Shimin Center Theater  
Kasugai City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan

August 2  
Kawagoe Aiai Center Theatre  
Kawagoe, Mie Prefecture, Ja

### Saiwai Shimoina Wadaiko Festival

June 28  
Iida City Kouminkan Theater  
Iida City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan

### September - December

Kazakoshi Europe Tour

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## Happy 10th Anniversary Tokara!

Written by Dean Havixbeck.

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Hello Tokara Fans! Welcome to the spring edition of the Tokara Newsletter. As you can see from the schedule above, we have been anything but idle since the beginning of the new year. Let's bring you up to speed on what we've been up to and what we have in store.



*Drumming in the New Year*

We celebrated New Years with what has become somewhat of a tradition with Tokara, our annual New Year performances in the Hirugami Onsen area of Achi village. For those of you that have not attended our week long workshops series, the INADANI Taiko Drumming Course, or Tokara Wadaiko Bootcamp, this area is where the participants stay while attending the above mentioned workshops. This year we had 5 performances over 3 days. It was a fantastic way to energise the team for the year ahead.



*Full of energy for the new year!*

And that energy has already been put to good use. The second half of our Kazakoshi World Tour is about to begin. This half of the two year tour will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Wadaiko Tokara. The group was officially created on March 7th, 2004. Ten years may seem like a long time, but when you are in the middle of a group that is constantly in pursuit of improving itself, that time can seem like a blink of an eye.

So it will most likely be no surprise that along with our tour we have organised another tour along with Ensemble Liberta titled: Haruka naru Hibiki. For those of you unfamiliar with this group, you will be in for a real surprise. Ensemble Liberta is a wonderfully melodic cast of musicians, blending the sounds of koto, shakuhachi, double bass, keyboard and percussion. Their



sound is as dynamic as their style, ranging from traditional Japanese to Latin and contemporary. It will be a joy to tour with them again.

Our tour will begin again in Canada, in the city of Kelowna BC with two concerts, a workshop and school performances in the surrounding area. From there, it is back to Japan with another full schedule of concerts and workshops including the [INADANI Taiko Drumming Course](#) and [Tokara Wadaiko Bootcamp](#) as well as our annual [Saiwai Shimoina Wadaiko Festival](#). Our special guests this year include [Hanyui](#) (Kodo - Sado Island), Feniks Taiko (Belgium) and Wadaiko STAGE CREW GINYUDAJIN (Iida City, Nagano). As you can see, the [lineup](#) for the super show is packed with excitement. So if you find yourself in the area, this is one festival you will not want to miss. Finally, we will be returning to Europe in the fall, where we will finish out the rest of the tour. Details on the Europe portion of the tour are forthcoming, so stay tuned.

Last but not least, Wadaiko Tokara has created a special photo booklet to support our Free for Schools Project. In order to raise the funds, we have put together a book of the best photos of our tour from last year. All proceeds from sales of the booklet are to be put towards funding to offer free performances to schools who do not have the necessary arts budget for cultural activities.



Please click on this picture to see more information to contribute to an amazing cause.

And with that, we bring this newsletter to a close. Remember, to keep up to date with all things Tokara, follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), as well as checking in on the [website](#) for up to date information on our concerts, workshops and traveling adventures. Until next time, enjoy the coming spring and see you out there on the road!

# WADAIKO 遙 TOKARA



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[Tokara Newsletter subscription site](#)

## Check out Wadaiko Tokara's first CD and DVD



## 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

### Wadaiko Tokara Workshop Series in Kelowna

**2014 May 24**

LEVEL: All Levels

\*\*\* Participation Fee - \$55 per person per workshop\*\*\*

#### **The Journey to a Powerful Chichibu Yatai Bayashi**

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

#### **The Ultimate Miyake Daiko**

Time: 13:00 - 15:00

#### **Learn to play Shime Daiko like a Boss**

Time: 16:00 - 18:00

Place: [Rotary Center for the Arts \(Dance Studio\)](#)

Kelowna, Canada

[Details here](#)

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The Inadani Taiko Drumming Course is full. If you are still interested in attending one of Tokara's workshops in Japan, you can always look in to:

#### 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](http://www.tokara.net/taikocamp.html)

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