

## Quotes

“Tokara has created the jazziest most exciting style of Taiko Music you will ever have experienced” - **Exeter Barnfield Theatre (April 2013)**

“Visually enthralling, culturally enlightening, musically invigorating. FIVE STARS” -**Three Weeks (August 2013)**

## Audience Reviews

“This was a fantastic show - a rare chance to experience excellent taiko in an intimate space. The performers have a wonderful and beautiful energy - you will feel uplifted to have experienced their love for and dedication to their art form. I loved their intricate rhythms and fusing of different styles and was blown away by their musicianship and energy. If you've never seen anyone play the big odaiko drum before, don't miss this.” - **Helen Price, Edinburgh (2013)**

“If you go to one show at the Fringe make it this one. Exciting, dynamic, energetic. The performers give it their absolute all. We were transfixed throughout. If they are back next year so will we be.” -**Donald Graham (2013)**

“Taiko drumming at its most skilful. The expertise, commitment, sensitivity, musicality and raucous enthusiasm of Tokara is an inspiration to anyone who has every tried to master an instrument. But then, Art Lee is widely acknowledged as the grand master of taiko, need I say more? Go whilst you have the opportunity to see them, you will leave inspired.” -**Anna Jones (2013)**

Joy, power, speed, discipline, emotion, talent...

Heart pumping, floor shaking, mesmeric drumming!

All performed by Tokara, a Japanese based multicultural Taiko drumming group performing at the fringe...

awesome....

and for the grand climax, you can dance, clap, jump around, take photos and be a part of the experience... -**Clare McIntyre (2013)**

“I came to see the show twice in Edinburgh but it would have been everyday if I had stayed for longer. Loved every second of it. Really well done” -**Robin Craigie (2013)**

“I've watched you today twice and I think you are really great band. I've never thought I will like listen to drums. Your job is amazing, especially that I saw so much passion and energy in you when you performed on the stage. You are wonderful, I guess Poland love you all:) You're so true.” -**Izabela Chmiel (2013)**

## Media Reviews

“Music is made into martial art by Wadaiko Tokara, here all the way from Japan. Sharp and swift as swordsmen, this renowned, ethnically diverse group master breath-taking force and graceful beauty. Moments of intense focus merge into outbursts of joy, bringing an original beat to the ancient Japanese discipline of taiko drumming. With expert precision, and including informative, friendly explanation, the famous performer Art Lee and his fellows also seize the chance to have some fun. The imagination is transported away from the grey skies of Edinburgh; the eyes are opened to the versatility of percussion. With your seat shaking, your heart reverberating, you'll enjoy it just as much as the artists themselves. Visually enthralling, culturally enlightening, musically invigorating. Five Stars.” -**Three Weeks (2013)**

“Wadaiko Tokara, a Taiko drumming group from Japan is currently in the Edinburgh Fringe as part of a world tour. In this era of health and safety awareness, a sign by the booking office tells all; ‘Mountain Wind: patrons should be aware that this production contains drumming’. It sure does! And get this, some of it is very loud and very fast. It is also enjoyably infectious. Taiko drumming melds together a very fluid style of drumming, dance and martial arts. One of the pieces is an arrangement of a traditional item but this repertoire adds a number of original compositions by the group's affable founder and artistic director, Art Lee. These four performers are very fit – and no wonder – they all do 200 push-ups and 400m sit-ups and a 12km run every morning before breakfast. It shows, too in the disciplined choreography of this performance.

If you like percussion, this show is unmissable. It's banging great fun. Five Stars.”

-**Counter Culture (2013)**