

# TAIKOz

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## THANKS ALL 'ROUND

First of all, I would like to thank you for your support of TaikoZ in 2001. It has been an exciting and challenging year for the group and none of it would have been possible without the enthusiasm and encouragement of our supporters. With our debut performances in Japan earlier this year, training with Eitetsu Hayashi and two demanding national tours, it has been a busy but fulfilling period in the group's evolution.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to all the weekly taiko students who have shown great keenness and aptitude in their quest for discovering more about the art of Wadaiko. It is our pleasure to have the opportunity to pass on some of our knowledge of this fascinating music and help grow awareness of the wonderful tradition that is taiko.

## TAKUMI TAKANO

2002 is shaping up to be similarly exciting, with two undoubted highlights - the return visit of **Eitetsu Hayashi** and TaikoZ debut of **Takumi Takano**.

In February and March TaikoZ will be undertaking its most arduous tour to date, with some 20 concerts in two weeks in Adelaide and Sydney. However, giving us strength and inspiration will be our special guest artist, Takumi Takano - one of Japan's finest players of the *yokobue* (bamboo transverse flute).

A most effervescent and gregarious personality, Takumi-san plays both the yokobue and taiko with a light and joyous spirit. He was a colleague of both Riley and Eitetsu in the original, now legendary, Ondekoza and currently maintains a busy and rigorous performing, teaching and fitness schedule. Takumi-san exudes an enviable and inspirational healthiness of mind and body that is reflected in the liveliness and humanity of his music making.

If you are in **Adelaide** from **February 25 to March 3** please come and see us at the Fringe Festival in the beautiful **Elder Hall**. Or if in **Sydney**, at the **Studio of the Opera House** from **March 6 to 10**. (Full details on the web site).

## EITETSU HAYASHI

It is also our great pleasure to announce Eitetsu's return to Sydney in 2002. With concerto performances with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on July 25, 26, 27 and 29 and **with TaikoZ** at the **Enmore Theatre** on **August 3**, Eitetsu is sure to shake us all up with the explosive power and supreme mastery of his playing. If you have not seen Eitetsu before - and even if you have (!) – please don't miss either of these electrifying events.

See you in the New Year!