

# TAIKOz

Vol.3 No.1 January 2003

## KENICHI KOIZUMI JOINS TAIKOZ FOR 2003

TaikOz is very pleased to announce a special guest member for 2003. His name is Kenichi Koizumi and he is a very dynamic young player who specializes in Ōdaiko and katsugi-okedo. Kenichi will be take part in all of our concerts from March to November. He will also teach regular classes in Sydney, as well as taking workshops and seminars throughout the year. We all look forward to hearing him on the concert platforms of Australia. This is Kenichi's first visit here and he's really looking forward to experiencing our country and culture. **Welcome Kenichi!!**

We first met Kenichi in 2001 when we were all training with Eitetsu Hayashi at Otaiko Hills for performances at Kaikyousai in Kobe. He is a member of Eitetsu's 'Fuun no Kai' and comes to Australia with Eitetsu's recommendation.

Kenichi is from Saitama, a prefecture North-west of Tokyo. He started playing the taiko at age 10 and has been playing professionally since 1995. Apart from working with Eitetsu, he regularly presents his own solo concerts - often at the popular 'Live House' in Tokyo. In 2002 he was selected to perform with Eitetsu's small group on tours to Korea, America and France.  
'Gambatte, Kenichi!'

### JAPAN VISIT

Graham, Masae and I have recently returned from very stimulating sojourns in Japan. One of the many highlights was a week in Chichibu, Saitama-ken attending Yataibayashi practices under the watchful eye of the President of Drummers' Organization for Preserving Intangible Cultural Property of Japan, Mr Toshio Takahashi. This was a great chance to hear and see the different 'machi' (district groups) practicing hard for the following week's Yo-matsuri, which takes place annually on Dec 2 and 3 (and has done for over 350 years!) For over a decade I've been keen to attend this matsuri (festival), and I must say that it was, in the end, a truly amazing experience. The six 'dashi' (festival floats) are spectacularly beautiful. Standing over 15m, and dressed in their finery of silk, lacquer, gold and mother-of-pearl, they make a grand and imposing sight. The taiko teams crowd onto the top of the chassis of the dashi - which is hidden by curtains - and beat the rhythms of Yataibayashi from 9 in the morning to 10 at night. When the thunderous cacophony of the competing rhythms mixes with a crowd of 100,000 or more, it makes for an exquisitely exciting experience.

## **SYDNEY WADAIKO CLASSES TO BEGIN IN 2003**

After our return from Brisbane the Sydney Wadaiko classes for 2003 will be up and running. We still have a few places available for Monday and Wednesday evenings so please ring or email soon to make your booking.

This year we are introducing two new classes specifically for young adults and children. Anyone can join and we aim to make it fun, invigorating and educational. We will explore the rhythms of the taiko, study several styles of playing and learn about the history of the instruments and their culture. Hope to see you there!

Details are as follows...

**WHERE: TaikOz Dojo 46-42 Wattle St, Ultimo (p: 9552 3836) (opposite Wentworth Park)**

**WHEN:**

• **ADULTS GROUP' (Age 23 and over) Mondays 7 - 8.30pm**

**TERM 1: Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, Apr 7, 14**

**TERM 2: Apr 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, Jun 2, 9, 16**

• **ADULTS GROUP' (Age 23 and over) Wednesdays 7 - 8.30pm**

**TERM 1: Feb 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26, Apr 9, 16**

**TERM 2: Apr 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, Jun 4, 11, 18**

• **YOUNG ADULTS' GROUP (Age 15-22) Fridays 7 - 8.30pm**

**TERM 1: Feb 28, Mar 7, 14, 21, Apr 11**

**TERM 2: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Jun 6, 13, 20**

• **CHILDREN'S GROUP (Age 7- 14) Saturdays 12.30 - 1.30pm (please note that this a 12.30 arrival for a 12.40 start)**

**TERM 1: Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, Apr 12**

**TERM 2: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Jun 7, 14, 21**

**COST: "Adults' Group" Term 1: \$184.80 (incl GST) Term 2: \$211.20 (incl GST)**

**"Young Adults' Group" Term 1: \$93.50 (incl GST) Term 2: \$149.60 (incl GST)**

**"Children's Group" Term 1: \$55 (incl GST) Term 2: \$88 (incl GST)**

**(Please note that all new students are required to purchase bachi (sticks) at a cost of \$35 a pair.)**

**HOW TO BOOK:** Please contact Greg Johns on **02 9703 2008** or [admin@taikoz.com](mailto:admin@taikoz.com) to reserve a place. Send a cheque or Money Order to:

**TaikOz**

**PO Box 499**

**Dulwich Hill 2203**

## **POWERHOUSE WORKSHOPS**

TaikOz will be in Brisbane on February 7 for a 10-day residency at the Powerhouse. In conjunction with our performances we will be holding Wadaiko Workshops for anyone interested in learning more about the instruments, their history and the music. Although the "4-Day Intensive" has sold out there are

places still available in the four 2-hour "Introduction to Wadaiko" sessions and Riley Lee's "Breathing Workshops". The times and costs are as follows:

**INTRODUCTION TO WADAIKO 1:**

*Friday February 7, 8-10pm: \$50*

**INTRODUCTION TO WADAIKO 2:**

*Saturday February 8, 1.30-3.30pm: \$50*

**INTRODUCTION TO WADAIKO 3:**

*Sunday February 9, 1.30-3.30pm: \$50*

**INTRODUCTION TO WADAIKO 4:**

*Monday February 10, 4.30-6.30pm: \$50*

**BREATHING with RILEY LEE 1:**

*Saturday February 8, 1.30-4.30: \$50*

**BREATHING with RILEY LEE 2:**

*Sunday February 9, 9.30-12.30: \$50*

If you are interested in any of the sessions on offer please email or phone Kerryn to reserve your place: [kerryn@taikoz.com](mailto:kerryn@taikoz.com) (h) (07) 3876 4048 (mob) 0417 643 365.

**BRISBANE POWERHOUSE PERFORMANCES**

Bookings at Powerhouse Box Office 07 3358 8600 or online at

<http://www.brisbanepowerhouse.org>

**GENERAL PUBLIC SHOWS:** Wed 12 thru Sat 15 Feb 2003 @ 7pm and Sat 15 Feb @ 3pm

*Full Price: \$32.00 Concessions: Student: \$25.00 Pensioner: \$25.00 Unemployed: \$25.00*

*Frank Theatre Summer Arts Program participants: \$25.00 - Friday Feb 14 @ 7pm only*

*Groups (10 or more): 15% discount*

*Preview - Wed 12 @ 7pm: \$20 (limit 100 tickets only @ \$20 then normal prices to be charged as above)*

**SCHOOL SHOWS:** Wed 12 and Thu 13 Feb 2003 @ 10am. *All tickets: \$12*

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