

TAIKOz

Vol.4 No.2 April 2004

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Thank you to all of our Adelaide audience for their support of our concerts at **The Fringe**. We really enjoyed presenting the program and were pleased to meet some of you after the concerts. The workshops were also great fun - we were very impressed with the way everyone threw themselves into it, playing with such fervour!

We've had some interesting response from some people who saw the group in 2001 - their overall feeling was that the Elder Hall was a better venue for TaikoZ, both in terms of audience access, as well as hearing and seeing the performance. We'd appreciate more feedback on this issue, so if you'd care to let us know please send through an email to info@taikoz.com

Thanks too to Sydney-siders – it was fantastic to see a full house for our **Maki Ishii tribute concert**. This program was very close to our hearts and the idea of presenting all of his works for taiko has been on our minds for a long time. I have no doubt that Ishii-san would have loved the concert – I'm only sorry that he didn't live long enough to make it to Australia.

Thanks to Synergy members **Alison Eddington** and **Phil South**, who played with such skill and understanding, and the wonderful **Satsuki Odamura** for her beautiful koto sounds. An extra thanks to Phil for his new piece, **Abduction** – pieces like this are essential to the long term development of taiko in Australia.

Congratulations to all of our students for the wonderful concert at '**Home**' on March 13. The Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday groups all did themselves proud. I would like to extend a special thank you to Monday-nighter **Terry Ashman** for his help in securing the venue, seating and ticketing and to the other volunteers who assisted in setting up, catering and transporting instruments. The afternoon was a great success and we're already looking forward to the next one!

Graham and Masae have headed off to Japan to see family and friends. While in Tokyo they played a concert with Kenichi at "**Wa-On**", a small club devoted to presenting new music played on Japanese traditional instruments. The program centered on our Australian taiko repertoire.

Meanwhile, the rest of the crew have been training and preparing for performances at the Bermagui "**Four Winds Festival**" (see below) and the Opera House "**Encore**" concert which featured the top HSC performers of 2003.

Young **TaikOz Apprentice Anton Lock** achieved a first for taiko when he presented the music of the taiko for the first time in the HSC music performance course....a real snap shot of modern Australia!

TaikOz' aim is to travel to all of the major centers every 12 to 18 months or so to present concerts and workshops, but we need your support! Please tell your friends and family about us and drag them along, too. I suspect that for some people, the thought of two hours of loud drums is their idea of hell! However, with our regular audiences' enthusiasm, appreciation and growing understanding of taiko, something of the aesthetic sense that is inherent in our performance can be conveyed to new comers. To achieve a sense of balance in our programs is paramount; we strive to create a sound world that conveys images and ideas, colour and emotions. So if you enjoy our music please bring along some friends next time. Maybe enlist them into a workshop as well!

WHAT'S ON

CONCERTS

BERMAGUI

FOUR WINDS FESTIVAL – APRIL 11-12

The group will be 'in residence' for the **April 10 long weekend** performing a number of different programs.

Contact: Synergy Percussion (02) 9703 2008

PENRITH

"THE PILGRIM ON THE WAY" – APRIL 17

The concert is at the wonderful Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre in Penrith on **April 17 at 8pm**

It is presented by Musica Viva.

Details for bookings can be found at www.mva.org.au

TaikOz' guest on the evening will be shakuhachi player Bronwyn Kirkpatrick.

VICTORIA

"THE PILGRIM ON THE WAY" – APRIL 30-MAY 3

TaikOz hits the road for a series of concerts at the following venues.

Fri, 30 April - Alexander Theatre, Monash University

Sat, 1 May - Clock Tower Centre, Moonee Ponds

Mon, 3 May - Her Majesty's Theatre, Ballarat

(Presented by Musica Viva CountryWide)

TAIKOZ FRIENDS 2004

It was great to see Akiyo, Elizabeth, Phyllis and their friends and family after the Maki Ishii concert in April. Thanks for your ongoing support.

Email: info@taikoz.com

Web: www.taikoz.com

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