

TAO: Drum Heart

SAT / APR 28 / 4:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Franco Drao, *director/producer*

Junko Koshino, *costume design*

Ikuo Fujitaka, *director/executive producer*

Yuji Urabe, *sound designer*

Kensuke Yamazaki, *lighting designer*

Junko Koshino, *costume designer*



There will be one 15-minute intermission.

PERFORMERS

TAO artists constantly train themselves to go beyond human limitation bring the true Japanese spirit to the stage. They have their own unique style of music, performance, staging and entertainment which always exceed the public's expectations of Japanese drumming.

Among tonight's performers: Taro Harasaki, Kiyoko Aito, Hiroyasu Yanaka, Junichi Haraguchi, Yasuaki Yamaguchi, Shohei Nakata, Hiroyasu Ikegoshi, Keisuke Yamamoto, Masanori Takayama, Tatsunori Yamaguchi, Kodai Hiwano, Shoya Hamada, Soshiro Fukumizu, Ryudai Ko, Shoko Sakaguchi, Ayumu Hisanaga and Daisuke Iwama.

ABOUT TAO: DRUM HEART

Experienced by 8 million spectators in 500 cities, 24 countries.

DRUM TAO brings their phenomenal performance to the stage with overwhelmingly expressive Taiko drums and the spellbinding, beautiful melodies of the Japanese flute, Shamisen guitar and Japanese harp. DRUM TAO's show defies all expectations! Their "state-of-the-art Japanese entertainment" has been mesmerizing people across the world.

In 2004, DRUM TAO became the number one box-office smash hit of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in their first year there. On the heels of that success and three-month runs in Germany and Australia, DRUM TAO started their global domination. After being invited to perform at the Vancouver Olympics in

2010, they sold out every show on their first North American tour, visiting 44 cities and performing 50 shows throughout the US.

In 2016, their first appearance on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* had a huge impact on American people, and their first Off-Broadway shows resulted in great success. *Newsweek* says "the highly acclaimed debut of DRUM TAO Off-Broadway represents not only Japanese entertainment but Japan itself."

In 2018, DRUM TAO has 241 night-time performances, called "Mangekyo," in Tokyo for tourists from around the world and is supposed to have a year round show in Tokyo from 2019 through 2021. After playing in over 24 countries, 500 cities, DRUM TAO has been the recipient of The 6th Annual Commissioner Award from the Japanese Tourism Agency, as well as being named "Outstanding Cultural Contribution" from Oita Prefecture. TAO rewrites the history of traditional Japanese drumming, and yet proudly remains the greatest drum performers in Japan.

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& Tour Production

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