



KODŌ

One Earth Tour 2025

WARABE

Performers

Eiichi Saito • Jun Jidai • Koki Miura • Masayasu Maeda
Kodai Yoshida • Seita Saegusa • Chihiro Watanabe • Taiyo Onoda
Shun Takuma • Moe Niiyama • Kei Sadanari • Jumpei Nonaka
Kazuma Hiroasaki • Hana Ogawa

Director

Yuichiro Funabashi

Technical Director

Kei Olivier Furukata

Lighting Designer

Kenichi Mashiko (S.L.S.)

Stage Manager

Takeshi Arai

Production Manager

Yui Kamiya

Kodo appears by arrangement with IMG Artists, LLC, New York, NY
imgartists.com

Additional support provided by
Egloff & Wood, LLP

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PROGRAM

Yuta Sumiyoshi	Koe (2021)
Traditional (arr. Kodo)	Miyake
Masayasu Maeda	Niwaka (2021)
Motofumi Yamaguchi	Hae (1982)
Yuta Sumiyoshi	Uminari (2021)

INTERMISSION

Koki Miura	Shinka (2021)
Masayasu Maeda	Okoshi (2021)
Reo Kitabayashi	Dokuso (2021)
Ryotaro Leo Ikenaga	Inochi (2021)
Traditional (arr. Kodo, Kenta Nakagome)	O-daiko
Traditional (arr. Kodo)	Yatai-bayashi

Today's program will run approximately two hours,
including intermission.

The following pieces are based on these regional traditional performing arts:

Koe: Kanatsu-ryu Yanagawa Shishi Odori (Oshu, Iwate)

Miyake: Miyake-jima Kamitsuki Mikoshi Daiko (Miyake Island, Tokyo)

Okoshi: Onidaiko and Shishi (Sado Island, Niigata)

Yatai-bayashi: Chichibu Yatai-bayashi (Chichibu, Saitama)

Director's Notes

Let your soul dance to the rhythm of life.

In Japanese, the word “Kodo” holds a double meaning. It can be translated as “heartbeat,” the primal source of all rhythm. However, our group’s name is written with different characters, which mean “drum” and “child.” This reflects Kodo’s desire to play the drums with the simple heart of a child. For our 40th anniversary in 2021, we created two works based on our name: *Tsuzumi* takes its name and theme from the drum character, and *Warabe*, from the child element.

Tsuzumi was our touring production in 2023 across North America, including Boston, and we are happy to present you now with the continuing production, *Warabe*.

In *Warabe*, Kodo looks to its classic repertoire and aesthetics from the ensemble’s early days. This production blends simple forms of taiko expression that celebrate the unique sound, resonance, and physicality synonymous with Kodo—forever children of the drum at heart.

Come and experience the soul-stirring rhythm of life firsthand.

Yuichiro Funabashi

Director / Kodo Ensemble Leader

About Kodo

Exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, the taiko, Kodo is forging new directions for a vibrant living art-form. Since the group’s debut at the Berlin Festival in 1981, Kodo has given more than 7,000 performances on all five continents, spending about a third of the year overseas, a third touring in Japan and a third rehearsing and preparing new material on Sado Island. Kodo strives both to preserve and re-interpret traditional Japanese performing arts. Beyond this, members on tours and research trips all over the globe have brought back to Sado a kaleidoscope of world music and experiences which now exerts a strong influence on the group’s performances and compositions. Collaborations with other artists and composers extend right across the musical spectrum and Kodo’s lack of preconceptions about its music continues to produce startling new fusion and forms.

From the Celebrity Series of Boston archives...

Kodo made its Celebrity Series debut in February 1990 and appeared most recently in March 2023. Today’s performance marks the group’s twelfth engagement on the Series.



Tour Managers

Natsumi Ikenaga • Rena Tsukamoto

Assistant Stage Manager

Kengo Kosugi

Assistant Manager

Donnie Keeton

International Tour Management

IMG Artists

Music Advisor

Tatsuya Shimono

Posture & Movement Instructor

Tatsuo Kudo

Voice Instructor

Yumi Nogami

Photographer

Takashi Okamoto

Promotional Video Director

Sokichi Sogawa

Promotional Artwork

Hiroomi Hattori (COM Works)

Physical Trainer

Kiyoaki Sakai

Special Thanks

Ranjo • Shingo Tokihiro • Kawachi Wakate • Rengebuji Temple
Kodo Cultural Foundation

Planning & Production Company

Kitamaesen Co., Ltd.

North America Tour Marketing

SoloShoe Communications, LLC



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Government of Japan

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performance?
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