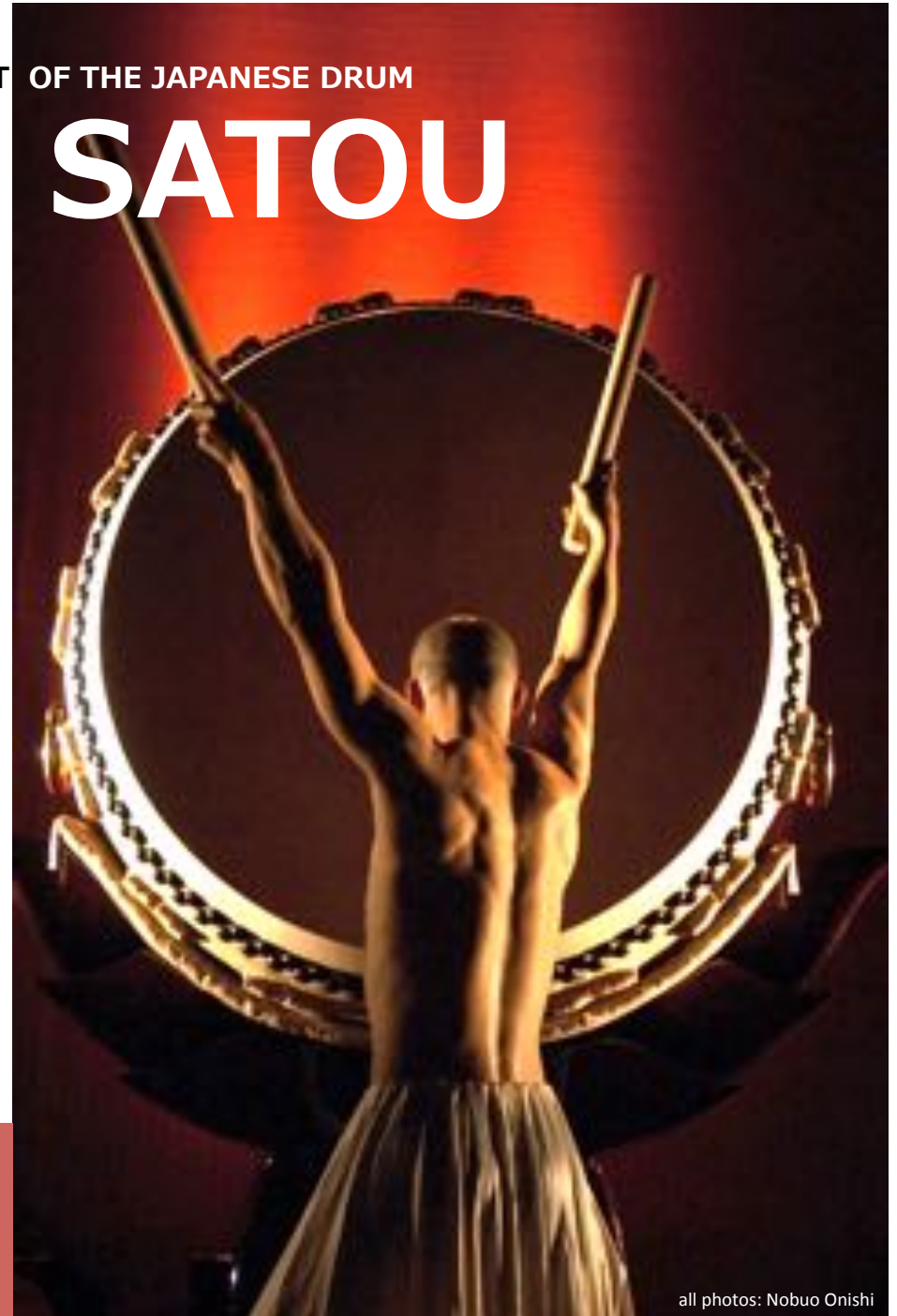


THE MAN CHOSEN BY THE SPIRIT OF THE JAPANESE DRUM

KENSAKU SATOU

Powerful like a dragon, supple like a dancer, spiritual like a priest-The most remarkable "Taiko" drummer creating incomparably explosive beats and divine performance

Contact: SAKIWAI CREATION INC.
Shinkoiwa Business Space 1-22-10-301, Shinkoiwa, Katsushika-ku, Tokyo 124-0024
Phone: +81 (0)50-3738-3364
E-mail: mail@sakiwai.jp
Website: <http://sakiwai.jp/>



all photos: Nobuo Onishi

**I was greatly impressed by the variety of representation of Wadaiko (Japanese drum) and surprised by Kensaku Satou assimilating himself with large and small drums. He is called "The Man Chosen by the spirit of the Japanese Drum," and he is exactly it.
Kazuomi Tada (Professor, University of Tokyo)**

Kensaku Satou creates dynamic and spiritual shows based on Japanese mythology. He is highly praised for his beat full of sacred power which make us feel the universe. Having 30 years of career as Taiko drummer, he spends his days to improve his play with the drum "Fuji" which is the largest Japanese drum in the world as individual's property in sacred village with great nature. He is known as "The Man Chosen by the Spirit of the Japanese Drum" for his incomparable powerful beat and high technique. His play is appreciated by a lot of artists in various genre and he collaborates often with ballet dancers, Noh players.



Biography 1995-2011



- 1998 • Performed at the closing ceremony for FIFA World Cup in France.
- 2003 • Performances in Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland supported by Japan Foundation
- 2005 • Tour in Southeast Asian countries supported by Japan Foundation
- 2006 • Performance in Los Angeles and Sedona in U.S.A
- 2007 • Awarded the semi- Grand Prix and “the Prize of Encouragement from the President of the House of Councilors” in the Human Power Prize
- 2008 • Through "FUJI " performance, Satou received "the Rookie of the Year Award" in "the 63rd National Arts Festival organized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs".
- 2009 • Performance in “ASPAC”, JCI Asia and Pacific Council with his drum “ FUJI” representing Japan
- 2011 • Performance in Russia (with Noh performer, Reijiro Tsumura)
 - In the charity show, All Nippon Ballet Gala 2011 in Tokyo, Fukushima.
 - “Fuji Project” to pray in the affected areas in the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11.
 - Satou had a free-entrance concert respectively at 3 victim cities of the earthquake and tsunami in Tohoku area (Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima).

2003 Switzerland



2011 Fuji Project



1998 FIFA World Cup in France



2008 the 63rd National Arts Festival



Biography 2012-2016

- 2012**
 - Self-produced work with Noh and Ballet, The Rite of Joy is highly evaluated as a innovative arts of Japanese drums.
 - Collaboration work with Dominic Walsh Dance Theater in Texas, U.S.A, Uzume at the Asian Society Texas Center.
 - Fuji Project: Satou had a free-entrance concert at a victim city of the earthquake and tsunami at Ishinomaki, Miyagi.
- 2013** • Dedication concert at Izumo Grand Shrine
- 2014** • Fuji Project: Satou had a free-entrance concerts at a victim city of the earthquake and tsunami at Souma, Fukushima
 - Dramatic Kojiki at Kyoto (Collaboration work with opera, ballet and Japanese dance)
- 2015** • Dramatic Kojiki at Miyazaki and Fukuoka
 - Dedication concerts at Takachiho shrine and Togakushi shirine.
 - **Talk at 「TEDxShinshuUniversity」**
 - Trilateral Arts Festival: Japan/China/ Korea (performance with Motoko Hirayama)
- 2016** • Live at Za-Koenji (with a shakuhachi master, Keisuke Zenyouji)
 - **Participated in Edinburgh Festival Fringe with his solo work, ONE.**
 - **Performed in BBC WORLD SERVICE [Global Beats] showcase**

In the special event related to Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Satou performed for BBC World Service (international radio program) Global Beats and had an interview. It has been on air to over the world.

.....and more

Please visit and watch the exceptional show on Youtube.
Kensaku Satou 《 The Man chosen by the spirit of the Japanese drum 》

2012 Uzume



2014 Dramatic Kojiki



2013 Izumo Grand Shrine



2015 Arts Festival



2015 TEDxShinshuUniversity



2016 Live at Za-Koenji



2016 Edinburgh FRINGE

The man chosen by the spirit of the Japanese Drum

Kensaku Satou

和太鼓に選ばれた男

August
18th-27th
1:40p.m.
(50min.)
£12 (£10)

www.thespaceuk.com

SpaceTriplex

Box Office: 0131 510 2395
boxoffice.triplex@thespaceuk.com

fringe 0131 226 0000 www.edfringe.com

Venue **38**

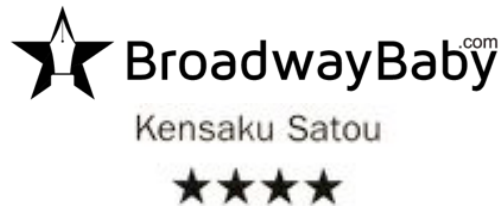
Hill Place
EH4 9DW

Edinburgh Festival FRINGE

18th-27th August 2016

ONE- The Man Chosen by the Spirit of the Japanese Drum

Satou participated in one of the largest international Festival with his solo show presenting a variety of Japanese drums from the delicacy on his small tightened drum to the dynamic and deep resonance on his large drum. His show got great reviews from famous medias.



A masked figure, all in white, carries the biggest drumstick you've ever seen and drops it on the biggest drum you've ever seen. Seriously, this thing is basically a tree. Boom! And again. Boom! Then the beat develops. The figure controls this gigantic log and masters the beast of this humongous drum. This is One – The Man Chosen by the Spirit of the Japanese Drum.

Drums! All the drums! Big drums, small drums, medium size drums, lots of drums! "Powerful like a dragon, supple like a dancer" is the sexy tagline provided for Japanese Taiko drummer powerhouse Kensaku Sato, performer at the 1998 FIFA World Cup in France, and mesmeric solo performer at this year's Fringe. And it's a pretty apt description. Sato is a beast on the drums and man can he move. At one point he pounds the drum so hard it shatters the drumstick into pieces. Not that he lets that stop him. He keeps the beat and immediately has another stick in hand; hashtag, pro.

There's also dance and song accompanying the drumming and also juggling: actual juggling with drum sticks while still managing to keep in time and also build up to a crescendo. And if that wasn't enough, great costumes, beautiful lighting and an accompanying soundscape of chimes add to the mysticism of the event, making for a solid hour of Japanese drumming entertainment. The repetitive nature of the show means it's hard to stay transfixed throughout, but that shouldn't seriously impact your enjoyment.

If Japanese drum is your thing, or drumming in general, or if you just fancy something a little culturally different then give this a try. It's a very good way to spend an hour in the afternoon.

Reviewed by Dave House, Broadway Baby, 19th Aug



heraldscotland
The Herald sundayherald

Kensaku Satou



KENSAKU Satou's musculature is testament to his dedication to Taiko drumming, a tradition that calls for strength and stamina as well as percussion nous. His performance has touches of theatre, as he arrives in robes and changes costume several times before concentrating on the massive power and precision of the finale, and each piece has its own character as, between times, he moves from drum to drum to a drum kit of five instruments that he negotiates with startling skill.

The variety of these drums can be measured by the biggest being "played" with a kind of mini caber that Satou bounces adeptly on its skin and the others, including one worn over his shoulder and featuring impressively "flying" hands, requiring sticks of different dimensions from baseball bats to super-thick wooden knitting pins. Taiko can sometimes be regarded as an austere art form but Satou eagerly involves the audience at one point and the over-arching impression is of an artist who communicates with not just superb stickmanship but also genuine musicality. Ear plugs aren't required.

Reviewed by Rob Adams, The Herald, 24th Aug

BBC WORLD SERVICE [Global Beats] showcase

In the special event related to Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Kensaku Satou performed for BBC World Service (international radio program) Global Beats and had an interview. It has been on the air over the world.



Collaboration work 1

The collaboration work between Japanese drum and Noh performed by Kensaku Satou and an eminent Noh player, Reijiro Tsumura.

Japanese drum and Noh are both performing arts calling sacred power of deities. This collaboration is a dramatic ritual to pray for the peace and prosperity of all over the world.



Collaboration work 2

The collaboration work between Japanese drum and dancers, performing artists.

2012 Rite of Joy (original show): with Hana Sakai and Rejiro Tsumura



Performance with an aerial performer



2013 Performance at Izumo Grand Shrine with Dancer, Kaiji Moriyama



Fuji Project

About FUJI PROJECT

Dedicated to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, this project was launched to organize free entrance concerts of “Wadaiko (Japanese drum) to pray” at affected areas on purpose to relieve victims from the disaster as well as to ask the help for the affected areas to all Japan, all over the world.

It is not just a “Japanese drum concert”, but “Beats from hearts to hearts”.

Please pray, feel together and join us to be one.

