

TAIKO DRUM

TASMANIA UNIVERSITY UNION TAIKO SOCIETY

website: www.taikodrum.com

C/O TUU
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The **Tasmania University Union Taiko Society** was formed in 2002 by Simon Vanyai to create the opportunity to train, perform and teach the Japanese art of drumming and provide an opportunity to university students, school students, and the general public to enjoy the thrill of taiko. Simon learned taiko while he lived in Japan for three years. The group has evolved dramatically since he first introduced it to Tasmanian audiences, with groups forming in Burnie and Launceston.

Taiko training teaches players to move, beat, and shout like a Samurai Drummer! Starting from basics, taiko teaches the fundamental rhythmic patterns from which it has evolved. Taiko is distinguished from other types of percussion by its unique combination of choreographed movements that are combined with rhythms that form a mesmerizing and dynamic contemporary performing art.

Taiko is relatively simple. No musical experience is necessary. Anyone can have a go, and it's such great fun. But more than that, most people find it extremely rewarding to work as a team, challenge themselves and celebrating achievements together.

What is taiko?

Japanese drumming, known as taiko, is a visually spectacular art form, which originated in the festivals and rituals of the agricultural society of ancient Japan. 'Taiko' in Japanese means 'drum', and is now enjoyed by audiences around the world for the tremendous energy that it exudes.

Unlike other 'high-cultural' art forms such as the Kabuki, Noh Dancing or Tea Ceremony, taiko culture is community-based, and the most widely practiced 'popular-cultural' art form in contemporary Japanese society. It is played as part of local festivals in virtually every district throughout Japan, and local taiko masters have passed on its techniques orally for many hundreds of years. Most performers at such festivals are non-professional, local residents, and many of them are school children. Taiko plays a strong role in promoting a sense of community, and cultivating teamwork skills among the local residents.

It is only since the early 1950's that taiko has become internationally recognised as a performance art. There are more than 8,000 taiko groups in Japan, as well as other countries around the world, particularly in the United States. Taikoz from Sydney is the only professional Taiko group in Australia.

About Taiko Drum.....

Taiko Drum is the performance arm of the **TUUTS**, and can be seen at a wide variety of multicultural events and community festivals around Tasmania and interstate. The group holds public drumming workshops from time to time, as well as performing in schools and at corporate and private functions.

Three classes are offered a week, with many members attending training sessions regularly, and many others taking advantage of special workshops and other taiko events. In **Taiko Drum**, whilst not compulsory, we encourage taiko enthusiasts to experience the thrill of performing as an important element of their taiko training.

Performance Schedule

These can be tailored to a client's particular needs or requests. The following is an indication of our services:

Additional travel costs to northern Tasmania cover fuel costs for transport of drums and performers plus meal allowance. Minimum cost is for a maximum of 6-7 performers and maximum cost is for 10-12 performers, but please contact us as we can tailor the cost to suit your needs.

- **10 - 20 minute performance or 2 x 10 minute performances**
Hobart and surrounding area **\$700**

**Northern Tasmanian performances negotiable for a maximum of 5 performers
overnight accommodation for performers and travel costs additional**

- **Personal Development Workshops** **Hobart only**
workshop **\$400 - \$600**
These can be held in your location or at our dojo
We can tailor to suit your needs and the number of people in the group
It may be necessary to hold several workshops with large numbers

- Please register your interest by email to bookings@taikodrum.com on the attached booking form.
- Once bookings have been placed and dates have been finalised, your booking will be confirmed by email. An invoice will be sent via email just after the performance. Feel free to call or email at any time with any queries.

For bookings contact

bookings@taikodrum.com
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