

Shinobu Eto

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A Tokyo-based koto player, has mainly performed Japanese traditional music genre known as *jiuta-sokyoku* and is currently diversifying into experimental contemporary music. Sound from nature and the use of silence strongly inspired her. Eto has received traditional training from her grandaunt, a 'national living treasure' in Japan. Her performing artist name is Toshifumi. She has performed extensively all over Japan. Her international activities have grown since 2018. She was selected as a resident of Music Omi (OMI International Arts Center, New York, US) , the Swatch Art Peace Hotel (Shanghai, China) , Headlands Center for the Arts (San Francisco, US) for 2020.

SHORT BIO

Musician

A Tokyo-based koto (traditional Japanese string instrument) player. She has mainly performed Japanese traditional music genre known as *jiuta-sokyoku*, which is Japanese classic *koto* and *sangen* music accompanied with vocals. At the same time, she is currently diversifying into experimental contemporary music. She was born in a Japanese traditional music family so naturally started koto. She has diligently trained in this genre from her grandaunt Toshiko Yonekawa I (known as a living national treasure of art as a koto player) and her daughter Toshiko Yonekawa II (Hiroe Yonekawa) since her childhood. With such a background, she has had many precious experiences as a professional performer.

Received an artist name 'Toshifumi' when she was seventeen years old. Graduated from University of the Sacred Heart (Tokyo) and NHK professional Training School for Japanese traditional musicians. Received a scholarship from the Agency of Cultural Affairs of Japan. She has performed extensively all over Japan, including concerts sponsored by the National Theatre of Japan, Kioi Hall, NHK radio programs, and CDs and records. In 2018, she started to perform abroad and was selected as a resident of Music Omi (OMI International Arts Center, NY, US) and had concerts, performed on a radio program and composed pieces. She was selected as a resident of the Swatch Art Peace Hotel (Shanghai, China), Headlands Center for the Arts (San Francisco, US) for 2020.

Producer / Curator

In 1990s, she joined P-house gallery, a contemporary art gallery + cafe with dogs + alternative radio station, in Tokyo. Takashi Murakami was originally one of organizers. The gallery held Jake and Dinos Chapman's exhibition; Paul McCarthy and Mike Kelly's performance and live, and so on. Eto also played the koto at the opening party of Micari Collection, which visitors were able to enjoy doing activities in a temporary completely white Japanese tea ceremony room.

CV

Musical Studies

1979-present

Private study with my grandaunt, National Living Treasure Toshiko Yonekawa I and her daughter Toshiko Yonekawa II.

2010

Private study with my relative, National Living Treasure Fumiko Yonekawa II, *jiuta-sokyoku*, Professor Satomi Oshio, traditional music theory, and Yoko Yamazaki, voice.

2008

Graduated from NHK professional Training School for Japanese traditional musicians.

1988

Received an artist name 'Toshifumi'

Education**1995**

B.A., English Literature, University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo.

Grants/Awards/Artist Residencies**2020**

Headlands Center for the Arts, San Francisco, US.

Swatch Art Peace Hotel, Shanghai, China.

2018

Omi International Arts Center, Ghent, New York, US.

2010

Scholarship from the Agency of Cultural Affairs of Japan.

Main Activities**2019**

Collaborate with Daniel Sabio (The Glad scientist) 'No Reality: Defragging Space and Time' exhibition's closing party, ARTnSHELTER, Tokyo.

Berlin Tokyo Experimental Music Meeting, Goethe-Institut Japan.

Collaborated with Marcus Henriksson and Juzu a.k.a. MOOCHY and improvised for a new album, 'Fifth Elements'.

PIPA KOTO concert, Quatro Labo, Tokyo.

2018

'The Pheasant's Apple', the first performance of my composition, Omi International Arts Center, NY

A special performance by the Art Omi: Music Fellows live from Wave Farm, WGXC 90.7-FM, NY

Guerrilla Basilica Improvisations, Basilica Hudson, NY

2016

Nihon Sankyoku Kyokai's concert 'Nihon no hibiki', the National Theatre of Japan, Tokyo.

2015

Special concert of the 100th anniversary of *Kensokai* foundation, the National Theatre of Japan, Tokyo.

Collaborated with Juzu a.k.a. MOOCHY and improvised for his records and CDs.

2014

Kioi Hall's spring concert, 'Geishunfu' Toshiko Yonekawa I's work, Kioi Hall, Tokyo.

Azuma ryu memorial dance concert 'Kane no misaki', the National Theatre of Japan, Tokyo.

2013

Toshifumi Eto koto and sangen recital, Musicasa, Tokyo.

2012

Toshifumi Eto First recital, Yokohkann, Fukui.

2011

Japasese traditional Dance concert of Agency for Cultural Affairs Arts Festival, 'Kane no misaki', 'Umedodoji', the National Bunraku Theater, Osaka.

Memorial concert for Toshiko Yonekawa I and *Kensokai*'s 90th anniversary, the National Theatre of Japan, Tokyo.

2009-2011

'Kid's Geinoh Taiken', taught koto and performed at the concert sponsored by Tokyo for 2020 Olympics.

2010-

Performed Toshiko Yonekawa II's recitals, Kioi Hall, Tokyo.

2010

Masataro Imafuji recital 'Fune to Koto' Kioi Hall, Tokyo.

Soho 10th. Anniversary concert 'Kizahashi nite', Nihonbashi Theater, Tokyo.

2009

Sankyoku— reflected in *koto*, *sangen*, and *kokyu*, 'Chidori no kyoku' sponcerd the National Theatre of Japan, Tokyo.

2008

Takefu International Music Festival, Fukui.

1982

NHK Geinoh hyakusen TV Program, the first TV appearance, NHK, Japan.