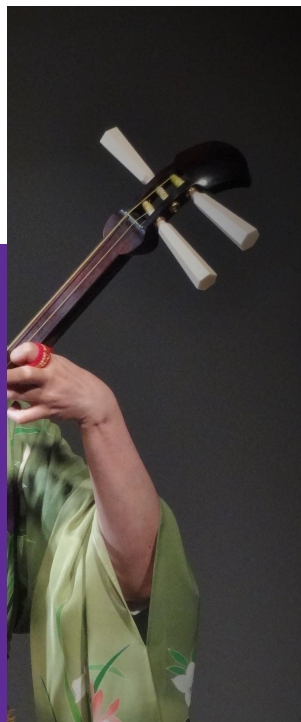


The Wagaku

Collective:

Japanese Traditional Music Duo



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Bookings and Inquiries:

Shih-wei Wu

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PRESS KIT 2016

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Wagaku

(pronounce wa·ga·koo) is Japanese Traditional Music

Mission



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The Wagaku Collective aims to educate the public on the art of Japanese traditional music. The project focuses on providing a fun and immersive environment for learning. Through, live performance, storytelling and workshop, The Wagaku Collective provides an all ages-friendly program that brings Japanese performance art alive.

Instruments

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Tsugaru Shamisen



三味線

Shakuhachi



尺八

Other Instruments

Taiko



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Terry Nguyen - Shamisen



Terry Nguyen is an emerging musician of Japanese and Vietnamese descent. Her primary artistic interests are minyo (folk) and traditional music of Japan as performed on the Tsugaru shamisen, Okinawan sanshin, and taiko drums.

In recent years, Terry had the opportunity to study taiko and Tsugaru shamisen in Japan thanks to the generous support of grants from the Aurora Foundation, Center for Cultural Innovation, and Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA). Terry spent the past three summers in Japan training in taiko and Tsugaru shamisen with world-renowned performing troupe Kodo and Master Sasaki Mitsuyoshi, respectively.

Terry's performance history includes repeat appearances at venues such as Disneyland Resort, Aquarium of the Pacific, Japanese American National Museum, and Toyota Motors of North America.

Shih-wei Wu - Shakuhachi



A fresh face on the Southern California performance arts scene, Shih-wei (Willie) Wu is already proving himself a creative and prolific Taiwanese-American composer-performer. His focuses include music composition, Japanese Taiko drumming and shakuhachi, and ethnomusicology. He holds a B.A. in music from UC Riverside and a M.F.A. in music from UC Irvine. Having appeared in many venues from Riverside to Hollywood to Carnegie Hall, his works and performances emphasize intercultural themes and a fusion of Western Classical music and choreography with postmodern culture, technology, jazz and various non-Western musical traditions.

Past Performance

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