



## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

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*For immediate release*

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**What:** Portland Taiko's 2006 Season, *Ohayo Gozaimasu – A New Day*

**Who:** Portland Taiko, Asian American Drum Performance

**When:** April 12 – September 24, 2006:

*The Spirit of Taiko* Film Screening, April 12, 2006, 6:30pm

*Composer Spotlight: Masato Baba*, May 24, 2006, 6:30pm

*Crossing Bridges*, June 17, 2006, 8pm

*From Many Rivers*, June 18, 2006, 8pm

*Composer Spotlight: PT Artistic Co-Directors*, August 23, 2006, 6:30pm

*Ohayo Gozaimasu – A New Day* Fall Concert, September 22 & 23, 8pm;

September 24, 2pm

*Children's Matinee*, September 23, 2pm

**Where:** *The Spirit of Taiko* Film Screening, Hollywood Theatre, 4122 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland

*Composer Spotlight: Masato Baba*, Lincoln Hall Room 75, PSU, 1620 SW Park, Portland

*Crossing Bridges*, St Mary's Academy Auditorium, 1615 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland

*From Many Rivers*, St Mary's Academy Auditorium

*Composer Spotlight: PT Artistic Co-Directors*, Lincoln Hall Room 75, PSU

*Ohayo Gozaimasu – A New Day* Fall Concert, Newmark Theatre, Portland Center for the Performing Arts, 1111 SW Broadway, Portland

*Children's Matinee*, September 23, 2pm, Newmark Theatre, PCPA

**Tickets:** Season tickets on sale now, \$65; Patron Season tickets \$140. Tickets for individual events available later, TBA. Call 503 288-2546 for further information or visit [www.portlandtaiko.org](http://www.portlandtaiko.org)

**Sponsors:** Funded in part by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Oregon Arts Commission, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council. Sponsors include The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation and the Autzen Foundation.

### **PORTLAND TAIKO ANNOUNCES 2006 SEASON: *OHAYO GOZAIMASU – A NEW DAY***

The sun rises on *A New Day* at Portland Taiko this year, illuminating fresh possibilities, as PT announces its 2006 season. PT's Artistic Co-Directors Teresa

Asian American  
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Enrico and Michelle Fujii have planned a season that sheds new light on PT's past, reveals new artistic possibilities of taiko, and broadens artistic and cultural horizons.

Season highlights include major concert events in the Spring and the Fall. Two public concerts are part of the Fifth Biennial Regional Taiko Gathering, hosted by PT. *Crossing Bridges* features the world premiere of the George T. Shoji Commission, a new work by Masato Baba bringing together Uzume Taiko of Vancouver, B.C., One World Taiko of Seattle and Portland Taiko, the three professional taiko groups from the region, 8pm June 17 at St Mary's Academy Auditorium. The second Spring public concert, *From Many Rivers*, spotlights the strength and diversity of the Northwest region's taiko groups in a family-friendly celebration of Father's Day, June 18 at 2:00 PM also at St Mary's.

Looking back to look forward, the group takes a fresh look at old Portland Taiko favorites, widens artistic horizons, and celebrates innovators at home in *Ohayo Gozaimasu – A New Day*, September 22 – 24, 8pm Friday and Saturday and 2pm Sunday. Artistic Co-Directors Teresa Enrico and Michelle Fujii debut new compositions in concert at the Newmark Theatre. A children's matinee performance rounds out the weekend at 2pm, Saturday, September 23.

PT's popular Behind-the-Scenes events return to give audiences a chance to learn more about taiko and its cultural background, meet guest composers and PT performers in an informal atmosphere, and get sneak previews of upcoming concerts. The season begins with a screening of *The Spirit of Taiko* on April 12, 2006 at 6:30pm at the Hollywood Theatre. The film traces the evolution of taiko in North America through three generations, interweaving the rich stories of taiko leaders, artists, and drum builders. Filmmaker Gayle Yamada will talk with the audience following the screening, and light refreshments will be served.

Two *Composer Spotlights* complete the season schedule. Masato Baba, an emerging artist on the international taiko scene offers a sneak preview of his new work for *Crossing Bridges*, and explains the collaborative creation this piece on May 24, 6:30pm. At 6:30pm on August 23 Teresa Enrico and Michelle Fujii share their visions of taiko with excerpts from new work to premiere at the Fall Concert. They will demonstrate and discuss the ideas that inspire and shape their work and reveal their respective creative processes—up close and personally. Both of the Composer Spotlights feature light refreshments and will be held in Lincoln Hall Room 75 at Portland State University.

Season tickets on sale now at \$65. Patron Season tickets, which include special recognition, a backstage tour of the Newmark Theatre, and a special reception at the Fall concert are \$140. Single tickets for individual events available later, TBA. Call 503 288-2546 for further information or visit [www.portlandtaiko.org](http://www.portlandtaiko.org).

Portland Taiko's 2006 season is funded in part by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Oregon Arts Commission, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council. Sponsors of individual events include The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation and the Autzen Foundation.

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