

## Presenter Testimonials

**"The boom of the large drum dispersed into the air like a showering mist sending chills from head to toe.** As it evaporated, the sound of silence became louder than the drum. The contrast of powerful energy and graceful quietness was portrayed by the unique individual artistry of the members of the Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble. As a whole **they moved together with precise choreography leaving a lasting impression that our audience is still talking about.** They (SYTE) were wonderful and everyone was in awe. All in all, it was a great success."

Barbara Russell  
Booking Coordinator  
Friends of the Arts  
Bonnors Ferry, Idaho

**"SYTE is an amazing group in all aspects** - the educational offerings were top-notch, the performance was sold out, and people are still talking about it. The quality of the performance was above and beyond, and the group was wonderful to work with.

Lizzy Hughes, Executive Director  
Pend Oreille Arts Council  
Sandpoint, Idaho

To: Rachel (SYTE Booking agent)

"I have to tell you that Somei was one of the best groups I have ever presented. They are so professional. They are exceptional artists. **Their performance was thrilling and their smooth transition from one piece to the next was really beautiful.** Their use of good theater principles to keep the audience engaged throughout was seamless. Thank you for making this tour possible. I had a very enthusiastic audience of about 600 and they just fell in love with the group. They are funny and riveting too - a great combination. And, the youth performance was very good - the students and the teachers gave us very positive feedback. I liked how they linked the art with the extreme physicality necessary to be a taiko artist. Thanks again and I can't wait to present your other fine artists.

Faye McCalmont  
Executive Director  
Mimbres Regional Arts Council  
Silver City, New Mexico

"While waiting for the curtain to go up, anticipation grew as it became closer to show time. Not knowing what to expect, we were intrigued by the display of drums on stage. **From the first act we were captivated by the artistry of this group not expecting a night of drumming to be so varied, interesting and dynamic.** They were not only musicians, but artists, actors and dancers. A night to remember, this should be seen by anyone wanting a full experience."

Joan Myers, audience member  
Bonnors Ferry, Idaho

... "had an **excellent experience** with Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble. The members were very pleasant to work with. Thanks for the opportunity to work with such great artists!"

Kevin Stacy  
Performing Arts Coordinator  
Cultural Forum  
University of Oregon

Hi Rachel, (SYTE Booking agent)

***“Everything went great.*** We received many, many positive comments and several requests for a return engagement. They sold a lot of CD's and shirts. The school show was a big success. ***The kids loved them.***”

Jim Mack  
Executive Director  
Flickinger Ctr. for the Performing Arts  
Alamogordo, New Mexico

“I was so impressed with the lec-dems. they were educational, well paced, fun, engaging; I loved that you involved the audience. I didn't think it could get better until I saw your full performance. ***I was truly amazed. The flow, theatricality, distinctiveness of pieces, energy communicated by each of you, interplay with each other, I can go on and on, it was the most amazing show.*** The humor interjected here and there, added a lot to the overall performance. It was one of our most well-attended shows of the year, and I think the standing ovation spoke clearly as to the enthusiasm of our audience.”

“I surely hope we can do it again some time in the future. ***Your residency and performance were hands-down, the best event of the season.***”

Ronna Kalish  
Executive Director  
NM Tech Performing Arts Series  
Socorro, New Mexico