

Repertoire

"**Accel.**" - Accelerando - quickening (the time). A simple two motif composition linking interwoven perceptions and distortions of time... real or perceived. often abbreviated accel. (2) shime and odaiko.

"**Blue Bamboo**" - Expression of young bamboo life. Shime, chu-daiko & huaca

"**Buena Onda Ondo**" - Translated "good vibes" (Spanish), "dance" (Japanese) as Japanese folk dance meets Latin percussion rhythms. Uchiwa "fan" drums swing, sticks twirl and feet step to the lively taiko clave beat.

"**Chindonya Medley**" - In the olden days of Japan, one of the most unique and entertaining forms of advertising was the chindonya band. These musical bands of gaudily dressed musicians performing in wild and outrageous costumes were hired by a shop owner to hit the streets, improvising festive music, beating drums and gongs, playing woodwinds or brass instruments, and handing out flyers to all the passersby.

"**Dan Dan Batake**" - Beginning with the white of the potato in winter, changing to the green of watering, then to the golden yellow of rice ears, and finally to the brown of the land as winter approaches again, the year brings a constant change in colors. The living earth and the people who toil it create a beautiful, emotional scene. Unique 5 drum terraced composition using our largest Okedo to smallest shime.

"**Festival**" – description to come

"**Guardians**" - An invitation to travel to another time, another place, where the ancestors guide and protect.

"**Hai Kitaka Sasa**" - Original festival song.

"**Hitenko**" - An image of light... of flying celestials in the air, coming down to the lower world (earth).

"**Indra's Net**" - A musical portrayal of the Buddhist myth of Indra, a great god who hung a wondrous net adorned with multifaceted jewels from his heavenly mansion. Just as each jewel reflects every other jewel, so all are seen in each one: a universe of mutual interrelationships. This piece expresses this metaphor with its placement of drums, interconnected rhythms and movement that depicts these many facets and aspects all contained in the whole. (Commissioned by the Ronald Y. and Irene K. Nakasone Endowment Fund in Buddhist Art, Aesthetics, and Culture)

"**Omurasaki**" - Named after the national butterfly of Japan. The song takes us into a natural habitat, surrounded by the sounds of cicadas, frogs and crickets. The butterflies emerge and follow the endless cycle of life. Shamisen, taiko and fan drums.

"**Ramen Ondo**" - Sweet potatoes, bamboo poles, candy...each street vendor has his own cry. Their melodious calls were once an integral part of the soundscape of Japan. Even now, when night falls, the oboe-like *charumera* beckons one and all to a steaming bowl of noodles at the ramen vendor's stall.

"**So Du So**" - Somei Yoshino's first original composition based on four musical motifs created by each member of the ensemble. The piece is then organized into three parts solo, duet and solo.

“Stranger Spirits” - A world above, a world below --- take a glimpse --- open your heart to the rhythms of life and death.

"Tasogare" - (Twilight) - The crossfade of day into night . Shakuhachi, taiko, clarinet and dulcimer.

“The Wall” - Invest, Stay and Fight. We build to be torn down again, again and again. With two steps forward, one step back, two steps forward... we march before the Jericho of the unjust and racial rust. Large okedo, odaiko and two chu-daikos

"Wamblegleshka" - (Eagle in the Mist) - Lakota word for eagle, the brother who can take our prayers to the Great Spirit and whose feathers are given to us for doctoring. Taiko w/Native American flute and fue.

"Zag Tag" - All about diverging and converging, going apart and coming together, like a game of tag in a zigzag world... always chasing, never catching... too tired to play.