

Hogaku: New Sounds of Japan Profiles of Musicians

Fuji-Zakura

Harumi Mochizuki (*taiko / kotsuzumi*) was born in 1965 in Tokyo. Her mother and grandmother are both *hayashi* musicians (traditional Japanese percussionists) of the Mochizuki School and her father is a singer/narrator of *gidayû bushi* (traditional narrative music). Mochizuki became familiar with *hayashi* instruments as a child and had her first stage performance at the age of six. Later on, she also studied *nagauta* (a vocal genre) and *edo satokagura* (percussion ensemble based on folkloric tradition) under various renowned masters. In 1988, she graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, with a major in *nagauta hayashi*. In 1990, she completed Specialist Graduate Courses and General Studies at the same university. Here, she studied *hōgaku hayashi*, *taiko* drum for *nō* plays and Western percussions under various masters. Mochizuki plays both classical and contemporary *hayashi* repertoires at concerts of traditional music, for *nihon buyō* (Japanese traditional dance) performances, as well as in recording studios. She is a member of the *hōgaku hayashi* group Shinnokai, and the Nagauta Association, and is leader of the group Seiōkai. In addition, she works as a program director of concerts for children and workshops of Japanese music.

Rio Tōsha (*fue*), a Tōsha School *fue* (flute) player, studied *shinobue* and *nōkan* under Meishō Tōsha. A graduate from the Faculty of Literature, Dōshisha University, she performs both classical and contemporary repertoires, and also composes pieces for the *shinobue* and provides solo performances in Japan. She is a member of the *hōgaku hayashi* group Shinnokai, Mashihokai and the Nagauta Association, and is leader of the *fue* group Rionokai.

Chiho Tōsha (*kotsuzumi*) studied *hayashi* under Seiko Tōsha and Rosen Tōsha VI, and graduated from the Traditional Japanese Music Course of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Mainly performing classical repertoires in concerts, she also performs music that blurs the border between Japanese and Western music. She has joined many overseas performances, and is a member of the *hōgaku hayashi* group Shinnokai, Mashihokai and the Nagauta Association. She is leader of the *hayashi* group Chishihokai.

Akane Tōsha (*otsuzumi*) studied *hayashi* under Chiho Tōsha and *nagauta shamisen* under Yasu Kineya. After graduating from the Traditional Japanese Music Course of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, she was given the name “Akane” by Rosen Tōsha VI, the head of the Tōsha School. She is a member of the *hōgaku hayashi* group Shinnokai, Mashihokai, Seitōkai and the Nagauta Association.