



Photos by Ken Howard, David Adamcyk and Camille Tokerud

For US-Canada-Japan Encounters in Music, Music From Japan Invites Two Composers and Ten Critics from MCANA to Tokyo and Fukushima for a Series of Concerts and Educational Events (July 5-9)

Naoyuki Miura, Artistic Director of Music From Japan, and John Fleming, President of the [Music Critics Association of North America](#) (MCANA) are pleased to announce this exciting summer program, **US-Canada-Japan Encounters in Music**. The Institute is presented in association with MCANA and offers US and Canadian composers and critics the opportunity to travel to Japan for a series of concerts and educational events. US composer [Anthony Cheung](#) and Canadian composer [Zosha Di Castri](#) will present their cutting edge work as part of [Tokyo Sinfonietta's](#) 43rd concert and attend educational programs on traditional and contemporary Japanese music in Tokyo and Fukushima. Cheung and Di Castri, who hold positions at University of Chicago and Columbia University, respectively, are highly honored composers and educators, working across several disciplines including orchestral composition, chamber composition, electronic media, and sound art. In addition, ten esteemed critics, all members of the Music Critics Association of North America, will attend the programs and participate in a series of forums with the Japanese and North American composers.

On July 5 at Tokyo Concerts Lab, **Classical and Contemporary Gagaku** will introduce the participants and audience members to both new and old works for gagaku instruments. On July 6, also at Tokyo Concerts Lab, five works by Japanese composers previously commissioned by Music From Japan will be performed. Both concerts will be preceded by lectures at 5:30pm, by professors Naoko Terauchi and Yoko Narazaki, respectively. The third program, which is presented by Tokyo Sinfonietta, will take place at Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Recital Hall on July 7. It will feature work by the two visiting composers alongside two more MFJ commissions by Japanese composers. All of the works will be performed by Tokyo Sinfonietta led by its director and renowned conductor Yasuaki Itakura. Professor Johanna Keller of Syracuse University will give a brief lecture on North American Music Now after the intermission.

Following the Tokyo events, the composers and critics will travel to Fukushima for two more days of concerts and educational events. A highlight will be a concert by regional folk music groups at

Fukushima City Concert Hall on July 8th. The concert will be preceded by an introductory lecture by Hironori Kaketa, a specialist in the folk performing arts of the region.

More information at: <http://www.musicfromjapan.org/>

US-Canada-Japan Encounters in Music 2018 Music From Japan Festival 2018 Tokyo-Fukushima

@Tokyo Concerts Lab

2-3-18 Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku, Tokyo 169-0051, Japan

Tickets: 3,000yen (3,500yen the day of)

July 5 (Thursday)

Contemporary and Classical Gagaku

5:30pm lecture by Naoko Terauchi

6pm concert

Classical gagaku: *Hyojo no Netori, Ringa, Keitoku, Bairo*

John Cage *One⁹ for sho* (1991)

Ichiro Nodaira *Voix Intérieure* for solo sho (1989)

Fuyuhiko Sasaki *To be Human* for kugo, voice and haisho (2012) MFJ commission

Post-concert Open Forum

July 6 (Friday)

Highlights of Music From Japan Commissions Tokyo II

5:30pm lecture by Yoko Narazaki

6pm concert

Yuta Bandoh *Seesaw* for violin, piano, and spatially placed string trio (2016)

Shigeaki Saegusa *Cello '88* for cello solo (1988)

Norio Fukushi *The Night of Full Moon* for female voice and nohkan (2011)

Tomiko Kohjiba *Wadatsumi* for cello and piano (2012)

Hiroyuki Yamamoto *New York Dance* for piccolo, bass clarinet, flugel horn,
violin & piano (2016)

Post-concert Open Forum

@ Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Recital Hall

5-45 Uenokoen, Taito, Tokyo

Tickets: 4000yen (students 2000yen)

Presented by Tokyo Sinfonietta

July 7 (Saturday)

Music From Japan in Tokyo

Tokyo Sinfonietta 43rd Concert

Yusuaki Itakura, conductor

as part of

US-Canada-Japan Encounters in Music

Music From Japan Festival 2018 Tokyo

Tokuhide Niimi Piano Quintet-*shape of the soul* (2017)
MFJ commission for Festival New York 2018

Naoko Hishinuma *Deep Sea II* (2006)
MFJ commission for Festival New York 2006

Lecture Johanna Keller “Music of North America Now”

Julia Wolfe *The Vermeer Room* for chamber ensemble (1989)

Zosha di Castri *Cortège* for 13 musicians (2010)

Comments by di Castri and Cheung on their music

Anthony Cheung *vis-à-vis* for chamber ensemble (2010)

Programs and performers subject to change.

Music Critics Association of North America (MCANA) is the only North American organization for professional classical music critics. Incorporated in 1957, the membership encompasses leading reviewers, program annotators and broadcast journalists. Each year, MCANA sponsors institutes on specialized topics and an annual meeting. Both are held in collaboration with presenters of noteworthy musical events.

In 2004, MCANA and the National Arts Journalism Program co-sponsored "Shifting Ears," a symposium about the profession in partnership with Columbia University and the American Music Center; it featured prominent critics, musicians and scholars. MCANA maintains a classical music magazine at <http://classicalvoiceamerica.org/>, launched in 2013.

Founded in 1975 by its current Artistic Director, Naoyuki Miura, **Music From Japan**

(<http://www.musicfromjapan.org/>) continues to preside as the leading presenter of Japanese contemporary and traditional music in the United States and the world. Music From Japan has presented more than 450 works including 95 world premieres and 84 commissions from both Japanese and American composers in North and South America, Central Asia, and East Asia. Over the course of the organization's 40 years, about 170 Japanese composers have been showcased, as well as many traditional Japanese pieces.

A catalyst for cultural exchange, Music From Japan has been fostering communications between Japanese and US composers and musicians for more than four decades. Music From Japan's annual festivals, symposia and other educational events have helped broaden the audience for Japanese music in both the US and Japan. Its presentations of American musicians performing music by Japanese composers and vice versa have both been popular and critically well received. In 1994, Music From Japan established the Resource Center for Japanese Music and published the Japanese Composer Database online, to provide information in English to people from all over the world on Japanese composers and their music. In 2016, the Resource Center's technical aspects were updated to be compatible with current software, and to create a modern online user interface.

The concerts themselves have represented an enormous range of settings and ensembles, from solo concerts to large orchestral works and the Japanese grand opera *Kinkakuji*. The repertoire has ranged from traditional Japanese music to modern classical, electronic, and improvised music by both Japanese and American composers and performers.

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www.musicfromjapan.com

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