

# Setouchi Palette Project

## News Release



Setouchi  
Palette  
Project



### Setouchi Symphony, in collaboration with Japan Cultural Expo

October 16th, 2019

West Japan Railway Company

The Setouchi Palette Project is a JR West initiative that aims to encourage the many visitors to Setouchi to make repeat visits and to promote the area as an ideal touring destination. The contents of this program were put together by the Setouchi Palette Japan Cultural Expo Executive Committee to bring the beauty of Japan through the ages to life by making use of Setouchi's abundant nature, cultural assets, and rich cultural background. It has been adopted as a Japan Cultural Expo Project for FY 2019, promoted by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and will be held at the following venues in the Hiroshima area.

#### Japan Cultural Expo Setouchi Symphony program overview by venue

- 1 Kousanji Temple, Setoda: November 9 (Sat), 10 (Sun), 23 (Sat, national holiday), 24 (Sun)**  
Venue: Special event venue inside Kousanji Museum, Setoda, Onomichi City  
Details: Performance by Yasuo Watani (harmonica) - November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Performance by Jiang Jianhua (erhu) and Yang Baoyuan (pipa) - November 24<sup>th</sup>  
2 performances per day (1:45 pm and 3:30 pm), spectators must pay for admission to Kousanji Museum
  - 2 Jodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 2 (Sat), 3 (Sun), 23 (Sat, national holiday), 24 (Sun)**  
Venue: Special event venue inside the grounds, Jodoji Temple, Higashikubo-cho, Onomichi City  
Details: Performance by Yasuo Watani (harmonica) - November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Performance by Jiang Jianhua (erhu) and Yang Baoyuan (pipa) - November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>  
Tsunemasa – Evening noh performance starring Kiyoshi Yoshida and Atsushi Yoshida of the Kanze School of Noh - November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Performances start at 7:00 pm, free admission
  - 3 Hodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 9 (Sat), 10 (Sun), 16 (Sat), 17 (Sun)**  
Venue: Special event venue inside the grounds, Hodoji Temple, Higashitsuchido-cho, Onomichi City  
Details: Onomichi Betcha taiko drumming - November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>  
Bingo Kawachi taiko drumming - November 17<sup>th</sup>  
2 performances per day (6:00 pm and 7:10 pm), free admission
  - 4 Otomeza Theater, Mitarai: November 2 (Sat), 23 (Sat, national holiday)**  
Venue: Otomeza Theater, Important Preservation District for Groups of Traditional Buildings in Yutakamachi-mitarai, Kure City  
Details: Concert by Jiang Jianhua (erhu) and Yang Baoyuan (pipa) - November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>  
2 performances per day (1:15 pm and 2:45 pm), free admission
  - 5 Saikokuji Temple, Onomichi: November 2 (Sat), 3 (Sun, national holiday), 17 (Sun), 23 (Sat, national holiday), 24 (Sun)**  
Venue: Auditorium inside Saikokuji Temple, Nishikubo-cho, Onomichi City  
Details: Tasting of lemon hotpot, a local specialty, and special lecture by vice-priest Yuo Aso  
Held twice per day (5:15 pm and 6:15pm), free admission
- Organized by the Setouchi Palette Japan Cultural Expo Executive Committee, Agency for Cultural Affairs, and the Japan Arts Council
  - Organized in cooperation with Hiroshima Prefecture - Cosponsored by Onomichi City and Kure City
  - Advance reservations for each venue included in this program can be made online.  
(Some places may also be available on the day, however, this is not guaranteed.)  
Please confirm details online before attending.

\* For more information on events 1-4, please see the performance guide.

## <Attachment> Performance guide

### ● Performance by Yasuo Watani (harmonica)

Yasuo Watani was crowned world champion at the International Harmonica Competition 1988 and spent time in Germany as a chromatic harmonica soloist. He continues to give recitals in Japan and around the world, mainly centered on classical music but also playing famous tango and moving Japanese pieces. Lose yourself in the melancholy sound of the harmonica as Watani astounds you with his skillful, revolutionary style.

Kousanji Temple, Setoda: November 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> 2 performances per day  
(1:45pm and 3:30pm, lasts about 40 mins)  
Jodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1 performance  
(7:00pm, lasts about 40 mins)



### ● Performance by Jiang Jianhua (erhu) and Yang Baoyuan (pipa)

These performers became world-famous for playing the theme song of The Last Emperor, composed by Ryuichi Sakamoto. The expressive, powerful tone of the traditional Chinese pipa and sweet, expansive sound of the erhu, sometimes known as the Chinese violin, make an exquisite combination.



Kousanji Temple, Setoda: November 24<sup>th</sup> - 2 performances (1:45pm and 3:30pm, lasts about 40 mins)  
Jodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> - 1 performance per day (7:00pm, lasts about 40 mins)  
Otomeza Theater, Mitarai: November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> - 2 performances each day (1:15pm and 2:45pm, lasts about 40 mins)

### ● Tsunemasa – Noh performance

This is a special evening Noh performance starring Kiyoshi Yoshida and Atsushi Yoshida of the Kanze School, who also perform at Onomichi Takiginoh in May each year. The elegant surroundings of the 700 year old Amidado provide the perfect backdrop as the bonfire exudes a mysterious air.

Jodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1 performance  
(7:00pm, lasts about 50 mins)



Kiyoshi Yoshida Atsushi Yoshida

### ● Onomichi Betcha taiko drumming

Betcha taiko drumming was created in 1987 to give a modern twist to the rhythm of the traditional mikoshi (portable shrine) and accompanying hayashi (band) that can be seen at the Betcha Festival, which is held on November 3rd each year. The intense sound as the drummers play with all of their might is thrilling.

Hodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> - 2 performances per day  
(6:00 pm and 7:10 pm, lasts about 30 mins)



### ● Bingo Kawachi taiko drumming

Formed in 1988, this group has been active for over 30 years, looking to bring together and revitalize the local area through taiko drumming. The group brings together people of all ages from around the region, and includes members from Mitsugi, Fuchu, Onomichi, and Mihara. Experience the thrill of Japanese taiko.

Hodoji Temple, Onomichi: November 17<sup>th</sup> - 2 performances  
(6:00 pm and 7:10 pm, lasts about 30 mins)

