

Music

Portland Taiko, Fall concert - Crossings



CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Taiko's fall concert, 'Crossings', featuring guest artists Kenny Endo, Obo Addy and Jeffrey Peyton, will take place September 8-9, 2000 at 8 p.m. at the Newmark Theater, Portland Center for the Performing Arts. 'Crossings' will feature the world premiere of Endo's *Continental Harmony* composition for Portland Taiko, entitled *Wind, Water, and Wood*. As the recipient of Oregon's *Continental Harmony* award, Portland Taiko was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Composers Forum to commission this new work

by Endo.

Endo's composition will be performed by Portland Taiko's ensemble of drummers, joined by Endo on taiko, Addy on African percussion, and Peyton on marimba and latin percussion.

The piece draws from traditional Tokyo festival music, Afro-cuban rhythms, and driving kumi-daiko (ensemble drumming), with extensive improvisation by each guest artist and Portland Taiko performer.

The work explores a broad range of musical soundscapes, from contemplative melodies on marimba and violin, to explosive rhythms on drums from Japan, Africa and Latin America.

This collaborative performance of *Wind, Water, and Wood* will be the highlight of an evening full of Portland Taiko's original repertoire. The group's power, humor, and exuberance will weave through a blend of contemporary taiko rhythms, movement, and stories. Portland Taiko will also premiere *Bamboo Bridge*, a work that fuses spoken word with Filipino and Japanese American communities. Endo, Addy and Peyton will also perform solo works.

For more information on Taiko, call 503/224-1458.

Tickets are on sale now through the PCPA Box Office and at all FASTIXX outlets at 503/224-8499. Ticket

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