

Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers: In Time - 30th Anniversary Tour

On tour in the UK in 2024

www.taiko.co.uk

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Thu 9 May 2024 **New Brighton, Floral Pavilion** **7:30pm**
www.florarpavilion.com **0151 666 0000**

Join the celebration of Mugenkyo's landmark 30th anniversary, with a very special show of big beats, visual treats & vital energy.

Taking the audience on a journey 'in time', a thrilling ride through their 30 years, the concert is a full theatrical experience, with dynamic choreography and heart-pounding rhythms contrasting with atmospheric soundscapes.

As Europe's longest-established taiko group, Mugenkyo are widely recognised as the ground-breaking pioneers of this exciting art-form, thrilling audiences at thousands of performances worldwide, now returning with their first major UK tour in almost 5 years. In 2024 they return to the road with an electrifying and uplifting performance of skill, stamina and soul, just 'in time' for this special Birthday Bash!

In the intervening years, Mugenkyo have been busy on projects such as collaborating on the ambitious "World of Gods" with the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, filming for the Hollywood film "Tin Soldier" in Greece with Jamie Foxx and Robert DeNiro, a 2-week run at the World Expo in Dubai, the BBC TV Tokyo Olympics, a 26-date run at the Adelaide Fringe, the "Fire & Light" site-specific project, creating online classes & virtual performance, along with rebuilding their purpose-built residential studio & workshop space for their ongoing in-house training programme and masterclasses for taiko groups.

As well as their extensive touring through their 30 year history, Mugenkyo have released 6 albums and 3 concert DVD's, making them the most artistically prolific taiko group outside of Japan. In addition to their main touring work at theatres and concert halls, Mugenkyo also perform at large-scale events and festivals at home and abroad, and have appeared on numerous television programmes such as the Brit Awards, BBC Last Night of the Proms, and filming in India for Bollywood. Mugenkyo push the boundaries of the art-form with their genre-crossing collaborations: with violin, piano & voice for the BBC World Showcase, with fiddle, tabla & Indian dance for the Edinburgh Mela Festival, with Scottish bagpipes for BBC Scotland, and with electronic music at Glastonbury.

PRESS CONTACT

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Contact us for: profile, full press pack, high-resolution jpegs, MP3 files for radio broadcast, press tickets for reviewers, DVD footage / CD for broadcast.

MUGENKYO TAIKO DRUMMERS – Press Reviews

"Lightning-fast synchronisation & complex rhythms on huge barrel-sized instruments. Hypnotic and primal, the show is an entrancing display of physicality, precision and discipline."

The List

"Mugenkyo showcases its musical presentation in totally modern style, making the esoteric thoroughly pop... sustaining its appeal right to the climax, winning thunderous applause."

The Stage

"If ever there was a musical incarnation of raw physical power, Taiko drumming has to be it. Mugenkyo have brought their energetic Taiko performance to Edinburgh, receiving whoops of joy from its audiences. Taiko drumming is as much a physical spectacle as an aural one; the drummers use calculated disciplined movements... Your whole body begins to reverberate as the soft patter of raindrops grows into a deep rumble. Just when you think it could not get any more powerful, it doubles in intensity.

This show is not one to be missed.

★★★★★ **Edinburgh Evening News**

"Unashamedly drumming as theatre, but also drumming as an almost religious experience... exhilarating to behold."

★★★★★ **The Glasgow Herald**

"This is not music for wimps. A tour de force of both music and stamina..."

If the tour bus is parked in your neighbourhood my advice is go to the gig, and don't take the cotton wool."

Avant Magazine

"The members of Mugenkyo, Europe's only professional Taiko drumming group, perform with what seems an unlikely combination of reckless abandon and metronome-like precision. Armed with wooden sticks, they whack their drums – which range from small, bowl-sized instruments to others the size of boulders – in a combination of synchronised movements reminiscent of tai chi. But there is nothing tai chi-like about the sound: a heady, relentless and rigid beat over which complex counter-rhythms are steadily added. From a soft pitter-pattering evocative of a slight rainfall to a thundering, eardrum-bursting shudder loud enough to wake the gods, these musicians display a remarkable control, with not a beat out of place anywhere."

The Scotsman

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30th Anniversary Tour

2024 SPRING TOUR DATES

Tue 7 May	Ulverston	The Coro	www.thecoro.co.uk	01229 588 994
Wed 8 May	Bradford	St George's Hall	www.bradford-theatres.co.uk	01274 432000
Thu 9 May	New Brighton	Floral Pavilion	www.floralpavilion.com	0151 666 0000
Fri 10 May	Malvern	Forum Theatre	www.malvern-theatres.co.uk	01684 892 277
Sat 11 May	Weston Super Mare	The Playhouse	www.theplayhouse.co.uk	01934 645544
Sun 12 May	Portsmouth	New Theatre Royal	www.newtheatroyal.com	023 9264 9000
Tue 14 May	Newbury	Corn Exchange	www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk	01635 32421
Wed 15 May	Milton Keynes	The Stables	www.stables.org	01908 280 800
Thu 16 May	Crewe	Lyceum Theatre	www.trafalgartickets.com	0343 310 0050
Fri 17 May	Hexham	Queen's Hall	www.queenshall.co.uk	01434 652 477
Sat 18 May	Scunthorpe	The Baths Hall	www.scunthorpetheatres.co.uk	01724 296 296
Sun 19 May	Sunderland	The Fire Station	www.thefirestation.org.uk	0191 5700 007
Sat 8 Jun	Edinburgh	Assembly Rooms	www.assemblyroomsedinburgh.co.uk	0131 220 4348

Further dates throughout 2024 & 2025
See www.taiko.co.uk for updates