

# Noriko Tadano

## WORKSHOPS/PERFORMANCE

### TSUGARU SHAMISEN



Noriko Tadano has been playing Shamisen since she was 6 years old. She has performed in Japan, Europe, Canada, Tonga, Fiji and at festivals and events all over Australia.

The shamisen is an instrument that has been around for a long time in Japan. It first came to Japan from China via Okinawa. People in Japan developed their own way of playing it. In the Edo period (1603 – 1868), it was used as background music for Kabuki theatre. Its popularity soared as a result and it became one of the main instruments of Japan's classical music; now it is also used in jazz and popular music.

Noriko Tadano performs in Australia with many top jazz and blues performers. She has played rock and roll on the TV program "Spicks and Specks", and was even a finalist in *Australia's Got Talent*.

#### Performances / Workshops

Noriko Tadano plays both traditional Japanese folk songs (Minyo) as well as original pieces on the Tsugaru Shamisen (Japanese Banjo). While traditional Minyo depicts the life and feelings of 'older' Japan, centring around the themes of love, family and a close connection with nature, Noriko's original pieces explore feelings and experiences through melodic notes and heart pounding beats.

In the workshops, Noriko explains and demonstrates the Shamisen in more depth, and shows students its many characteristics. Students will have the opportunity to play the Shamisen with her. Noriko also teaches Japanese Bono Dori dancing in her workshops. It is very energetic and students love it. The dancing song is a fisherman's song, incorporating many movements of their work style: pulling nets from the ocean, collecting fish and so on.

<b>Suitability</b> Prep – Year 12	<b>Duration</b> 45 minutes + Q&A
<b>Performance</b> \$7.00 +GST per person (minimum 120 participants)	
<b>Workshops</b> \$195.00 +GST per workshop (maximum 30 participants)	
<b>Minimum of 2 workshops per visit</b> if not preceded by a performance.	



**BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:** Nexus Arts [www.nexusarts.com.au](http://www.nexusarts.com.au)  
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Email [nexusarts@netspace.net.au](mailto:nexusarts@netspace.net.au)

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## FEEDBACK

Noriko, thank you from the bottom of my heart! Thanks to you, our Japan Day was a very successful event. We have heard wonderful feedback from many students and staff. If I dare to say it briefly, I think the word is "masterpiece".

- *Colonel Light Gardens PS, SA*

An AMAZING experience for students and teachers. Students couldn't stop talking about it in the playground afterwards

- *Keiko Yoshino, Belair SS*

An absolutely incredible, amazing and beautiful performance. Opens your eyes to the magical cultural aspect of Japan. Haunting, ethereal sounds and singing which leaves you mesmerised with goose bumps and heartfelt vibrations. Students were inspired, "She should be on The Voice" "A brilliant performance, excellent!"

- *Ms Bondarenko, North Haven PS*

A very engaging and exciting performance. The students loved it: "It was so much fun" "Can she come back?" It was a delight to have you as part of Calvary Japanese Cultural Day - *Hayley Aston, Calvary Lutheran PS, SA*

Absolutely Amazing. Noriko brought Japanese Music to life at our school

- *Dale Vanstone, Aldinga Beach PS*

Excellent Performance. Enjoyed by all!

- *Chizuru Banks & Michelle Page, Our Lady of Mount Carmel SA*



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