

# Wa-sa-bi

わさび it's hot!

*If you like cultural incursions with a bang, then this is for you!*



When the thundering power of the Taiko meets the shimmering beauty of the Shamisen no one is left unmoved.

**Wasabi** consists of two master musicians of the Japanese tradition. Join them as they take your students on an unforgettable and exhilarating journey through the music and culture of Japan. With plenty of participation and loads of laughs blended seamlessly with virtuoso performance, your students will have so much fun they'll never guess how much they've learnt!

**Toshinori Sakamoto** has devoted his life to the art of Japanese drumming (wadaiko) and is an experienced and acclaimed Taiko Master. He has founded RINDO DAIKO in Kyushu as well as several Taiko teams in Melbourne since settling here in '95. He performs regularly in Festivals and schools throughout Australia and Japan.



**Noriko Tadano** is an award-winning master of the Japanese shamisen (a 3-string, banjo-like instrument) and a traditional Japanese vocalist. She has been playing shamisen since she was 6 years old and performs with renowned musicians all around the world. Her achievements include the 'Head Judge's Special Award' at the National Japanese Shamisen Competition, a solo performance at the Sydney Opera House, shows at WOMADelaide and a finalist in Australia's Got Talent 2012 with George Kamikawa.

**"Wasabi was a HUGE hit with the students and truly fuelled their enthusiasm for the Japanese language and culture. They were completely engaged for the duration of the show. I would be very inclined to welcome them back to the school in the future."**  
Gillian Eeley, Craigsley State School



**Suitability:** Prep – Year 12    **Duration:** 55 minutes

**Cost:** \$6.00 per student +GST (minimum audience of 120 students)

Workshops \$175.00 +GST for 25 – 50 students (if following a performance)

**Bookings & Enquiries:** Nexus Arts [www.nexusarts.com.au](http://www.nexusarts.com.au)

Phone 03 9528 3416 Freecall 1800 675 897

Email [nexusarts@netspace.net.au](mailto:nexusarts@netspace.net.au)

# Feedback for WASABI

“It was great! Cool and LOUD!!  
An excellent, powerful and spectacular entertainment.”  
**Brighton Grammar School**

“Students were jumping with excitement to participate.”  
**Amanda Dallimore, Mount Waverley PS**

“I loved it to the moon and back” said **Luke, Prep student, St Mary’s Colac**

“All the children were completely engaged by the experience. They loved the energy, techniques and songs. It was great that so many students got to have a go and was so valuable for the kids to enjoy 'real-life' Japanese not just from video and books! What a fantastic show - Thank You" **Penny Knight. St Mary's Colac**

“The children talked about the experience for days. Wasabi brought the Japanese festive spirit to our school. The lively music and drums made us all want to dance. Fantastic!” **Farrer PS ACT**

“Students loved it!! All the students were talking about it and how they wanted to see it again. They were very engaged. Teachers thought it was fantastic. Good presenters that were lively, informative and entertaining!” **Greenwith PS**

“Students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were completely engaged! I already have students/teachers asking if we can get them back next year!”  
**Flaxmill Schools**

“Students were so excited to see the instruments played and keen to use some language. The performers involved the students and did a fantastic job. Lots of information given. Very professional, great quality performance.” **Keithcot Farm PS**

“The students enjoyed it very much, enjoyed being involved. Teachers thought it was very good, well explained and great that you got the students involved.”  
**Sheidow Park School**

“Student response – cool, great, awesome, loud, fantastic, spectacular! They liked the instruments and enjoyed the chance to play. Teachers found them awesome and charismatic and loved the fact that the students got to participate. They liked that the performers catered for a wide age range.” **Charnwood Dunlop School**

“The students found the drums cool. Something really different. Teachers thought it was aimed at the right level in terms of talking to the students.”  
**Monash Primary School**

"Great audience participation. Terrific learning opportunity! Really enjoyed such a different performance." **St Vincents School**

"They were thrilled! They loved it, and enjoyed performing with you all."  
**Geebung State School**