

# KYOKU 極 JAPANESE CHAMBER MUSIC

日本の伝統音楽

Traditional Japanese  
instrumental ensemble  
(shakuhachi, koto,  
shamisen)



## Mieko Miyazaki & Suizan Lagrost Shakuhachi, Koto, Shamisen

Sounds you never heard...

Unique in Europe, Mieko Miyazaki and Suizan Lagrost's ensemble invites you to discover the diversity and refinement of Japanese music.

Its repertoire, made of both classical pieces and popular melodies, explores Japan's nature and soul thanks to the infinite range of sound colors offered by traditional instruments.

Sometimes blast or pure, sometimes dense or light, or deep or aerial, the sound of the *shakuhachi* seems not to have any limit in diversity. This simple root of bamboo pierced with five holes, which was the prerogative of itinerant

Buddhist monks for a long time, seduces more and more Western ears today.

The *koto* is characterized by its deep and woody sound in the low register and the brightness of the high register. The traditional playing techniques (friction, glissandi, tremolo, stressed vibrato) and their exotic resonance are an *invitation au voyage*.

Used as accompaniment of the voice, as a solo or ensemble instrument (especially into *kabuki* theater), the *shamisen*, a Japanese three-stringed lute, was the favorite instrument of geishas.

This project emerged from both Mieko's and Suizan's desire to play and share with the Western audience a repertoire that is rarely heard outside Japan.

The two artists have in common a deep knowledge in traditional Japanese music, an open mind to other musical styles (jazz, contemporary music, improvisation...) and a great experience on stage.

The result of this encounter is poetic, intense, exotic and surprising at a time. A musical journey from which one doesn't come only charmed but also transformed.



Suizan J.-F. LAGROST  
Shakuhachi

suizan@flute-shakuhachi.com  
+33 6 61 88 00 67

<http://www.flute-shakuhachi.com>

## Repertoire (might be updated)

CHIDORI NO KYOKU (Yoshizawa Kengyō)  
*The Singing of the Plovers*

HARU NO UMI (Miyagi Michio)  
*Sea in Spring*  
[See on YouTube](#)

KAGERŌ (Iwata Kohachiro)  
*Mirage*

ICHIKOTSU (Yamamoto Hōzan)  
*D*

MEIKYŌ (Kineya Seiho)  
*Clear Mirror*

(...)

## CD

[KYOKU 極 - Japanese Chamber Music \(Felmay\)](#)



Mieko MIYAZAKI  
Koto, Shamisen, Voice

kotomieko@gmail.com  
+33 6 77 55 76 49

<http://www.miekomiyazaki.com>