

WILLIAM TOKUHISA

Voice artist — khoomei, noise voice, prepared jaw harp, improvised speech

Born in Brazil · Lives and works in Fujisawa, Japan · Self-taught, professionally active since 1999

tokuhisa-william.com · youtube.com/@SVCwilly

JURIED SELECTIONS, AWARDS & INVITATIONS

2025	Invited artist (travel and accommodation fully covered), 10th International Jew's Harp Congress and Festival, Akan-ko Ainu Kotan, Hokkaido, Japan
2011	Selected, TOKYO EXPERIMENTAL FESTIVAL, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo — <i>Creating a Forest of Voices</i> , Kurayami no Tones: participatory performance for 20 voices in total darkness
2008	Selected and Audience Award, 3rd Sound Performance Dojo, Aichi Arts Center, Nagoya — <i>VOIZ</i> , solo voice performance
2006	Selected artist, Toride Art Project, Ibaraki (39 selected from 253 applicants)

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

2026	Mama Santos, Kilowatt, San Francisco, USA — duet on prepared jaw harps with Tatiana; noise voice and bilingual improvised speech; “noizu karaoke”
2026	<i>Environmental Sound and Improvisation</i> , Matsu no Mori Kugenuma (registered tangible cultural property), Fujisawa — voice and jaw harp, with kat0sh and Koto (TRAPEZOID)
2026	<i>Fading Echoes II / Encounter of Asia and the West</i> , dir. Hiroshi Koike, Odyssey Creative Center, Tokyo — solo jaw harp and voice
2026	Improvised trio with Miki Naoe and kat0sh, Oriental Force, Tokyo — voice and improvised speech
2025	Happening Fujisawa, curated by Ippei Yonezawa, rooftop theater of Fujisawa Meiten Building (391 THEATRE), Fujisawa — outdoor improvised voice performance
2017	<i>World Conference</i> , dir. Hiroshi Koike — voice and jaw harp; co-composer
2015	<i>Premium Studio Live Vol. 8</i> , presented by <i>Sound & Recording Magazine</i> , Spiral Hall, Tokyo — TAIKUJ JIKANG with AFRA (beatbox) and KEN ISHII
2013	<i>Voice of Wind, Breath of Water</i> , Tsumugine, produced by Midori Takada — opening performance, Ark Hills Music Week, Tokyo
2013	<i>Voice Performance: A Journey Around the Earth</i> , lecture-performance, Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC), Shizuoka
2012, 2015	Duo and trio performances with Gianni Gebbia (Italy), Tokyo
2012	Southeast Asia tour with TAIKUJ JIKANG (voice) — Museum Topeng, Bali, Indonesia; The Actors Studio @ Lot 10, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (supported by the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur)
2009	<i>Den de la Dragon</i> (Yasunoshin Morita), Tokyo Opera City Recital Hall, Tokyo — voice percussion
2008	National Day reception, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Tokyo — voice, jaw harp and recitation (trio)
2007	<i>Garden AGORA 2007</i> , Co. Utsukushii Yuki (dir. Miyuki Kawamura), Winter Summit 2006 festival, Komaba Agora Theater, Tokyo — voice and reading

PARTICIPATORY PROJECTS

2019–present	<i>Khoo Meditation</i> — voice meditation based on Tuvan khoomei, developed under Shugendō ascetic Suigan Nakajima; 25+ sessions
2009–2015	<i>Kurayami no Tones</i> (Tones in the Dark), co-founded with Hiroshi Tamura — participatory voice events in total darkness; 50+ events, approx. 1,500

participants by 2013
 2007–08 *Uta no Sumu Ie* (The House Where Songs Live), Able Art Onstage (Meiji Yasuda / Able Art Japan) — director and workshop leader, with people with and without disabilities; Keio University, Tokyo

FILM, RADIO & RECORDING

2023–24 *Bar 2000*, Nina-Maria Oförsagd (Finland) — role “Yuji”; premiere at the Finnish Institute in Japan, Tokyo (2023); Galleria Huuto, Helsinki (2024)
 2021–22 *Galaxy 2072*, dir. Hiroshi Koike — lead role (feature film)
 2020–21 *Granblue Fantasy Versus* (Cygames) — khoomei, voices and jaw harp
 2019 *Onagigawa Monogatari*, dir. Mitsugu Onishi — lead role (feature, shot 2013–16)
 2017–18 *The Man from the Sea*, dir. Koji Fukada — khoomei and voice recordings; voice coaching for lead actor Dean Fujioka
 2015–16 *Mohican Comes Home*, dir. Shuichi Okita — voice recordings (credited)
 2012–18 *Music Made from Sound* series, Kei Shichiri / Takumi Ikeda — voice performer and vocal director; supported by Arts Council Tokyo
 2012 *Kaisho / Cinema before Cinema*, Leo Pellegatta (Italy) — voice and sound poetry
 2006–07 *Amaterasu in Shinjuku*, radio work by Malte Jaspersen — broadcast on RBB Kulturradio, Radio Bremen and Deutschlandradio Kultur, Germany
 2005 *Biotronica*, Shuji Okayama — kargyraa voice on “Shimuryoshin”

TEACHING & LECTURES

2014 Lecturer, Meiji Univ. Liberty Academy — “Listening to the World’s Folk Music”
 2013 Guest lecturer, Faculty of Letters, Keio University, Tokyo
 2010–14, 2019 Invited instructor, Performing Arts Institute (P.A.I.), directed by Hiroshi Koike
 2008 Workshop leader, *Dare mo Inai Bijutsukan de* (In the Empty Museum), after-hours series, Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo (navigator: Yo Kashiwagi)
 1999–present Voice coach in traditional and extended vocal techniques

PRESS

2019 *ONTOMO* (Ongaku no Tomo Sha web magazine, Japan), feature on Tenores de Tokyo, the Tokyo canto a tenore group that went viral in Sardinia, 17 July
 2019 *La Nuova Sardegna* (Italy), “Su cantigu a tenore in Giapone,” 14 April
 2015 *Sound & Recording Magazine*, March, p. 48 — TAIKUJ JIKANG with AFRA and KEN ISHII
 2014 *Asahi Shimbun* (digital), making of *Onagigawa Monogatari*, January
 2013 *Nikkei* (evening ed.), review of TAIKUJ JIKANG’s *ONE GONG*, 15 March
 2013 *Latina* (Japan), September issue, “EVENTO,” review by Shigeo Akutsu of a khoomei lecture-performance with Eiji Kamada
 2013 *SOTOKOTO* (Japan), two-page feature on TAIKUJ JIKANG’s concert in Bali
 2012 *New Straits Times* (1 and 15 July), *The Star* (15 July), *Sin Chew Daily* (26 July) and *The Sun* (31 July), Malaysia — coverage of TAIKUJ JIKANG’s Kuala Lumpur performances; BFM Radio feature (6 July)
 2005 *Waseda Gakuho* (Waseda University magazine, Japan), music feature
 2002 *SOTOKOTO* (Japan), August issue, p. 83

RESEARCH & TRAINING

2019 Canto a tenore field exchange, Sardinia, Italy, with Tenores de Tokyo
 — Mongolian long song with Delger, Mongolia (three months); otherwise self-taught