

TCM

Since 1975

Institute of Ethnomusicology Tokyo College of Music

TCM



Director's Message - Pioneering a new horizon for music culture -

Tokyo College of Music (TCM) aims to pioneer a new horizon for music culture. As an affiliated research institute of TCM, the Institute of Ethnomusicology (IETCM) has systematically promoted research, performance and education of music to create new music culture while inheriting music traditions. We have also achieved significant results in regional cooperation and social education through traditional music from all over the world.

True creation is only achieved by understanding musics as sounds and thinking about societies, people, and the history behind musics. Putting a special importance on Asian music, this institute promotes research on a variety of music cultures in the world from the various perspectives, communicating the research findings with faculties in and communities outside of the campus. This institute aims to create new values to solve various issues in our multicultural society at present and in the future.



Director Hidetoshi Kobinata (M.Phil)

Our Mission & Activities

Mission

The Institute of Ethnomusicology investigates music cultures in various regions of the world from the perspective of the contemporaneous form and history. We aim not only to research sounds that make "music" and the people and society behind it, but also apply them to society. IETCM, thus, contributes to creation of a new musical culture in Japan and around the world.

Activities

IETCM is active in:

- (1) Material collection, investigation, and study/presentation of music around the world,
- (2) Domestic and overseas collaboration with research institutions and researchers
- (3) Study meetings and public lectures,
- (4) Cooperation with undergraduate and graduate education programs,
- (5) Archive building of the materials and musical instruments stored in the institute
- (6) Publication of research bulletins, *IETCM Lecture series*, etc., and
- (7) Others



History

In 1975, Akira Ifukube (Composer, 1914-2006), a former president of TCM, founded the Ethnomusicology Laboratory (currently IETCM), which he had long desired, and became the first head of the laboratory. Reflecting on the founding of the institute, he later said, "Music education was centered to so exclusively European and American. It was still a remnant of Datsu-A nyū-Ō (leaving Asia and entering Europe). We lost sight of our own position, with little regard for the music of Asian peoples."

Initially, our research focused on the music of Ainu, Okinawa, and Indonesia. Later, members specialized in various musical cultures have joined, and the research is being conducted with a broader perspective. Beyond studying and providing information on various genres of music, IETCM has put much effort into music performance, music application to the society, and new music creation.

To cooperate with undergraduate and graduate programs, IETCM began offering a Gamelan Performance Course for undergraduates in 1979, followed by the Seminar for Traditional Japanese Music, Early Music, and Musical Instruments around the World in the graduate program. Starting in 2020 academic year, IETCM is playing a central role in research & teaching for the Multicultural Music Studies Course newly established in the graduate program.

In addition, IETCM has developed a wide range of social education programs, including a series of public lectures on various kinds of music around the world since 1991, a Gamelan Course for Adults (including dance) opened in 1996, and introductory classes for musical instruments around the world in 2003. In 2013, IETCM launched a Special Course on World Music for Adults that aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of music through lessons and lectures, producing a large number of graduates.



Chronology

- 1975 Established the Ethnomusicology Laboratory (in the Composition Department)
- 1979 Created a Gamelan Performance Course for undergraduates
- 1991 Renamed the Institute of Ethnomusicology, Tokyo College of Music
- 1991 Launched the Public Lectures series
- 1996 Launched the Gamelan Course for Adults
- 1998 Launched the research bulletin Dento to Sozo (Tradition and Creation)
- 1998 Launched the Java Dance Course
- 2003 Launched the Introduction to Musical Instruments around the World course
- 2013 Launched the Special Course on World Music for Adults
- 2015 In charge of research & teaching for Seminar for Traditional Japanese Music, Early Music, and Musical Instruments around the World established in the graduate program
- 2020 In charge of research & teaching the Multicultural Music Studies Course, Music Culture Studies in the graduate program
- 2023 In charge of teaching on "Musics in Diversity" in Music Culture & Education Major

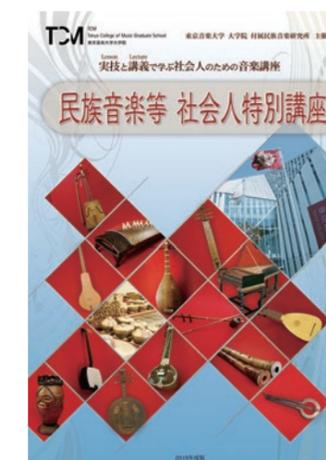
Directors

- 1975 ~ Akira Ifukube
- 1998 ~ Kiyotatsu Miyoshi
- 2001 ~ Toshiyuki Uzuka
- 2005 ~ Shin'ichiro Ikebe
- 2018 ~ Tomiko Kato
- 2024 ~ Hidetoshi Kobinata



For detailed history, visit our website below:
<https://tcm-minken.jp/>

Flyer samples of IETCM events in the past



Research

This institute has continued a variety of research projects on world music, including musics of Ainu, Indian subcontinent, Ryukyu & China, Bhutan as well as Shakuhachi & Tenpuku music with supports from JSPS KAKENHI and other financial supports from other organizations. Ming-Qing music instruments and related materials held by late Akira Ifukube, the honorary director of IETCM, were donated to TCM by his family in March 2011. The instruments (about 100 items) were accepted at IETCM while related books and music scores (about 90 items in total) were accepted at the affiliated library.

The followings include our current research projects as in FY2023:

- "Music of Indian communities in Japan and its dynamics"
- "Joint Research on Teacher Training Program for Heritage Education between Bhutan and Japan"
- "The Impact of Chinese Music in the Ryukyu Kingdom"
- "A new method of teaching traditional Ainu music using social media"
- "Performance reconstruction of Chigouta by Tenpuku flute"
- "Decoration techniques for Tenpuku flute"

Ming-Qing Music



Ming-Qing Music Scores

Ming-Qing music scores and related materials are stored at the affiliated library, as the Akira Ifukube's Ming-Qing Music Collection. The digital data can be viewed in the library.



<https://tokyo-ondai-lib.jp/collection/minshingaku/>



Study Fields

Professor	Yutaka Fujiwara	Composition
	Hidetoshi Kobinata	Music of India, Transnational world music
Visiting Professor	Tomiko Kojiba	Composition
	Noriko Sakazaki	Lute, Renaissance music
Specially Appointed Professor	Mao Ya	Guzheng
	Keikou Ryu	Erhu
	Michiko Takita	Ikuta school Koto music
Associate Professor	Hiromi Fukuda	Folk performing arts studies, Arts management
Specially Appointed Associate Professor	Hisako Naito	Ikuta school Koto music
Lecturer	Yuri Ban	Harpsichord (Cembalo)
	Nobuhiko Chiba	Ainu music
	Rafael Hiroshi Fuchigami	Shakuhachi musics, World music studies
	Suguri Haryu	Javanese dance
	Nami Higuchi	Javanese gamelan
	Kaoru Kakizakai	Shakuhachi
	Umetbaeva Kalyiman	Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan) music
	Kayo Kimura	Javanese gamelan
	Shigeo Mito	Lute, Vihuela, etc.
	Fumiko Sakura	Panflute
Researcher	Kumiko Shuto	Satsuma biwa
	Toru Yoshizawa	Recorder, 1700s Flute, etc.
	Noriko Koide	Javanese gamelan
	Makoto Yokota	Javanese gamelan



Research bulletin Dento to Sozo (Tradition and Creation)

After the research bulletin was published in 1998 (Volume 1) through 2002, followed by a long period of suspension, publication resumed in 2004, along with a twin digital edition containing color photos and videos. Various articles, research notes and reports from the institutional members and IETCM's reports and activity information are included in this bulletin.



Education

Undergraduate Program

Theory and Performance Technique of Asian Music

This class aims at understanding the music cultures of Asian regions, managed by IETCM faculty members. It is characterized by a combination of theoretical understanding of music and performance practice. Students may learn the basics of playing instruments in all of four domains including traditional Japanese music (koto), Javanese gamelan music, and music of India (sitar) as well as Ainu music in one year and explore thorough knowledge of Asian music. As for the joint classes, the institute invites music experts in Asian music to provide the lectures and performances several times a year. Undergraduate students with a variety of majors have taken the intellectually stimulating class since the opening of the program in 2013 academic year.

Gamelan Performance Practice

This class has a long history since its predecessor, the Gamelan Performance Course, started in 1979. The stepwise instruction in the performance skills of Indonesian Java gamelan music is attractive to the students. It also offers Javanese dance class to provide a deep and systematic understanding of gamelan music. Graduate students may attend as well, and many of them leverage the experience in this class for their own majors. Particularly, students in composition major have produced their new works with the use of Asian musical instruments.

Graduate Program (Master's & Doctoral Program)

Seminar for Traditional Japanese Music, Early Music, and Musical Instruments around the World

The seminar conducted by IETCM faculty members specialized in a variety of music. They teach traditional Japanese music (Ikuta school koto, classical shakuhachi, Nagauta shamisen, Satsuma-biwa), early music (lute, guitar, vihuela cembalo, recorder), traditional Ainu music (tonkori, mukhuri, and others), Chinese music (erhu and guzheng), Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan) music (komuz, etc.), Mongolian music (matouqin, etc.), Indian music (sitar), Indonesian music (Javanese gamelan, Javanese dance), and other Asian and African instruments, dances, and singing methods.

Multicultural Music Studies Course

Multicultural Music Studies Course has been launched as a new field of study in the Music Culture Studies, Department of Music Studies in 2020 academic year. IETCM faculty members lead a wide variety of classes and lectures to "create and disseminate new musical culture". Through theoretical studies, performance studies, and creative studies, Multicultural Music Studies Course covers various music cultures, such as traditional Ainu music (tonkori and others), Indian music (sitar and tabla), Indonesian music (Javanese gamelan, Javanese dance), Chinese music (erhu and guzheng), Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan) music (komuz), traditional Japanese music (Ikuta school koto, classical shakuhachi), Mongolian music (matouqin, etc.), and others.

Social Contribution

Public lectures

Public lectures are held annually four to five times a year for the general public, including TCM students. IETCM has been offering lectures and performances on music and performing arts of various countries and regions, including Okinawan kumi-odori dance, Korean traditional music, Taiwanese *Bunun* people's songs and dances, Mongolian *matouqin*, Indian music, Silk Road and Chinese music, and music from Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan), Georgia, and the Middle East.

As for Ainu music, the institute offered numerous lectures including "Songs and Dances in Nibutani", "Songs and Dances of Ainu in Chitose," and "Songs and Dances of Ainu in Akan." The institute also offers a series of lectures on performance of Ming-Qing music.



Gamelan Class for Adults

IETCM offers Indonesian Javanese *gamelan* music ensemble course (35 lessons a year, since 1996) and a dance course (30 lessons a year, since 1998) for adults. Approximately 60 students practice toward the graduation concert (about 3 hours) at the end of every academic year. In summer, the students and the lecturers participate in the training at the Indonesian Institute of the Arts (ISI), Surakarta.



Introduction to Musical Instruments around the World

Since 2003, IETCM have offered the lectures meant for the general public for six weeks each in spring and fall. There are currently 22 classes: *tonkori* (an instrument of Ainu), *yueqin* Chinese lute (Ming-Qing musical instrument) and *qin* Chinese zither, *Ryuteki* flute (Japanese court music), *erhu* from China, *matouqin* from Mongolia, *komuz* in Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan), Jew's Harp, throat-singing (*khoomei*), thumb piano, panflute from Romania, *tabla* from India, *darbukka* from the Arab, and *jembe* from West Africa. They provide an opportunity for the general public to enjoy and become familiar with various instruments from around the world. Over hundred students participate in each season.



Special Course on World Music for Adults

This course, launched in 2013, is designed for general public aged 18 and older to learn early music, traditional Japanese music, and various musical instruments around the world. Students have 25 private lessons and 20 lectures in a year. At the end of the academic year, there is a graduation concert as a final examination. Number of students have taken the course for multiple years with the aim of improving their performance techniques and broadening their musical knowledge.



Ensemble Course

With a title "Let's play traditional music instruments of Japan and the world!", this course was launched in 2023 as a new open college course for adults. Expert musicians offer various lessons in traditional musical instruments, including Japanese *koto*, *komuz* in Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan), and *matouqin* from Mongolia, as well as recorder & lute of early music, and panflute of Eastern Europe.

Social Cooperation Projects

Academic year 2019 - 2023

“The Culture City of East Asia 2019 Toshima” Partnership Project



Musical Instruments to Spin the Future of East Asia (Apr. through Sep. in 2019)

Workshop on Traditional Musical Instruments in Japan, China and Korea for Young Creators

Production & Concert of East Asian “Contemporary x Traditional” Works by Young Creators:
“Musical Instruments to Spin the Future of East Asia: “Contemporary x Traditional” – Music for animation x Orchestral instruments x Traditional musical instruments x Video -”

Workshops for General Public: “Let’s Play Stringed Instruments around the World!”

Project to Promote Culture & Art through Universities in 2022, supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan

Human Resources Development Program on Arts Management for Learning from, Creating along with Fields fostering traditions, and Connecting to Regions

-Creating new values through local legacies of traditional music and traditional performing arts-



https://www.tokyo-ondai.ac.jp/art_management/



Creating along with fields (2023 academic year)

- I. Basic Lectures
- II. Workshops and Practical Seminars
- III. Exhibition of a film “Kijishi in Oku-aizu”
- IV. Workshops for Production
- V. Report session

Hachioji Music Festival 2021 “Exhibition of musical instruments around the world” (Exhibition in 2022 academic year)



Collaborating with Hachioji College community & Culture Fureai Foundation, over 60 pieces of musical instruments stored at IETCM were exhibited.

Under the catchword “Music for Earth ♪”, various sound materials were exhibited with musical instruments.

Musical Instruments in IETCM



Tonkori
Japan



Ichigen-kin
(one-string koto)
Japan



Nigen-kin
(two-stringed koto)
Japan



Qin (guqin)
China (making in Japan)



Horagai
(Conch horn)
Japan



Tablā-bāyā
India



Tunkuru
Karafuto (Sakhalin)



Morin khuur (matouqin)
China (Inner Mongolia)



Komuz
Kurghus (Kyrgyzstan)

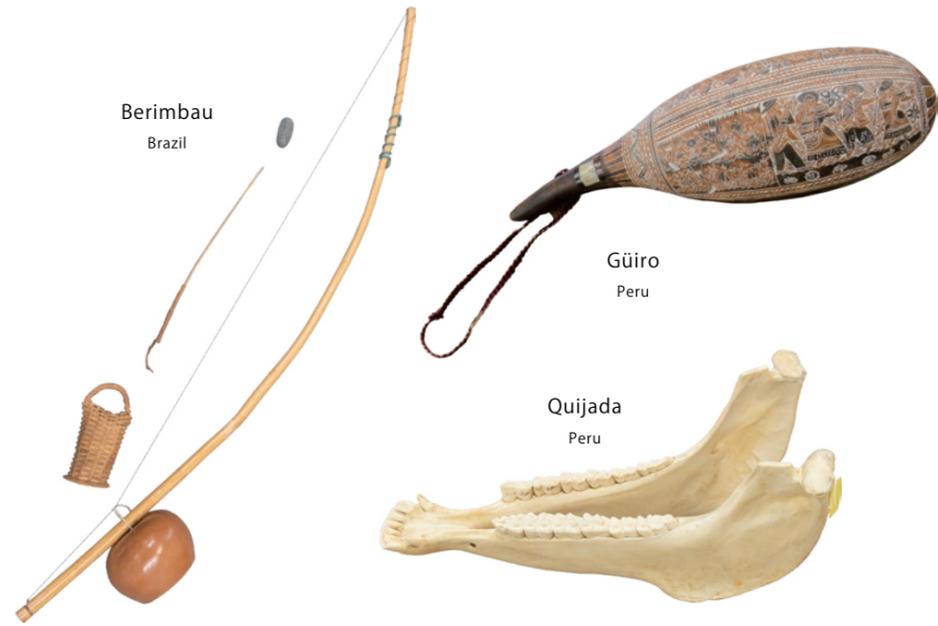


Gopiichand (gopiyantira)
India

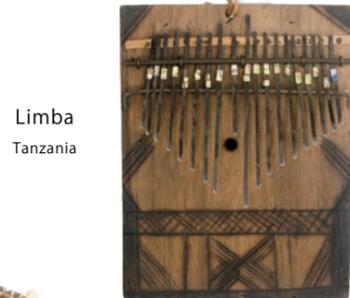


Sitār
India

Musical Instruments in IETCM



Gamelan musical instruments from Java Island, Indonesia

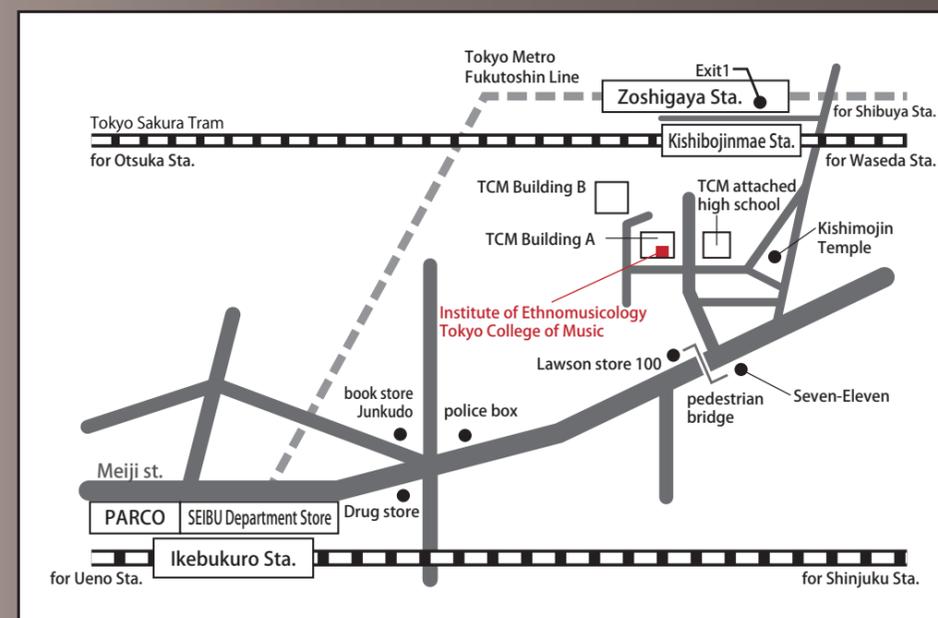




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Activities supported by government grants and subsidies

1. The Foundation for Ainu Culture – extension lectures in 1999, 2001, and 2006
2. Toshima City, “The Culture City of East Asia 2019 Toshima” Partnership Project
3. The Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, “Project to Promote Culture & Art through Universities”
4. Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research

Institute of Ethnomusicology, Tokyo College of Music

3-4-5 Minami-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo, 171-8540, Japan

Phone: +81-(0)3-3982-2136 Facsimile: +81-(0)3-3982-3187

Mail: minken@tokyo-ondai.ac.jp

Web: <https://tcm-minken.jp>

