

SHIRABYŌSHI PERFORMANCE

Thursday, October 2nd, 2014



Sakurai Makiko performs Japanese Buddhist chanting (shōmyō) and shirabyōshi dance in a live performance at the University of California Irvine. This two-part performance offers a rare look at music and dance of Japan's Heian and Kamakura periods (794-1185). Shōmyō, associated with the Tendai school of Buddhism, is performed at Buddhist services, generally by monks. It has long been a component of religious ceremonies at Buddhist temples.

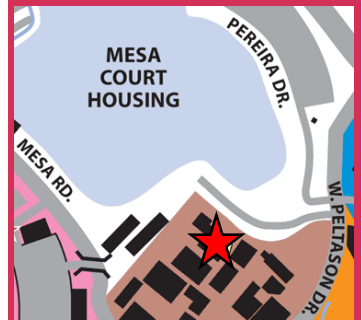
Shirabyōshi is a music and dance form in which female artists perform in male garb. Shirabyōshi performers became quite famous at the end of the Heian period, entertaining the high nobility and even appearing at the Retired Emperor's palace. In addition to shōmyō and shirabyōshi, Sakurai Makiko has studied ryu-teki, a flute used in ancient court music known as gagaku, and the music of itako, female shamans of southern Aomori prefecture.

Her broad interests include Jewish religious music and the music of the Navajo and Hopi peoples, both of which she has studied in their native settings. She has composed pieces for the Noh and puppet theaters, as well as a combination of Magrib (western Arab) and Japanese music for her "Arab Shirabyōshi Project."

Hosted by:

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES AND CENTER
FOR ASIAN STUDIES WITH DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA

UCI Main Campus
Nixon Theatre
3:00PM – 4:30PM



{ PROGRAM }
+ Introduction
+ Performance
+ Q&A Session



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