

Hinode Taiko CD HT0401

Brief glossary of taiko terms:

Note: Japanese words have the same spelling whether in singular or plural form

Atarigane (also called *chanchiki*) – small, shrill bronze gong played with *shumoku* (mallets with heads made from pieces of deer antler)

Chudaiko – 15-40 pounds, diameter 20-22", the mid-sized core instrument of most taiko performances. Drumhead is nailed directly to drumshell, therefore not tunable after manufacture.

Fuchi – rim of drum shell; used for accent strokes.

Hara – the "belly" or centre of the drumhead.

Horigai – conch shell, played as a simple trumpet.

Ji-uchi, ji – a base or backing rhythm. Usually a simple duple beat ("doko"), a swing beat ("don go"), or a "horse" rhythm ("don doko"). In most taiko groups' arrangements there are two components to the drum rhythms: the basic *ji-uchi* and a main theme called the *o-uchi*.

Kiai – release of energy; a shout/yell/vocalization emanating from the body's centre; used to release drummer's own energy or to encourage others, and often used to mark time, thus an integral part of the song.

Kodaiko – smaller drum weighing about 10 pounds, sometimes called "sumo" for its use at sumo tournaments. Like the *chudaiko* and *odaiko*, not tunable.

Shime-daiko, shime – small shallow drum with characteristic high pitch caused by tightening the drumheads with ropes or bolts.

Odaiko – the largest taiko, whose sound is often likened to rolling thunder. Often played by two drummers simultaneously, one at each drumhead.

