

# Yu Kuwabara

[http://3shimai.com/ku/index\\_Eng.html](http://3shimai.com/ku/index_Eng.html)  
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## Profile

Yu Kuwabara (b.1984, Chiba) is a composer, a researcher of Japanese traditional arts, living in Tokyo. She has made music to ask herself who she is. For several years, she has been researching and studying traditional Japanese music, arts and thought to extend as far back as possible to her origins, in order to confirm her own standing. She has collaborated with numerous artists of Japanese art forms including a Rakugo performer Kokontei Shinsuke (Japanese traditional verbal entertainment), Koto performers' groups Tsugukaji-Koto and 4plus (Japanese zither), Japanese Buddhist chant group Shomyo no Kai, Voice of Thousand Years to have investigated her own musical form between the past and the present, and also between Japan and the world.

Her work has been performed by Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, Ensemble SurPlus, Ensemble Phorminx, Ensemble Talea, ensemble mise-en, Divertimento Ensemble, Lucerne Festival Alumni, Stefan Hussong, Toshiya Suzuki, Camilla Hoitenga, Claire Chase, Hidejiro Honjoh and others at major venues in Asia, Europe and U.S. such as Music Competition of Japan (2005, 2006 and 2009, Tokyo), IMPULS Academy reading session by Enno Poppe and Klangforum Wien (2013, Graz) and Padiglione Italia Expo 2015 Milano by Sentieri selvaggi as a finalist of Feeding Music International Composition Competition.

## Academic Background

### 2007-2009

Master's degree in composition at Tokyo University of the Arts (Japan), with Shin Sato and Toshihiko Hisayuki

### 2003-2007

Majored in composition at Tokyo University of the Arts (Japan), with Shin Sato

## Workshops

### 2017

Lucerne Festival Academy Composer Seminar (Luzern, Switzerland) with Wolfgang Rihm and Dieter Ammann

Divertimento Ensemble International Workshop for Young Composers (Bobbio, Italy) with Stefano Gervasoni and Franck Bedrossian

### 2016

Academy Voix Nouvelles Foundation Royaumont (Paris, France) with Frédéric Durieux, Pierluigi Billone, Raphaël Cendo and Jean-Philippe Wurtz

### 2014

International Summer Course for New Music Darmstadt (Darmstadt, Germany) with Lucas Fels, Brian Ferneyhough, Gunnhildur Einarsdóttir, Misato Mochizuki and Clemens Gadenstätter

### 2013

IMPULS Academy (Graz, Austria), with Chaya Chernowin and Pierluigi Billone

### 2010

International Ensemble Modern Academy at Tokyo Wonder Site (Tokyo, Japan), with Toshi Ichianagi and Tristan Murail

### 2007

Schloss Solitude Summer Academy (Stuttgart, Germany), with Chaya Chernowin, Steven Kazuo Takasugi and Ole Lützw-Holm

### 2005

International Ensemble Modern Academy at Tokyo Wonder Site (Tokyo, Japan), with Hanspeter Kyburz

## Select Residencies and Competitions

**2015**

Finalist of Feeding Music International Composition Competition at EXPO Milano 2015 (Milano, Italy)

**2009-2010**

Research Residence Program 2009 at Tokyo Wonder Site Aoyama Creator-in-Residence (Tokyo, Japan)

**2009**

Finalist of The 78th Music Competitions of Japan (Tokyo, Japan)

**2006**

Prize-winning work at Stefan Hussong Accordion Workshop Concert (Tokyo, Japan)

Finalist of The 75th Music Competitions of Japan (Tokyo, Japan)

**2005**

Finalist of The 74th Music Competitions of Japan (Tokyo, Japan)

## Select Commissions

- Kanagawa Kenritsu Ongakudo (Kanagawa Prefectural Music Hall) (2017, Kanagawa, Japan)
- Divertimento Ensemble, III International Work Shop for Young Composers (2017, Piacenza, Italy)
- Foundation Royaumont, Academy Voix Nouvelles 2016 (2016, Paris, France)
- ensemble mise-en, MISE-EN MUSIC FESTIVAL 2016 (2016, New York, U.S.)
- Nocturne#22 In C Sharp Minor, Op. Posth., Collection Runway Show (2011, 2015 & 2016, Tokyo & Kanagawa, Japan)
- Shomyo no Kai - Voice of Thousand Years, Spiral Shomyo Series Vol.24 (2015, Tokyo, Japan)
- NHK Radio Center (2015, Tokyo, Japan)
- Tokyo Wonder Site (2009, 2010 & 2014, Tokyo, Japan)
- YMO YNOT, 2013 Autumn/Winter Collection Runway Show (2013, China)
- Studio Iwato, Toyota-city Noh Theater and Kokontei Shinsuke (2012-2016, Tokyo & Aichi, Japan)
- Ensemble Muromachi, Ensemble Muromachi Lecture Concert (2012, Tokyo, Japan)
- Denis Patkovic (2010 & 2013, Finland)
- Nichimen-ji Temple, Sakezuka Nirvana Ceremony (2009, Shizuoka, Japan)
- Kanagawa Kenmin Hall (Kanagawa Prefectural Hall), Art Complex (2008, Kanagawa, Japan)
- Ensemble Phorminx (2008, Darmstadt and Tübingen, Germany)
- Toshiya Suzuki, Toshiya Suzuki Recorder Recital (2008, Tokyo, Japan)

## Teaching and Lectures

**2017 FEBRUARY 9**

Lecture about my music at Japan inter-design forum - JIDF Lab "Jyoshiryoku Lab" - Yu Kuwabara "New Music and Literature" (Tokyo, Japan)

**2016 NOVEMBER 25**

Lecture about my music at Japan inter-design forum - JIDF Lab "Kotoba Lab" - Yu Kuwabara "Language of New Music" (Tokyo, Japan)

**FROM 2015**

Teaching position at Junior Composition Course at Yamaha Music Foundation (Chiba & Tochigi, Japan)

**2013 JUNE 4**

Lecture about my music at the Kunitachi University of Music (Tokyo, Japan)

**2012-2015**

Teaching position at Toho Gakuen University Music Department (Tokyo, Japan)

**2009 OCTOBER 24**

Workshop for children "Words = Playing and Greeting with Sounds" at the United Nations University Courtyard (Tokyo, Japan)

**2009-2014**

Teaching position for composition at Master Class Electone Seminar at Yamaha Music Foundation (Tokyo, Japan)