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倭 -YAMATO the Drummers of Japan

World tour 2017-2018

「挑戰者」 “Chousensha” -The Challengers

挑戰者
THE CHALLENGERS



YAMATO challenges the possibilities of Taiko drumming.

We continue challenging ourselves to achieve our potential.

The members of YAMATO are always the Challengers.

With us, you will also be a challenger at every moment.

“The Challengers”

People challenge themselves every day.

Under the sky, on the ground,
They keep moving forwards with hope and dreams in their hearts.

Sometimes, they are alone. Sometimes, they are hand in hand with someone.

In pouring rain, in approaching darkness,
We gather all our courage and challenge our unpredictable lives.

Eventually the sun rises in the distant cloudless sky.

The beat of our hearts in our bodies faces the sunrise.

Our continuous challenge.

The source of our energy.
Feel the uninterrupted vibration of the beat throughout our bodies.

We will never lose.

Concept

Since its formation in 1993, the high-energy taiko drum troupe “YAMATO” has made over 3500 performances in 53 countries. Having travelled the world with traditional Japanese taiko drums to share our energy to 6 million people, the latest program is titled “The Challengers.”

Since the group’s inception, YAMATO has pursued the possibilities of the traditional Japanese taiko drum. While paying respect to its rich history, YAMATO has been bringing new life to contemporary taiko drumming.

When the performance group YAMATO was formed unexpectedly, we lacked the traditional structure like other Japanese taiko drum groups. For that reason, it became essential for us to create something new, and that action was a challenge.

Together we ate, slept, and strengthened our bodies and souls, we dedicated all our strength in playing the taiko drums day after day. We, the young expressionists of YAMATO, struggled in the realm between tradition and innovation. Honestly, it was unavoidable to receive criticism because of our approach of using traditional instruments to create something new. What’s more, using every moment of our time in production was a difficult lifestyle and we always felt uncertain about the future. To cope with this uncertainty, we created our slogan, “We would travel wherever we are invited! To give energy to the world!” Then we travelled all over the world. Among our travels, the applause and cheers we received from those we met gave us the energy to step into the future, and overcome the numerous difficulties that stood before us.

Our newest program, The Challengers is created with the members’ feelings on their own lives and their experiences of challenging their own limits. Most of all, The Challengers offers an anthem for encouragement to all of you who were born in the same era and continue their own challenges.

In this program we are making new attempts and that can be called challenges. Most notably, YAMATO will be wearing outfits designed by the international fashion designer Kansai Yamamoto who also produces his own shows that have grown into massive festivals. Despite we have been producing all our outfits up to this point, why have we teamed up with an international designer?

It is because we need to wear his outfit to feel his big energy woven into it. As we inherit his limitless spirit of challenge, we are able to refine our spirit even further and stimulate our challenging spirit.

This is a new challenge and a new step to YAMATO.

YAMATO will continue to challenge.

Just like everyone who challenges themselves at every moment.

We are all challengers.

Let us challenge together.