



# CITY of BEAVERTON

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## NEWS RELEASE

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*The Best of Oregon*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 18, 2016**

## **BEAVERTON ARTS COMMISSION PRESENTS MUSIC IN SMALL SPACES FLUTE AND KOTO PERFORMANCE**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – Music in Small Spaces, supported by the Beaverton Arts Commission, will present “Gentle Numbers in Eternity with Mitsuki Dazai and Tessa Brinckman” on Saturday, April 23, at 2 p.m. at the Beaverton City Library auditorium, 12375 SW Fifth St.

Playing multiple flutes and kotos, Tessa Brinckman and Mitsuki Dazai perform music and poetry in celebration of National Poetry Month. The poets include Emily Dickinson, Jack Gabel, Heid Erdrich, Carl Sandburg, Nellie Wong and Terrance Hayes, in homage to the amazing diversity of gender, cultural, and generational experiences expressed by American poets. Likewise the music draws from traditional Japanese, American avant-garde and pop-groove, in a lively and soulful program. Composers include Jack Gabel, Yuji Takahashi, Ichiro Higo, John Neptune, Hiroshi Morikawa and Jim Franklin, all of whom are either native to, or have embraced as outsiders, Japanese culture.

This concert is supported by the Cultural Coalition of Washington County. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$11 for seniors and students, and free for ages 12 and under. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit [www.musicinssmallspaces.org](http://www.musicinssmallspaces.org). Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

### **ABOUT THE MUSICIANS**

After intense study of traditional koto music at the Ikuta School of Koto in Tokyo, Mitsuki Dazai pursued advanced studies in contemporary koto music at Sawai Koto Conservatory, with instruction by modern Koto Masters Tadao Sawai and world renowned Kazue Sawai. Today, Mitsuki lives in Eugene Oregon and pursues a performance career which takes her all over Oregon, California and beyond.

The standard Koto, similar to the Chinese gu-zheng, is a thirteen-string plucked zither of beautiful Paulownia wood with a movable bridge under each string. It was introduced to Japan from China through the Korean Peninsula in the 7th century.

New Zealand flutist Tessa Brinckman has been described by critics as a “flutist of chameleon-like gifts” and “virtuoso elegance” (Gramophone), an “excellent...flutist” (Willamette Week) and “highlight of Portland” (New Music Box), who “play(s) her instrument with great beauty and eloquence” (Music Matters New Zealand). In demand as a collaborator, performing on flute, piccolo, alto, contrabass and baroque flutes, Ms. Brinckman

currently works with contemporary flute/percussion duo Caballito Negro, with master koto-player, Mitsuki Dazai, and a forthcoming new baroque ensemble, Next World Collective.

#### **ABOUT BEAVERTON**

Beaverton is a welcoming and responsible city that enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. In 2015, Beaverton was recognized as one of the **safest cities** in the Pacific Northwest (according to CQ Press with cities more than 75,000). Recently, the city's award-winning finance department received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** as well as the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine. The city was named **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com* and **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine. The city also received the **Recycler of the Year** award from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, named a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, received a **Silver Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists, and recognized as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Lastly, the city's nationally acclaimed visioning program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter and also received the prestigious **3CMA Award of Excellence**.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov). Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton), or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton).

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**Caption 1:** Mitsuki Dazai (pictured) and Tessa Brinckman will perform music and poetry in “Gentle Numbers in Eternity” at the Beaverton City Library on Saturday, April 23, as part of Music in Small Spaces. *(Photo/Mitsuki Dazai)*

**Caption 2:** Tessa Brinckman (pictured) and Mitsuki Dazai will perform music and poetry in “Gentle Numbers in Eternity” at the Beaverton City Library on Saturday, April 23, as part of Music in Small Spaces. *(Photo/Tessa Brinckman)*