# Yuuri

#### **Profiles**

1987 : Born in Iizuka city, Fukuoka prefecture .

2013 : Began to participate in the project « Art performance : Projet La Voix des Poètes » which is produced by Mr. Tendo Taijin.

2015 : Encountered the old work song «GOTTON-bushi» sung in Chikuho coalmine which is situated near my hometown, and became a singer of GOTTON-bushi.

2018 : Participated a FM radio program «VθEM : Listening the voice and words of modern poetry » for 4 weeks.

2020 : Invited to International Poetry Festival in Rahovec, Kosovo 6th edition as a poet.

\*Mr. Tendo Taiji : A distinguished artist of Japan. Poet, Voice performer, Producer, Calligrapher.

### Activity and characteristics

Writing articles for newspapers and magazines.

Publishing books with a joint author.

She has a master in Graduate School of Humanities Graduate Program in Japanease Language and Literature. Work as a

researcher of RYUNOSUKE AKUTAGAWA.

Unique style of using both dialect and standard Japanese is folk like and narrative.

She is not only a poet, but also the only one singer who create new GOTTON-bushi with unique expression.

Expanding the artistic world with own principles.



#### Awards and recognition

- 2012 : The first poetry anthology «The first cry of kidnapp demon» was obtained the university president prize of Ferris university.
- 2019 : The second poetry anthology «The Titan of Rain » was a final candidate of the 10th Ayukawa Nobuo Prize and the 52nd Oguma Hideo Prize.
- 2019 : The first CD «YUURI'S GOTTON-bushi» was registered local material of Iizuka city, Fukuoka, Japan.

Her poetry anthologies are featured at the some newspapers and magazines. She was evaluated "She shot a poem like a machine gun mixing with dialects and stabbed it into the eardrum of the audience." at the Nihon Keizai Shimbun (7 Nov. 2013), "This feature-length poem is being tried in a wide area beyond the framework of modern poetry." at the Chunichi Shimbun (22 Dec. 2018), and "GOTTON-bushi, Singing for the Future" at the Nishinippon Shimbun chikuho edition (3 Feb. 2019).

#### **Books and publications**

Her published collections include : «The first cry of kidnapp demon» (2011) , «The Titan of Rain » (2018) , And she released a CD «Yuuri's GOTTON-bushi» (2018) . Her poems appeared at the Gendaishi Techo magazine (Dec. 2011, Apr. 2012, Sep. 2014, Aug. 2016) , the Something30 magazine (Jan. 2020) , the EUREKA poetry and criticism magazine (Jul. 2020) .



«The first cry of kidnapp demon» (2011)



«The Titan of Rain » (2018)



«Yuuri's GOTTON-bushi» (2018)

# Yuuri's GOTTON-bushi

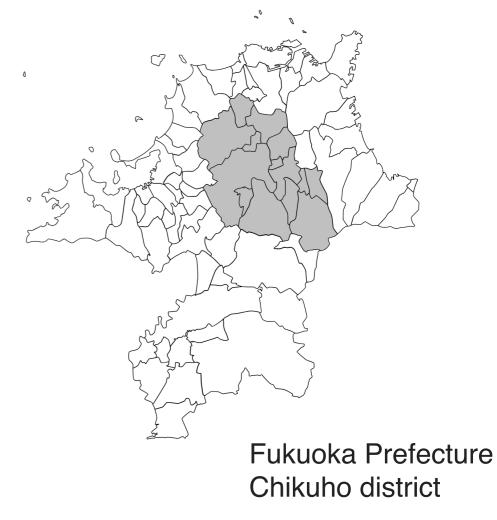
In Japan, there are countless dialects it can be divided into about 16 different types.

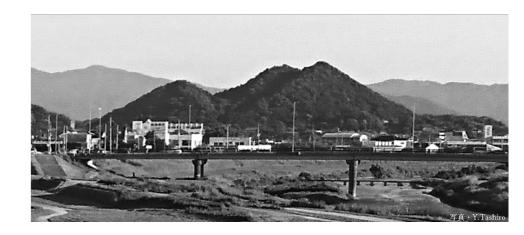
And we Japanese have approximately 58,000 folk songs ( by the survey of 1987).

Yuuri is a native speaker of the "Chikuho Dialect" which is spoken in the Chikuho district of Fukuoka prefecture in Kyushu island and also is a singer of ditties of Chikuho so-called GOTTON-bushi as well.

GOTTON-bushi is said that the one of ditties sang in Chikuho district and originally it has been introduced into Chikuho by coalminers who migrated from Karatsu coal mine (in Saga prefecture) around 1892. This ditty had been handed down orally and widely sang among coalminers as a coal mining song, but it faded out as mechanization of the underground work has been advanced at the beginning of Showa period (around 1930).

GOTTON-bushi has something similar to a traditional French chanson because the song has no fixed tune or lyrics, and it is characteristic in subtle change which is created by each singer.





# Yuuri's GOTTON-bushi

Yuuri 's GOTTON-bushi is based on a small amount of materials which is hardly found and being developed a unique expression of singing by Yuuri who lives in today's world.

It is a new song of fusion of the past and the present and Yuuri sings this song without any accompaniment and microphone in the way of old days. We can vividly feel the emotion and strong desire for living of those who lived and worked in coal mine at that time.

The GOTTON-bushi is the very real voice of old Chikuho.

On this occasion, please enjoy the real voice of the old coal mine of Chikuho feeling the deep sound on your skin.

\* There are several theories about the origin, and one of theories is that Gotton is the onomatopée of the truck wheel sound carrying coal.

\* "GOTTON-bushi" is introduced by Sakubei Yamamoto Collection which granted for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register in 2011



## **Booklet English edition**

«GOTTON bushi selection  $\sim$  song of GOTTON  $\sim$  »

Select : Yuuri Tradition : Y.Tashiro Publisher : Yuuri kobo Publication : Jan.2022

### Guide





Selected by Yuuri