

# HACO

MUSICIAN, SOUND ARTIST, PRODUCER



Vocalist/lyricist-composer/electroacoustic performer/sound-artist. Founding member of the groups, After Dinner (1981-1991) and Hoahio (1999-present). At her studio, Mescalina, in Kobe, Japan, she has created numerous recordings both as producer and engineer. As a musician and sound-artist, Haco has also given performances, and created live installations and sound designs throughout Japan and the world. In the 80s, Haco formally studied acoustics, electronic music, and recording technology. She earned a large following for her recorded work and performances as the composer/lyricist/vocalist of After Dinner, one of the first Japanese indie bands to tour abroad. In the 90s, Haco worked as a sound exhibition and installation curator at Xebec, an innovative hall and presentation space for computer music and sound art, which was profiled by the writer David Toop and others. In 1995, Haco released her first solo album HACO. Around the same time, she began performing improvisations with compact samplers, self-produced electronic units, electric mandolin, percussion and toys along with voice. With her unique sensibility, Haco has developed her own genre of art based on principles of post-punk, electroacoustics, the avant-garde, improvisation, post-rock, environmental sound, and technology. Since 2004, she has used voice and self-programmed electronics as an “organic method” in her performances, sometimes accompanied by video images shot and edited with Mariko Tajiri. Haco’s work transcends conventional genres and national borders. She became known for repurposing field recordings and environmental sounds to create surreal widescreen compositions and productions. Founder and organizer of View Masters - the sound collection and observation organization (1999-present), a collective that picks up and collects sounds from everyday life. Haco also frequently lectures and gives workshops on various sound-related topics.

**Website:** [www.hacohaco.net](http://www.hacohaco.net)

**Long biography:** [www.hacohaco.net/haco/bio\\_en1.html](http://www.hacohaco.net/haco/bio_en1.html)

**Sound art:** [www.hacohaco.net/haco/soundart.html](http://www.hacohaco.net/haco/soundart.html)

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### **Selected recorded works**

- 2021** Haco: *Nova Naturo* (CD, Someone Good/Room 40, Australia)  
**2017** Haco: *Qoosui* (CD, Someone Good/Room 40, Australia; Yacca/Impartmaint inc., Japan)  
**2015** Haco: *Secret Garden* (CD, Nuovo Immigrato, Japan)  
**2011** Haco: *Forever and Ever* (CD, Arcangelo/Disk Union, Japan)  
**2007** Haco: *Riska* (CD, Arcangelo/Disk Union, Japan)  
**2005** Synapse (Haco/Ikue Mori/Aki Onda): *Raw* (CD, Tzadik, US)  
**2004** Haco: *Stereo Bugscope 00* (CD, Improvised Music from Japan, Japan) [awarded Honorary Mention in digital music category at Prix Ars Electronica 2005, Austria]  
**2003** Hoahio: *Peek-Ara-Boo* (CD, Tzadik, US)  
**1999** Haco: *Happiness Proof* (CD, P-Vine, Japan; ReR Megacorp, UK; Detector, US)  
**1995** Haco: *Haco* (CD, MIDI Creative, Japan; ReR Megacorp, UK)  
**1989/2001** After Dinner: *Paradise of Replica / Paradise of Remixes* (CD, Bad News, Japan; ReR Megacorp, UK; Detector, US)  
**1984/1991** After Dinner: *After Dinner / Live Editions* (LP/CD, ReR Megacorp, UK)

### **Selected concerts, tours, art performances**

- 2019** Solo concerts "Qoosui": Le Guess Who? Festival, The Netherlands; Intermediale Festival, Poland  
**2016** Haco & Nippon Eldorado Kabarett: Rock in Opposition Festival, Carmaux, France, solo tour: France, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia  
**2013** Sound performance: Haco and Toshiya Tsunoda "Tram Vibrations: Live in Covino": Sonic City Festival, Melbourne, Australia  
**2013** Solo concert "Forever and Ever": The 11th Totally Huge New Music Festival, Perth, Australia  
**2012** Solo concert "Forever and Ever": CC N°1 Festival, Sophiensaele, Berlin, Germany  
**2012** Sound & visual performance with Kent Macpherson and Luke McConnell "BugLoop featuring Haco": International Festival of Media, Arts & Design "Spark," Wintec, Hamilton, New Zealand.  
**2009** Sound installation "Barrow Vibrations" for artist residency: FON (Full of Noises) Festival, Barrow-in-Furness, UK  
**2003** Solo concerts for "String Reverb": Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; US - La Antigua Bodega De Papel, Tijuana, Mexico; San Francisco Alternative Music Festival, US  
**2000** Hoahio concert: the Festival City of Women, Ljubljana, Slovenia (Supported by the Japan Foundation)  
**1989** After Dinner tour: Switzerland, Austria, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Italy (Supported by the Japan Foundation)  
**1987** After Dinner tour: MiMi Festival, St-Remy, France, International Pop, ICA, UK, Switzerland, the Netherlands

### **Selected lectures and workshops**

- 2018** "Sound Bugscope Workshop - The Observation and Extraction of Sound": Synthposium Festival, Moscow, Russia (Supported by Asia-Europe Foundation)  
**2016** Lecture (public masterclass) "Parallel Audio Journeys - Between Sound Art and Avant Pop": Wintec (School of Media Arts Waikato Institute of Technology), Hamilton, New Zealand  
**2014** Keynote speech "The Extraction of Sound and the Voice": JASMIM (The Japanese Association for the Study of Musical Improvisation), Kyoto Seika University, Kyoto, Japan  
**2013** Keynote concert "Stereo Bugscope" and keynote speech "The Observation and Extraction of Sound": ICMC (International Computer Music Conference), Perth, Australia  
**2010-2013** Workshop for improvisation and sound art "Sound Bugscope Workshop": Jazz Art Sengawa Festival, Tokyo, Japan  
**2002-2005** Curation and direction for a four-year series of View Masters' lectures, concerts and workshops: Aka Rengo Soko, Osaka

### **Selected radio art**

- 2013** sound composition "An Audio Adventure of São Paulo with Haco" and live session on the radio art program "Mobile Radio BSP": 30th São Paulo Art Biennial, São Paulo, Brazil  
**2022** sound composition "Kagero Dial" (Haco and Tarnovski): Radio Art Zone (Curated by Mobile Radio and the Luxembourg community station Radio ARA), UK/Germany/Luxembourg

### **Selected sound designs**

- 2005** composition and sound performance of "Opera's Shadows" (Claudia Triozzi: choreography and voice): Montpellier Danse, Montpellier, France
- 2006** composition and sound performance of "Setting" (Lucy Guerin: choreography) (for Australia-Japan Dance Exchange project): Melbourne International Arts Festival, Melbourne, Australia
- 2008** composition and performance of "Fais une halte chez Antonella" (Claudia Triozzi: choreography and voice): "Nomadic Nights - programmation Patti Smith," Fondation Cartier, Paris, France; Nam June Paik Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
- 2008** composition and sound design of "Corridor" (Lucy Guerin: choreography): Melbourne International Arts Festival, Melbourne, Australia
- 2019** composition and performance of "Un CCN en terre et en paille" (Claudia Triozzi: choreography and voice): Festival d'Automne, Paris, France

### **Documentary movie appearance**

- 1990** Nicolas Humbert and Werner Penzel, Step Across The Border - a documentary film on Fred Frith, Germany

### **Awards**

- 1983** "An Accelerating Etude" (tape composition) - Winner of the Outstanding Performance Award for graduates of the Visual Arts College, Osaka, Japan
- 2005** "Stereo Bugscope 00" (CD, Improvised Music from Japan, Japan) – awarded Honorary Mention in digital music category at Prix Ars Electronica 2005, Austria