

# Garei Nakagawa

Koto & Shamisen Grand Master



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## ABOUT

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As a dedicated koto and shamisen performer, Gareei Nakagawa has been actively promoting Japanese traditional music both domestically and internationally. She began learning the koto at an early age, refining her skills and artistic expression. Having successfully performed in Vienna, Australia, and other countries, she is committed to sharing the beauty of Japanese music worldwide. Leveraging her English proficiency, she provides lessons to students around the globe and organizes international cultural exchange concerts.

## CAREER

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- Embarked on a concert tour in Vienna and Spain in 2024
- Embarked on a concert tour in Vienna and Germany in 2023
- Held her second recital in 2022
- Performed in Australia in 2018
- Held her first recital in 2017
- Performed at the Wiener Konzerthaus in 2008
- Founded a koto and shamisen school in 2002
- Became a certified performer (Natori) at 17
- Started playing the koto at the age of 4



# Gahō Griffin

● koto & woodwinds ●

Bobby Griffin studied woodwind performance and pedagogy in the US with an emphasis in bassoon. He performed with various ensembles throughout the US and Europe and opened his own private studio of young students. Bobby regularly performed with various professional ensembles around Northwest Florida.

Bobby frequently volunteered and worked as a music coach, clinician, and director, and served as vice-president of professional organizations such as the Pensacola Music Teachers' Association and Canticle, a therapeutic music ensemble. He was co-founder of MOBO Bells, in which he performed, lead youth handbell choirs, and appeared as a clinician within area 4 of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. After moving to Japan,

Bobby continued his musical journey through the koto. He has extensively studied Japanese music performance, history, and theory under the direction of Grand-master Gareii Nakagawa. Since obtaining his Associate-Master Teaching License and stage name in 2020 from Seiha Hougaku Kai, Bobby has increased his performance and teaching appearances through performing, lecturing, and growing his private studio in Tokyo.

Bobby continues to develop his knowledge and passion for music education. In 2025, Bobby will begin teaching Japanese music at Yokohama International School and aim for his license to teach Jiuta shamisen.

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