



### **Keiko Kitamura**

Keiko Kitamura was born in Fukuyama, Hiroshima prefecture, an area known for making high quality traditional Japanese kotos. Her early years were spent studying Ikuta style koto (Japanese zither), shamisen (three-stringed Japanese lute) and vocals under the tutelage of her aunt Kyoko Kitamura. She is now based in the UK and has worked extensively on traditional Japanese koto music as well as collaborating with musicians from both the east and the west on a variety of genres. Highlight performances to date include the BT River Of Music at the London Olympics opening festival, Glastonbury Festival, Ronnie Scotts and Kings Place, as well as performing for BBC Radio 3. She was an award winner for her koto composition at the Miyagi Michio Memorial Competition 2014 in Japan.