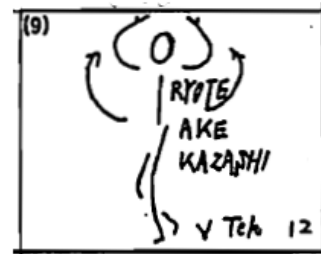


Tajimi ko-uta

(Gifu Prefecture, Japan)

Tajimi is a city located in southern Gifu prefecture, close to the border of Aichi prefecture. It became a city in 1940 and the region has been known for Mino-yaki ceramics since the railway was opened in 1900. This city can be divided into four districts according to the type of ceramic product it produces.



The song is about the birthplace of Mino-yaki ceramics. “Tajimi Kouta” is performed by the public each August on the anniversary of the city’s founding or at Bon festivals.

Pronunciation: tah-jee-mee koh-tah

Music: 4/4 meter

Japanese Music CD, Track 1

Formation: Individual dancers facing ctr, hands at sides.

Steps & Styling: Bose hando: Arms bent at elbow, forearms horizontal with palms down at chest height, R arm above L.

Cho: a short, soft clap of the hands; Chon: a hard, long clap of the hands.

Fujiyama: Arms form a mountain (Mt. Fujiyama), palms down, fingers touching in front of the face.

Fusenagashi: Swing both arms down and to the R. Can be done with same arm movements to the L side.

Soenobashi: R arm straight in front, palm down; L arm bent with hand on R elbow. Can be done with opp. hand position.

Ryote age kazashi: Raise arms above head with palms up to form a circle (moon). This movement may take two cts or be spread out over 4-6 cts.

Tate kazashi: R arm extended fwd at shldr height, palm down. L arm is bent at elbow with palm facing twd face. Can be done with arm pos reversed.

Note: all arm movements flow smoothly from one to the next.

Meas

4/4 meter

Pattern

1 meas

INTRODUCTION. Wait facing ctr.

I.

FIGURE I

Footwork

Hands

1 Stand facing ctr (cts 1-3); turn ¼ to R to face CCW (ct 4) .

Cho (ct 1); chon (ct 2); hold (ct 3); chon (ct 4).

2-3 Walk 4 slow and even steps fwd (R, L, R, L) on cts 1, 3, 1, 3.

Swing hands fwd and clap on each step.

4 Step fwd R (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step fwd L (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

Soenobashi R (cts 1-2);
Soenobashi L (cts 3-4).



Tajimi ko-uta — continued

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|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5 | Step L to L (ct 1); hold (ct 2); touch R next to L (ct 3); hold (ct 4). | Slap thighs with both open palms; Ryote age kazashi. |
| 6 | Step R to R (ct 1); hold (ct 2); touch L next to R (ct 3); hold (ct 4). | Slap thighs with both open palms; Ryote age kazashi. |
| 7 | Step R bkwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step L bkwd (ct 3); hold (ct 4). | Fusenagashi R (cts 1-2); Fusenagashi L (cts 3-4). |
| 8 | Walk four quick steps (R, L, R, L) while walking in a small circle to the R to end facing CW (cts 1-4) | Ryote age kazashi (taking all 4 cts). |
| 9 | Continue walking four more quick steps (R, L, R, L) moving CW (cts 1-4). | Slowly bring hands down to sides. |
| 10 | Step R to R (ct 1); sway R (ct 2); step L to L (ct 1); sway L (ct 2). | Swing arms to R and clap hands down; swing arms to L and clap hands down. |
| 11 | Repeat meas 10. | Repeat meas 10. |

II. FIGURE II

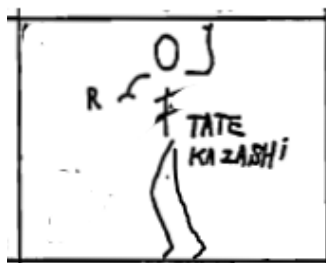
- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Repeat Fig I, meas 8 and end facing CCW (cts 1-4). | Beginning with hands open slightly to each side, each arm swings in a full wide circle inward, up, out again to the sides, and down in six cts (4 cts plus cts 1-2 of meas 2) |
| 2 | Two more steps (R, L) finishing the circle begun in meas 1 (cts 1-2); two more steps (R, L) walking CCW (cts 3-4) | Hands continue up to form a small bowl in front of the face (cts 3-4). |
| 3 | Facing slightly out of circle, touch R heel diag fwd R (ct 1); hold (ct 2); touch R heel again diag fwd R (ct 3) step on R next to L (ct 4). | Fujiyama. |
| 4 | Repeat meas 3 with L heel. | Arms remain in Fujiyama. |

III. FIGURE III

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|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Walk three steps (R, L, R) moving CCW (cts 1-3); lift L next to R calf and turn L to face CW (ct 4). | Join hands down in V pos. |
| 2 | Walk three steps (L, R, L) CW (cts 1-3); lift R next to L calf and face ctr (ct 4). | Join hands down in V pos. |

Tajimi ko-uta — continued

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 | Facing ctr, walk bkwd three steps (R, L, R) (cts 1-3); step L next to R (ct 4). | Tate kazashi with R hand up (ct 1); with L hand up (ct 2); with R hand up (ct 3); bōse hando (ct 4) |
| 4 | Facing ctr, step fwd R (ct 1); step fwd L (ct 2); step R next to L (ct 3); hold (ct 4). | Bōse hando. |



Presented by Iwao Tamaoki

Lyrics

Tabi wa sugoroku Nagoya wo tate (yoisho)
 Minoji ureshiya agari wa tajimi
 Koko wa kamadoko oyamano tsuchiga
 Moete koganeno ametonaru
 (Sore, moete koganeno, moete koganeno ametonaru)

Travel started from Nagoya
 Happy to reach Mino
 Clay from the hill is shaped in kiln
 Kiln makes the clay gold

Syo to harukaze Tokigawaberini (yoisho)
 Kamano kemuriga nagarete nabiku
 Musume toshigoro sakurawa migoro
 Darega oruyara chirasuyara
 (Sore, darega oruyara darega oruyara chirasuyara)

Spring gentle wind by River Tokigawa
 The smoke from kiln in the breeze
 A young girl blooms like cherry blossoms
 Who wins her heart? Who marries her?

Morono nakakara koutaga moreru (yoisho)
 Kouta ureshiya koe natsukashiya
 Tsunoru omoiwo sonomama nosete
 Funeni tsumidasu tajimiyaki
 (Sore, funeni tsumidasu funeni tsumidasu tajimiyaki)

Girls singing in the hut
 Her voice touches my heart
 Without telling her my feelings
 Have to be on the boat

Minoji koishiya tobitatsu torini (yoisho)
 Misomeraretaka kokeino momiji
 Shigure hitohake irotuki somete
 Uwasa tatsumani koyukunaru
 (Sore, uwasa tatsumani uwasa tatsumani koyukunaru)

My heart wants to stay in Mino
 The maple leaves are brushed
 As people talk new love
 The color intensifies