

Reiwa is a open-source Taiko piece by Simon Vanyai for everyone to learn, train adapt, modify, and perform

REIWA



Reiwa is a new Taiko composition created from the rhythms and drills from our Taiko On basics training classes, with lots of movement and vocalisations. The rhythms and sections of the piece all have specific "calls" to guide the performers, and can be practised or arranged in any order without a set plan, however here is our song structure.

I have prepared a breakdown of the sections of the piece, which may not be completely self-explanatory, but may help in tandem with videos =0)

Let's go through each section of the piece - usually indicated by a unique shout by all the performers (or just the leader for beginners)

Once you are familiar with the shouts and the corresponding rhythms and movements, the structure of the song is simple enough, with a couple of exceptions, and we will review that on the last pages

Forgive the unusual format, although perhaps learning something new could also be about learning a different way of learning as well =0)

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The Basics and Simon's Taiko Alphabet system

In order to "shorthand" the common Taiko Rhythms, Simon formulated a Taiko A-B-C but it goes a lot further than that. These are utilised to describe some basics drill and rhythms - and to quickly record and notate Taiko Patterns.

Here's the Basic a - b - c - d that are commonly used and feature in REIWA

Kuchi-shoga	Don	Kon	Don	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
Alphabet	a		b		c		d	
Kuchi-shoga	Do Ko	- -	Don	- -	tsu Ko	Don	tsu Ko	Do Ko
Alphabet	e		g		h		i	
The Backbeat	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
Alphabet	b		b		b		d	

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Overview of rhythm response to Voice Cues

		7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Ra	Se	Don	Kon	Don	Kon	(varies after 2 a's)			
		a's		a		a		a			
		Sei	No	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	(varies after 2 c's)			
		c x 4		c		c		c		c	
		Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko		
				b				b			
		Sou -	Yaa	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
				b		b		b		d	
5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
So re	So re	Sou -	Re -	Don				Kon			
		sweep	arms	Don				Kon		sweep	arms

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- 0. Crescendo | BaseBeat
- 1. intro | call/response
- 2. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

Sei	No	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko
c x 8		c		c		c		c	
		Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko
		c		c		c		c	
Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sei	No
		b				b			
Sei	No	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko
c x 4		c x 4		c		c		c	
Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sei	No
		b				b			
Sei	No	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	Sei	No
repeat 3 times		c		c		b			
Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou	Yaa
		b				b			

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- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
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- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

SooYaa - Basebeat - a bouncy accented rhythm

7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sou	Yaa	Don	do ko	don	Do KO	DON	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
Basebeat		b		b		b		d	
Sou	Yaa	Don	do ko	don	Do KO	DON	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
Basebeat		b		b		b		d	
Sou	Yaa	Don	do ko	don	Do KO	DON	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
Basebeat		b		b		b		d	
End Rhythm		Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don			
		a		c		g			

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- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

SSSR = Sore Sore Sou Re (arm sweeps) - Back Row Part - repeat

5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
								So re	So re	Sou -	Re -	
from the Sou Yaa End Rhythm				Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don		sweep	arms	
So re	So re	Sou -	Re -	Don				Kon				
Notes		sweep	arms		(hold)				(hold)	sweep	arms	
				Ya	Sei	Don		Ya	Sei	Kon		
Notes		sweep	arms	bounce down	(lift)			bounce down	(lift)			
				Ya	Don	Sei	Kon	Ya	Don	Sei	Kon	
Notes				bounce	(lift)	bounce	(lift)	bounce	(lift)	bounce	(lift)	

Repeat section

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- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

SSSR = Sore Sore Sou Re (arm sweeps) - Front Row Part

5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
								So re	So re	Sou -	Re -
from the Sou Yaa End Rhythm				Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
				Don				Kon			
		Front Row		Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko
				Ya	Sei	Don		Ya	Sei	Kon	
		Front Row		Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -	Don	Do Ko	Sou -	Re -
				Ya	Don	Sei	Kon	Ya	Don	Sei	Kon
		Front Row		Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don		sweep	arms
So re	So re	Sou -	Re -	Don				Kon			
		sweep	arms	Don	(hold)			Kon	(hold)	sweep	arms
				Ya	Sei	Don		Ya	Sei	Kon	
		sweep	arms	bounce down				bounce down			
		off beats		Ya	Don	Sei	Kon	Ya	Don	Sei	Kon
				bounce		bounce		bounce		bounce	

together with back

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- 2. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

SSSR = Sore Sore Sou Re (arm sweeps) - Ending all together

		Crescendo	Don	kon	don	Kon	Don	KON	DON	KON	back and front rows together
		Shime	Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	
		End Rhythm	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don				
		Shime	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don				

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- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA Main Theme - multiple repeats

Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

The *Main Theme* [REIWA]							Ra	Se	Ra	Se
							step back		sweep arms	
Line 1			Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)
			a		a		g	"HA!"	g	"HA!"
Line 2			Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Do Ko		Don	Kon
			a		a		e		a	
Line 3			Don	kon	don	Kon	Don	KON	DON	KON
		Cres	a		a		a		a	
Line 4			Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	Do Ko		Don	Kon

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- 2. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA Main Theme - multiple repeats

Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Line 4		Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	Do Ko		Don	Kon
		g	"HA!"	g	"HA!"	e		a	
Line 5		Don	Kon	Do Ko		Do Ko	- Ko	Don	Kon
			a		e		d		a
Line 6		Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	Do Ko		Don	Kon
			g		g		e		a
Line 7		Don	Kon	Do Ko		Do Ko	- Ko	Don	Kon
			a		e		d		a

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- 1. intro | call/response
- 2. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA Main Theme - multiple repeats

Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Line 7		Don	Kon	Do Ko		Do Ko	- Ko	Don	Kon
		a		e		d		a	
Line 8		Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko		Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko	Don
		c		e		d			
Line 9		Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don			
	end	a		c		g			

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- 0. Crescendo | BaseBeat
- 1. intro | call/response
- 2. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | ***Main Theme x**
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

The *Main Theme* [REIWA]							Ra	Se	Ra	Se
							step back		sweep arms	
Line 1		Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	
			a		a	g	"HA!"	g	"HA!"	
Line 2		Don	Kon	Don	Kon	Do Ko		Don	Kon	
			a		a		e		a	
Line 3		Don	kon	don	Kon	Don	KON	DON	KON	
			Cres a		a		a		a	
Line 4		Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	Do Ko		Don	Kon	
			g "HA!"		g "HA!"		e		a	
Line 5		Don	Kon	Do Ko		Do Ko	- Ko	Don	Kon	
			a		e		d		a	
Line 6		Don	(with point)	Kon	(with point)	Do Ko		Don	Kon	
			g		g		e		a	
Line 7		Don	Kon	Do Ko		Do Ko	- Ko	Don	Kon	
			a		e		d		a	
Line 8		Do Ko	Do Ko	Do Ko		Do Ko	do Kon - Ko	Don		
			c		e		d			
Line 9		Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don				
		end	a		c		g			

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- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA Intro - Call & Response straight in after the "ending rhythm"

Together x 3	Don	Do Ko	don	Do KO	DON	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
End Rhythm	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don		Don	Kon
(Lead shime)	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko		
Drummers			Don	Kon			Don	Kon
Leader	- - d k	Do Ko			Do Ko			
Drummers			Don	Kon			Do Ko	Do Ko
Leader	Do Ko	Do Ko			Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko
Together x 3	Don	Do Ko	don	Do KO	DON	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
End Rhythm	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don			

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- 3. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 9. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 11. intro | call/response
- 12. (SooYaa) | BaseBeat
- 13. SeiNo | dokodoko
- 14. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 15. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 16. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 17. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 18. "Intro" ending

REIWA Ending (similar to "Intro") - Call & Response

Final Section	after the REIWA Main Theme							
Crescendo x3	don	do ko	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko
End Rhythm	Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko	Don		Don	Kon
(Lead shime)	Don	Do Ko	Don	Do Ko	do Kon	- Ko		
Drummers			Don	Kon			Don	Kon
Leader	-- d k	Do Ko			Do Ko			
Drummers			Don	Kon			Do Ko	Do Ko
Leader	Do Ko	Do Ko			Don	Kon	Do Ko	Do Ko
Finish	tsu	DON						

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- 4. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA Structure

0	SouYa	together	Crescendo			
1	Intro	Shime	Lead Call			
		together	- Response			
2	SouYa	together	Accents and Jumps			
3	SeiNo	together				
4	SouYa	together	Accents and Jumps			
5	SSSR	front	(SeiNo reprise)	=>	Sweep Arms SSR	
		back	Sweep Arms SSSR	=>	Sweep Arms	
6	Rase Rase	front	REIWA THEME	=>	backbeat	=> REIWA THEME
		back	backbeat	=>	REIWA THEME	=> REIWA THEME
		Shime	backbeat		backbeat	backbeat
7	SouYa	together	Crescendo			
8	SOLOS		1 Solo or Duets			
			2 Solo or Duets			
			3 Everyone together			

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- 5. SSSR | Offbeat Rhythm
- 6. Rase Rase | *Main Theme x
- 7. SooYaa | BaseBeat
- 8. Solos
- 0. SooYaa | BaseBeat

REIWA overview

9	SouYa	together	Crescendo				
11	Intro	Shime	Lead Call				
		together	- Response				
12	SouYa	together	Accents and Jumps				
13	SeiNo	front	Souya Accents				
		back	SieNo section				
14	SouYa	together	Accents and Jumps				
15	SSSR	front	(SeiNo reprise)	=>	Sweep Arms SSR		
		back	Sweep Arms SSSR	=>	Sweep Arms		
16	Rase Rase	front	REIWA THEME	=>	backbeat	=>	REIWA THEME
		back	backbeat	=>	REIWA THEME	=>	REIWA THEME
		Shime	backbeat		backbeat		backbeat
17	SouYa	together	Crescendo				

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