

SCHEDULE – ESS SUMMER SCHOOL ATHENS 2026, Thursday 23. July to Sunday 26. July

This is version 17, last updated on **15. July 2026**. We do not expect the schedule to change significantly anymore nevertheless there may be some small adjustments in timings or content.

LEVELS reference descriptions

BEG Beginner. This embraces all people having started to play shakuhachi within the last year or just starting up now.

ELE Elementary assumes that the player can obtain *kari* notes in *otsu* with reasonable security, is familiar with *kan* notes, even if still learning to produce them reliably, and has some basic idea of *meri* notes, even if intonation may be unstable.

INT Intermediate assumes that the player is secure with *kari* notes in *otsu* and *kan*, and is capable of producing *meri* notes reliably in both octaves, with reasonably reliable intonation. **General command of the provided scores is important.**

ADV Advanced assumes that the player has a high degree of proficiency and control in production of *meri* and *kari* tones in *otsu* and *kan*, and is familiar with *dai-kan* notes. Intonation is reliable and stable, with good control of shaping and shading of dynamics, timbre and pitch. **Ability to read the relevant scores is essential.**

MIX Mixed all levels are welcome



- INVITEES** *(in alphabetical order)*
- Ashigaki Kōmei (AK)
Horacio Curti (HC)
Kiku Day (KD)
Yerasimos Dimovasilis (YD)
Jim Franklin (JF)
Fumie Hihara (FH)
Philip Horan (PH)
Jin Rei (JR)
Thorsten Knaub (TK)
Gunnar Jinmei Linder (GL)
Véronique Piron (VP)
Emmanuelle Rouaud (ER)
- ESS Commission: Ramon Humet (RH)

GREEK THEMED SESSIONS – YD + Marina Konstantinou – voice, santour

WATAZUMIDO EXHIBITION – presented by **Dimitris Rapakousios**

ORGANISATION
Athens 2026 Team – ESS & Yerasimos Dimovasilis in Greece
Local assistance by Alexandros Aivaliotis, Dimitris & Ioanna Rapakousios.

Organisers



Under the auspices of



With the support of



NEW YORK COLLEGE BUILDING

Ground Floor: Conference Room, Library
First Floor: Cafeteria
Second Floor: Teaching Rooms 1, 2, 3 & 4
Third Floor: Teaching Rooms 5 & 6, Rehearsal Rooms 7 & 8

SUMMER SCHOOL LOCATIONS

Main workshop location, Open mics, Participants' concert
New York College
Thessalonikis 286, Tavros 177 78, Athens

Thursday evening concert
Japanese Embassy Athens
Eth. Antistaseos 46, Chalandri 152 31, Athens

Friday and Saturday evening concert
Parnassos Literary Society
Agiou Georgiou Square, Karitsi 8, Athina 105 61, Athens,

TRANSLATORS
Gunnar Jinmei Linder, Kiku Day, Aaro Haavisto

ESS Board:
Thorsten Knaub, Emmanuelle Rouaud, Christina Willms, Paweł Szulik, Ramon Humet, Clive Bell.

ESS 20th Anniversary Sunday evening

“Farewell/Anniversary Dinner + Party”
The Grilli’s Koutouki, Anaxagora 7, Tavros 177 78, Athens

23.7 DAY 1 THURSDAY	Conference Room	TEACHING ROOM1	TEACHING ROOM 2	TEACHING ROOM 3	TEACHING ROOM 4	TEACHING ROOM 5	ROOM 6 Rehls Thursd.	ROOM 7 Rehearsals	ROOM 8 Rehearsals	Cafeteria	Library	Parnas. C. Hall	Japanese Embassy	Notes
8h30-8h50	Registration Summer Sch. + Day Pass													
8h50-9h25	Welcome + announcements <i>ro-buki</i> + tip 1													
9h30-10h10	Group piece rehearsal 1 RH													
10h10-10h15	SHORT BREAK (to go to teaching rooms)										Late Registration + Day Pass & Sellers Set up			
10h15-11h15	INT Chikumeisha <i>Hifumi Hachigaeshi</i> AK/GL	INT Jin Nyodo <i>Shirabe • Sagariha</i> JR	ELE/INT Fukushima J. <i>Nantou Tansai no Fu</i> VP	ELE/INT Chikuho <i>Yamato Chōshi</i> JF		BEG ER/TK	Rehearsals for Open Mic 1	HC Concert Day 1	PH + FH (koto) Concert Day 1					
11h15-11h30	BREAK													
11h30-12h45	INT Chikumeisha <i>Kurokami 1 (sh)</i> AK/GL	INT Jin Nyodo <i>Mukaiji</i> JR	ELE/INT Tozan <i>Heiwa no Sanga</i> PH	ELE/INT KSK <i>Honshirabe</i> HC		BEG ER/TK	Rehearsals for Open Mic 1	VP + JF Concert Day 1	YD + FH (koto) Concert Day 1					
12h45-14h00	LUNCH at NYC Cafeteria										Trade Room open + Watazumi Exhibition			
13h30-14h00	LUNCH Open Mic Concert: Bamboo, Bowls & Bells I (open mic curated)									Concert				
14h00-15h15	ELE/INT Jin Nyodo <i>Daiwagaku</i> JR	ADV Chikumeisha <i>Yuki 1 (shms.)</i> AK	ELE Chikumeisha <i>Taki-otoshi 1</i> GL	INT KSK <i>Ukigumo 1</i> ER	MIX Electronics 1 JF	BEG PH	Rehearsals for Concerts Or free use	Rehearsals for Concerts Or free use	TK Concert Day 1 and Day 2					
15h15-15h30	BREAK													
15h30-16h30 Update! Lesson stops 16h30	ELE/INT Jin Nyodo <i>Murasaki Reibo</i> JR	ADV Chikumeisha <i>Akita Sugagaki</i> AK	ELE Chikumeisha <i>Taki-otoshi 2</i> GL	INT KSK <i>Ukigumo 2</i> ER	MIX Electronics 2 JF	BEG VP	Rehearsals for Concerts Or free use	Rehearsals for Concerts Or free use	Rehearsals for Concerts or free use					
16h30-16h45	Getting ready for Bus departure at 16h45													
16h45-19h00	Bus departs 16h45 – group travel to Japanese Embassy / BREAK with optional DINNER TIME near Embassy													
19h00-19h30	Entry to the Embassy **Security procedure - Passport or I.D. card. (with names in latin letters)**													
19h30-19h45	“Welcome” at Japanese Embassy Athens													
19h45-21h15	The Opening Gala Concert – 20th Anniversary ESS 2006-2026													
21h15-22h00	Socialising. Snacks & refreshments available courtesy of the ESS													
22h10-22h30	(tbc) Bus departs 22h10 to return to Central Athens (i.e. Syntagma metro station, 6’ walk to Omiros Hotel)													

24.7 DAY 2 FRIDAY	Conference Room	TEACHING ROOM1	TEACHING ROOM 2	TEACHING ROOM 3	TEACHING ROOM 4	TEACHING ROOM 5	TEACHING ROOM 6	ROOM 7 Rehearsals	ROOM 8 Rehearsals	Cafeteria	Library	Parnassos Central Hall	Jap. Emb.	Notes
9h00-9h25	<i>ro-buki</i> + tip 2 announcements		8h45-9h25 RH GL + FH (koto)								Registr. Day Pass			
9h30-10h10	Group piece rehearsal 2 RH													
10h10-10h15	SHORT BREAK (to go to teaching rooms)													
10h15-11h15	ADV Jin Nyodo <i>San'ya</i> (<i>Echigo</i>) JR	INT Chikumeisha <i>Kurokami 2</i> (<i>shamisen</i>) AK	INT/ADV Seki Ichiro <i>Nihon Minyō</i> <i>ni yoru 1</i> (trio)* VP	ELE Tozan <i>Fuji</i> PH	Shakuhachi Making 1 <i>Utaguchi</i> (<i>Kinko style</i>) TK	BEG KD	Individual Lessons 10h15-10h40 JF 10h40-11h05 JF 11h05-11h30 JF	HC Concert Day 2 + 3	ER for concert Day 3		Trade Room open + Watazumi Exhibition			
11h15-11h30	BREAK													
11h30-12h45	ADV Jin Nyodo <i>Mushushin</i> <i>Kyoku</i> JR	INT Chikumeisha <i>Shika no Tone</i> AK	ELE/INT Fukushima J. <i>Nantou Tansai</i> <i>no Fu</i> (+koto) VP	MIX Improvisation HC	Shakuhachi Making 2 <i>Utaguchi</i> (<i>Kinko style</i>) TK	BEG KD	Individual Lessons 11h30-11h55 ER 11h55-12h20 ER 12h20-12h45 ER	Rehearsals for Open Mic 2	PH for concert Day 2					
12h45-14h00	LUNCH at NYC Cafeteria													
13h30-14h00	LUNCH Open Mic Concert: Bamboo, Bowls & Bells II (open mic curated)								For concert Day 2	Concert				
14h00-15h15	ELE/INT Chikumeisha <i>Yūgure no</i> <i>Kyoku 1</i> GL	MIX Greek Theme <i>Triantafyllia</i> YD	INT/ADV Zensabo <i>Echigo San'ya 1</i> KD	INT Contemporary <i>Techniques +</i> <i>De Vagues... 1</i> ER	Shakuhachi Making 3 <i>cont. or</i> <i>Q&A</i> TK	BEG PH	Individual Lessons 14h00-14h25 HC 14h25-14h50 HC 14h50-15h15 HC	JR for concert Day 2 and 3	13h45 -14h15 VP + FH (koto) --- 14h25 -15h25 AK + FH (sham)					
15h15-15h30	BREAK													
15h30-16h45	ELE/INT Chikumeisha <i>Yūgure no</i> <i>Kyoku 2</i> GL	MIX Film Themes for shakuhachi PH	INT/ADV Zensabo <i>Echigo San'ya 2</i> KD	INT Contemporary <i>De Vagues et</i> <i>d'Elans 2</i> ER	MIX Electronics 3 JF	BEG VP		Rehearsals for Concerts or free use	Rehearsals for Concerts or free use					
16h45-17h00	BREAK													
17h00-18h00				Talk/ Lecture <i>Ueda-ryū</i> AH										
18h00-20h30	BREAK with TRAVEL & DINNER TIME (by yourselves, the suggestion would be to be already near Parnassos Hall.)													
20h30-22h00	20th Anniversary ESS Concert 1 at Parnassos Hall: <i>Sound to Silence – Japanese Music for shakuhachi, koto & shamisen</i> <i>Mixed programme with focus on traditional repertoire; DOORS open at 20h00</i>											Concert		

25.7 DAY 3 SATURDAY	Conference Room	TEACHING ROOM1	TEACHING ROOM 2	TEACHING ROOM 3	TEACHING ROOM 4	TEACHING ROOM 5	TEACHING ROOM 6	ROOM 7 Rehearsals	ROOM 8 Rehearsals	Cafeteria	Library	Parnassos Central Hall	Jap. Emb.	Notes
9h00-9h25	ro-buki + tip 3 announcements		8h45-9h25 RH AK + FH (sham)						ER Concert Day 3		Registr. Day Pass			
9h30-10h10	Group piece rehearsal 3 RH				Opens 9h30 Video Projection									
10h10-10h15	SHORT BREAK (to go to teaching rooms)				D.I.Y. Soundtracks Improvisation									
10h15-11h15	ADV Chikumeisha Haru no Yo 1 AK	ELE/INT Jin Nyodo Kumoi jishi JR	MIX Technique Tips & Tricks HC	INT/ADV Chikuho Hokyō Kokū 1 JF		BEG YD	Individual Lessons 10h15-10h40 PH 10h40-11h05 PH 11h05-11h30 PH	FH for concert Day 3	VP + KD Concert Day 3		Trade Room open + Watazumi Exhibition			
11h15-11h30	BREAK													
11h30-12h45	ADV Chikumeisha Haru no Yo 2 (+koto) AK	INT/ADV Jin Nyodo Nagashi Reibo JR	INT KSK Shika no Tone HC	INT/ADV Chikuho Hokyō Kokū 2 JF	ELE/INT Improvisation & image TK	BEG YD	Individual Lessons 11h30-11h55 VP 11h55-12h20 VP 12h20-12h45 VP	Rehearsals for Open Mic 3	Rehearsals for Open Mic 3					
12h45-14h00	LUNCH at NYC Cafeteria													
13h30-14h00	LUNCH Open Mic Concert: Bamboo, Bowls & Bells III (sign up)								(if needed) 13h30 -14h00 AK + FH (shamisen) concert Day 3 AK concert Day 3	Concert				
14h00-15h15	INT/ADV Chikumeisha Hototogisu 1 (+koto) GL	MIX Greek Theme Cherubic Hymn YD	INT/ADV Myoan Shika no Tone 1 KD	INT Tozan Asa Kaze 1 PH	D.I.Y. Soundtracks Improvisation	BEG HC	Individual Lessons 14h00-14h25 TK 14h25-14h50 TK 14h50-15h15 TK (playing or making)	JR for concert Day 3						
15h15-15h30	BREAK													
15h30-16h45	INT/ADV Chikumeisha Hototogisu 2 GL	ELE/INT Technique Jazz up your fingers... VP	INT/ADV Myoan Shika no Tone 2 KD	INT Tozan Asa Kaze 2 PH	D.I.Y. Soundtracks Improvisation	BEG HC		Rehearsals for Concerts or free use	Rehearsals for Concerts or free use					
16h45-17h00	BREAK													
17h00-18h00				Talk/ Lecture Irish Music on shakuhachi PH										
18h00-20h30	BREAK with TRAVEL & DINNER TIME (by yourselves). The suggestion would be to be already in the old town near Parnassos Hall.													
20h30-22h00	20th Anniversary ESS Concert 2 at Parnassos Hall: Sound to Silence – Japanese Music for shakuhachi, koto & shamisen Mixed programme with focus on modern & contemporary repertoire, DOORS open at 20h00											Concert		

26.7 DAY 4 SUNDAY	Conference Room	TEACHING ROOM1	TEACHING ROOM 2	TEACHING ROOM 3	TEACHING ROOM 4	TEACHING ROOM 5	TEACHING ROOM 6	ROOM 7 Rehearsals	ROOM 8 Rehearsals	Cafeteria	Library	Parnas. Central Hall	Jap. Emb.	Notes	
9h00-9h30	ro-buki + tip 4 announcements										Registr. half Pass				
9h30-9h45	BREAK														
9h45-11h00	INT Jin Nyodo Matsukaze JR	ADV Chikumeisha Yuki (shamisen) AK	INT/ADV Seki Ichiro Nihon Minyô ni yoru 2 (trio)* VP	ADV KSK Tsuru no Sugomori 1 HC	ELE/INT Anime/ Naruto ER	BEG JF	Individual Lessons 9h45-10h10 KD 10h10-10h35 KD 10h35-11h00 KD	Rehearsals for Open Mic 4 or Participants’ Concert	Rehearsals for Participants’ Concert or free use		Trade Room open + Watazumi Exhibition				
11h00-11h15	BREAK														
11h15-12h30	INT Jin Nyodo Koku JR	ADV Chikumeisha Shin Kyorei AK	MIX Minyô Song & Dance** (voice + shamisen) VP	ADV KSK Tsuru no Sugomori 2 HC	ELE/INT Tozan Seikaiha PH	BEG JF	Individual Lessons 11h15-11h40 GL 11h40-12h05 GL 12h05-12h30 GL	Rehearsals for Open Mic 4 or Participants’ Concert	Rehearsals for Participants’ Concert or free use						
12h30-13h45	LUNCH at NYC Cafeteria														
13h15-13h45	LUNCH time session: Open Mic Concert: Bamboo, Bowls & Bells IV (sign up or special presentations)									Concert					
13h50-15h00	ESS AGM 2026 FOR MEMBERS						Rehearsals for Participants’ Concert or free use	Rehearsals for Participants’ Concert	Rehearsals for Participants’ Concert		Trade Room closed Clearing up time till 18h00 max				
15h00-15h15	BREAK														
15h15-17h30	FAREWELL CONCERT – Participants perform the newly studied pieces														
17h30-18h00	BREAK & PACK UP, CLEAN UP AND OUT														
18h00~	FAREWELL & 20th ANNIVERSARY at “To koutouki tou Grilli” (Anaxagora 7, Tavros 177 78, Greece) This local tavern is a 6 minute walk from NYC. The idea is to gather there and have food and drink together to celebrate. (Participants need to pay their own food + drink). Cost for a main and starter will be €20 per person. Non-Veg and Veg options. There will be possibilities to play music and jam together with Greek musicians, and some anniversary cake courtesy of the ESS too. Hope to see you there!														