

## TAO: SEVENTEEN SAMURAI

**BOERNE, TX – February 1, 2016.** “Seventeen Samurai” has critics raving about TAO’s extraordinary precision, energy and stamina. The performers who take the stage in this all-new production for TAO are both highly trained athletes and highly expressive artists. This visually spectacular drum show presents traditional taiko instruments including huge drums, wooden flutes, shamisen (a type of strummed guitar) and koto (horizontal harp). Drums weighing in excess of 110 pounds are swung around effortlessly, delivering percussive patterns in aggressive one-upmanship.



*The tantalizing tradition of taiko drumming returns to Boerne with an explosive show highlighting the traditional Japanese art form with a contemporary flair. The visually spectacular drum show has become a worldwide phenomenon claiming over 6.5 million people having attended one of their live performances.*

TAO is comprised of young drummers who are trained in traditional Japanese percussion in their remote mountain compound in rural Japan. Their training regime points to their monastic origins and includes physical, spiritual and musical focus. Taiko drumming originated as a spiritual ritual to evoke rain or a good harvest, but today is an international show stopping production where technical mastery and passion are combined with rhythmic sensation and showmanship.

Boerne Performing Arts kicks-off the southwest portion of TAO’s third North American Tour that will include 38 shows in a 60-day period. This show, as reviewed by the Chicago Tribune, describes TAO as “supernaturally fit and superbly trained...stunning...fully deserving of the standing ovation that the company receives!” This international production is part of Boerne Performing Arts’ fifth anniversary season of bringing the world of professional performing arts to our hill country community.

The performance will take place on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at 7:30pm at Boerne Champion Auditorium. Sponsors for this program and a separate school show for 1,000 local fourth graders include: Majestic Ranch Arts Foundation, Cordillera Ranch, Sonora Bank, Morningside Ministries at Menger Springs, and the City of Boerne. These sponsors make it possible for the students to attend the matinee show at no cost to the students, enabling a “live performance” experience to students from Boerne, Bandera, Comfort, and Fredericksburg.

Tickets (\$30-\$40-\$60 and \$20 for students) are available at the following:

- Online: [www.BoernePerformingArts.com](http://www.BoernePerformingArts.com)
- By Phone: 830-331-9079
- In Person: Greater Boerne Chamber of Commerce OR City of Boerne Parks & Recreation Department
- Email: [info@BoernePerformingArts.com](mailto:info@BoernePerformingArts.com)