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Concert of Jiuta-Mai
(Japanese Traditional Dance)
with live music (*Shamisen, Koto, Shakuhachi*)

Friday 22nd / August

The University of Queensland

Workshop: Building 7, Room 234

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Concert: Schonell Theatre

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Admission free) Contact & Booking: jculture@tokyonet.com.au

This Concert is proudly Supported by

**School of Language and Comparative Cultural Studies,
The University of Queensland**

Consulate General of Japan, Brisbane



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Brisbane

***Jiuta-mai* (地唄舞) (*Kamigata-Mai* (上方舞))**

- a traditional Japanese dance form -

Jiuta-mai is performed to the accompaniment of *Jiuta* (the oldest form of *Shamisen* music. While *Noh*, *Kyogen* and *Bunraku* are performed by males, *Jiuta-mai* takes its origins from the dances popular with the court ladies, "*Maiko*" or "*Geisha*". It developed mainly as a chamber art and was performed in *Zashiki* (a Japanese-style room with *Tatami* mats) to entertain special guests. That is why at times it is also called "*Zashiki-mai*". It enjoyed the patronage of highly aesthetically sensitive personalities.

***Jiuta* (地歌)**

- Old *Shamisen* Music styles -

Jiuta, or literally "earthen music" is a classical style of *Shamisen* music. There are two types of *Shamisen* music: *Utamono* (lyric pieces) and *Katarimono* (narrative music for *Kabuki* drama or puppet plays). *Jiuta* is a representative *Utamono* along with *Nagauta*.

***Sankyoku* (三曲)**

- *Koto*, *Shamisen* and *Shakuhachi* in Ensemble -

By the Edo period (1603-1868) three instruments had emerged from various directions to become popular among common people. The *Koto*, a 13-string zither, the *Shamisen*, a 3-string banjo-like instrument, and the *Shakuhachi*, a bamboo flute, eventually became a regular trio in ensemble music. This combination is called *Sankyoku*, or "three instrument ensemble." (For a time, the *Kokyū*, a stringed instrument played with a bow, was popular in *Sankyoku* with the *Koto* and *Shamisen*. However, by the beginning of the Meiji-era [1868-1914] the *Shakuhachi* had replaced it.)