

Kyoko Satoh - Short Biography

Kyoko started playing the alto saxophone when she entered Yokohama National University. She participated in the jazz club activity at the University and learned jazz theory and how to play the alto saxophone on her own. Later she began to take private lessons with Atsushi Ikeda, one of the great jazz saxophonists in Japan. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from the University. After her graduation, she entered Berklee College of Music as a Berklee scholarship student, also supported by the Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship.

At Berklee, she was a jazz composition major and mainly studied composition and arranging under the tutelage of such great teachers as Ted Pease, Greg Hopkins, and Phil Wilson (Grammy nominee). Also, she studied saxophone with Frank Tiberi, George Garzone and Shannon LeClaire, performance with Dave Santoro, Ed Tomassi, and Hal Crook, and conducting with Valerie Taylor. She has received two awards from Berklee, the "Toshiko Akiyoshi Award" and the "Woodwind Department Achievement Award" in recognition of outstanding performance and composition abilities. She appeared in some Jazz Festivals including the JVC Jazz Festival.

After graduated from Berklee, she moved to New York City, she played many gigs, offered compositions/arrangements for various styles of bands, instructed from teenagers to elderly people in both New York and the Boston area.

Now she is very active as a performer and composer in Tokyo, leading her own orchestra and small group.

See more at her website <http://www.kyokosatoh.com>