

Musical Arrangements of *Etenraku* for Orchestra by Naomaro and
Hidemaro KONOYE and Their Performances in the 1930s and 1940s
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Etenraku, arranged for orchestra by the two brothers Naomaro and Hidemaro KONOYE, was one of the most frequently performed Japanese orchestral pieces in the world before World War II. The aim of this study is to investigate the musical arrangement of *Etenraku* and performances conducted by Hidemaro during the 1930s and 1940s.

Two noteworthy differences are found from a comparison of Naomaro's manuscript (Manuscript version), possibly completed before 1930, and the Ryuginsha published version (Ryuginsha version) edited by Hidemaro in 1935. First, in the Manuscript version, the original *gagaku* instruments are replaced by similar types of orchestral instruments, while the Ryuginsha version does not always adhere to the original instruments and pursues a variety of tone colors. Second, the ending of the Manuscript version is based on the original piece with its typical ending *gagaku* phrase, whereas the Ryuginsha version shortens the original ending phrase and adds extra notes to finish the piece. According to Hidemaro this alteration was intended to appeal to the musical taste of European audiences.

A survey of Hidemaro's performances in Europe reveals that *Etenraku* was often mentioned with relation to the nobleness of Hidemaro's pedigree and the long-established tradition of the original piece, rather than providing an evaluation of the music or performances themselves.

In addition, by examining the handwritten notes in the orchestral parts used by Hidemaro, the author identifies exact performance locations during the 1930s and 1940s, demonstrating that *Etenraku* was performed mostly in Germany and surrounding countries.

Through these analyses the author concludes that the KONOYE brothers transcribed *Etenraku* for orchestra with a strong concern about the reaction from Western audiences, and points out that its performances in Europe were possibly related to the political and diplomatic situation of Japan at that time.