

## COME NIGHTLY: NAUGHTY TALES FROM JAPAN

## FOR MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY

**Laughter is Power**, as the ancient Japanese knew well. When *Amaterasu* the Sun Goddess hid in the Heavenly Rock Cave causing the world's first solar eclipse, instead of cursing the darkness, the myriad Deities inhabiting the land lured her out by pretending to have a grand party without her.

"Uzume, the Goddess of Dance, using an overturned tub as a stage, powerfully stamped her feet as if divinely possessed, arched her back to expose her breasts, and untied her skirt strings to reveal her private parts.



Upon seeing this, the eight hundred myriad Deities laughed together, until the Plain of High Heaven shook." (from *Kojiki: Records of Ancient Matters* in the 7th century)

This raucous laughter, the first laughter recorded in Japan's history, brought the Sun Goddess out of the cave, restoring light in the world.

The sacred and the profane merge to create joyous laughter in celebration of human sexuality. Nationally renowned storyteller Motoko regales with her favorite "naughty tales" from ancient, medieval, and pre-modern Japan, interspersed with original songs and personal anecdotes. Her gentle language and delightful double-entendres entice the audience to the world of follies and foibles of men and women.

Originally developed for the Ojai Storytelling Festival in Ojai, CA, Come Nightly: Naughty Tales from Japan is guaranteed to leave the audience laughing, inspired, and feeling transcendent.

Motoko had performed at the Ojai Storytelling Festival's special adult event, Naughty Tales. I would say that she gave a superb performance, she truly hit it out of the ballpark. The performance offered traditional Japanese tales full of innuendo and humor and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. I would not hesitate to hire her again. She is a truly gifted storyteller and this performance presents a fresh and unique view of love and romance.

Brian Bemel, Founding Artistic Director, the Ojai Storytelling Festival