



HELLO THERE!

Thank you for coming to watch ***In The Beginning Woman Was The Sun.***

We would really appreciate if you could spend a couple of minutes at the end of the show filling out our survey:

Survey link



It will significantly help us with our reporting, evaluation and most importantly, when pitching and obtaining funding for the show in the future. YES, just **two** minutes of your time could change the course of the show's future!

We hope you have a fabulous time watching the show and thanks again for supporting us.

Lots of love,
Houmi & the team



HOUMIMIURA



HOUMIMIURATHEATREMAKER



#ITBWTS

THE TEAM

Houmi Miura
Actor & Writer

Alyx Tole
Director

Sekeenat Karim
Producer

Ronly Lam
Stage Manager

Lucy Sneddon
Set, Costume, Props
Designer & Maker

Adam Orton
Animator

José Guillermo Puello
Composer & Sound Designer

Barret Hodgson
Projection Consultant

Matchy Choi
Lighting Designer

Tilda O'Grady
Movement Director

Aneesah Suhaidi
Assistant Stage Manager

Brianna Douglas
Voiceover Artist

Zannah Hodson
Voiceover Artist

Lewys Taylor
Voiceover Artist

CONTRIBUTORS & COLLABORATORS

Mark Dormand (Graphic Design); Maria Major (Paid Social Media);
Grant Archer (Videographer); Naomi Sumner Chan (Dramaturg);
Irene Jade (R&D Set and Costume Collaborator); Rae McBride (Mentor)

SUPPORTED BY



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

HOME

**NEW
EARTH**

UNITY

**alphabeti
THEATRE**

WITH THANKS TO

Grace Ng; Manli Siu; Chris Lawson; Oldham Coliseum; Edge Theatre;
Slate and Eclipse Theatre; Saphena Aziz; Adam Lowe

BACKGROUND TO OUR HEROES

QUEEN HIMIKO OF YAMATAI (3RD CENTURY)

The first named Japanese person in written history.

Queen Himiko was an unmarried shamaness chosen to rule after a period of political and violent turmoil. She restored peace to the land for the next 50 years. The historical Chinese document, 'The History of the Kingdom of Wei' (297AD) was the first written source about Japan that recorded Himiko as the first Japanese name in history.

Himiko's legacy was largely erased until the 17th Century. Scholars ascribe this to the Japanese ruling elite in the centuries after Himiko trying to emulate patriarchal Chinese ideals of the period.

TOMOE GOZEN (12TH CENTURY)

The most famous female samurai warrior in Japanese history.

Tomoe lived through the Genpei Civil War (1180-1185) where two families (the Taira and Minamoto clans) fought and laid waste to the then capital, Kyoto and the surrounding countryside.

Tomoe was a leading commander for the Minamoto clan. Highlights of her career include collecting the heads of seven mounted warriors; leading over 1000 cavalry to victory; leading a force of 300 against 6000 Taira and surviving a battle as 1 of 5 Minamoto clan survivors.

RAICHO HIRATSUKA (1886–1971)

Founding editor of landmark feminist magazine, Seito.

Raicho Hiratsuka was a journalist, political activist and pioneering feminist. Raicho and her team launched the first issue of Seito in 1911.

Seito was a radical, rule breaking publication that was banned in girls' schools. Later, the government destroyed copies to silence them, however their influence had already spread.

NOE ITO (1895–1923)

Editor in chief at Seito magazine.

In 1915, Noe Ito took over the editorship of Seito magazine from Raicho Hiratsuka. Noe was a precocious writer and political activist. Under her leadership, Seito became a more radical, anarchic publication and the

government banned five issues. Ito also translated the works of one of history's most famous anarcho-feminists, Emma Goldman, which is what led Noe to become one of the leading figures in Japanese anarchism.

RESOURCES

BESEAN

Their advocacy spotlights ESEA experiences through our online platforms, research and community events - providing a safe space for sharing knowledge, creating joy and fostering connections. They launched ESEA Heritage Month, which is celebrated every year in September.

[BESEAN.CO.UK](https://www.besean.co.uk)

VOICE ESEA

Voice ESEA is an educational non-profit driven to uplift and educate about ESEA voices in the UK. They support ESEA communities across the UK. So far, the team has bases in Manchester and London, and offers training to volunteers similarly keen to enable change in their region.

[VOICEESEA.COM](https://www.voiceesea.com)

NEW EARTH THEATRE

Now in their 30th year, New Earth is the leading and longest-running British East and Southeast Asian (BESEA) touring theatre company in the UK. Their mission is to bring nuanced BESEA representation to the widest possible audience.

[NEWEARTHTHEATRE.ORG.UK](https://www.newearththeatre.org.uk)

LIVERPOOL EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIAN NETWORK

Liverpool East and South East Asian Network spotlights ESEA voices in Liverpool and the wider region. They are a community group for listening, sharing and healing.

[LINKTR.EE/LIVERPOOLESEANETWORK](https://linktr.ee/liverpooleseanetwork)

ESA.NE

East and Southeast Asians North East Community is a queer trans & intersex led community-network centring QTIBA/POC+ community care & intersectional anti-racism.

[LINKTR.EE/ESA.NORTHEAST](https://linktr.ee/esa.northeast)