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winter in chichibu

Asialink arts residency with Kokusai Shakuhachi Kenshukan

kirsty beilharz
This book shows fragments of my journey of discovery - cultural, musical, Zen, environmental and personal, during 3 months in autumn to winter, Japan 2007-8. This centred around Chichibu-shi Saitama-ken (approximately 110 minutes north-west of Tokyo by express train) in the country, amongst spectacular mountains. One of Chichibu's attractions is its Shikoku pilgrimage, that I pursued by bicycle. Another annual feature in Chichibu is its Yomatsuri (night festival) and three major Shinto shrines - Chichibu Jinja, Mitsumine Jinja and Hodo Jinja - all I visited with Megumi. Finally, the other and original reason for practising and composing in Chichibu, is that it's home to Kakizakai Sensei (Kokusai Shakuhachi Kenshukan) with whom I studied honkyoku.
winter in chichibu
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Kakizakai Sensei, Kirsty (Sydney) and Kundan (Byron Bay)
Persimmons (*kaki*) hanging out to dry and become sweet and delicious