

# 古関裕而を生んだまち

The Town that Gave the World Koseki Yuji



## 古関 裕而

古関裕而氏は、夏の甲子園の入場曲「栄冠は君に輝く」や、1964年東京オリンピック入場行進曲の「オリンピック・マーチ」、「高原列車は行く」「長崎の鐘」など数々の名曲を生み出した、福島市出身の日本を代表する作曲家です。

生涯作曲数は5,000曲にも及ぶと言われ、福島市名誉市民第一号として、その功績と栄誉を称えられています。2020年には、古関夫妻をモデルとした連続テレビ小説「エール」も放映されました。

2021年3月にリニューアルオープンした古関裕而記念館では、古関氏の功績や古関メロディーに触れていただくことができます。

### KOSEKI YUJI

Mr. Koseki Yuji is an iconic Japanese songwriter born and raised in Fukushima City. He brought the world a number of famous songs including: 'The Crown Will Shine on You', a song that is symbolic of high school baseball, the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Entrance March 'Olympic March', 'Thus Goes the Highland Train', and 'The Bells of Nagasaki'.

Said to have composed as many as 5,000 songs in his lifetime, Koseki was awarded the honor of being the first Honorary Citizen of Fukushima City in celebration of his achievements. In 2020, he and his wife also became the inspiration for the NHK continuous television drama 'Yell (Voices of Cheer)'.

You can see Mr. Koseki's achievements for yourself at the Koseki Yuji Memorial Halls, newly re-opened in March of 2021.

## 「福島に生まれ育って本当によかった」 ～古関裕而～

### 天才音楽家を育んだ福島の地

#### The Land of Fukushima that Raised a Genius Musician

1909年8月11日、福島市大町にあった市内有数の呉服店「喜多三」に生まれました。音楽好きだった父は、当時では珍しい蓄音機を購入し、主に浪曲のレコードをかけていましたが、古関氏は民謡や吹奏楽が好きで、小学校の頃から作曲を始めるようになります。

1922年、古関氏は県立福島商業学校(現・福島商業高等学校)に入学。家業である呉服店を継ぐためでしたが、山田耕筰の曲に多大な影響を受け、作曲りに熱中するようになっていきます。卒業するころには「ハーモニカ・ソサエティ」に所属し、21歳の時には自分で作曲した曲が国際コンクールで入賞するなど、福島の地で音楽家としての才能を育てていきました。

Koseki Yuji was born on August 11th 1909, into a family that ran one of the city's major kimono stores 'Kitasan Gofuku-ten', in Omachi, Fukushima City. His father, who loved music, bought a phonograph, which were still rare at the time. In his spare time would play mainly rokyoku (a genre of often tragic, traditional Japanese narrative singing sometimes called naniwa-bushi, usually accompanied by a shamisen). Koseki instead preferred folk songs and wind instrumentals, beginning to write songs in his elementary school years.

Koseki enrolled in the Fukushima Prefectural Fukushima Commercial School in 1922, in preparation to inherit the family business of kimono drapery. Koseki, however, enjoyed music, and taking great influence from the songs of Yamada Kosaku, became engrossed in music writing. Around the time of his graduation, Koseki was already fostering his musical genius right here in Fukushima, joining the 'Fukushima Harmonica Society,' and at the young age of 21, winning a prize for one of his compositions in an international contest.



幼少期



小学生の頃(左)



福島商業時代

## 福島を胸に、世界にエールを送り続けた生涯

A Lifetime of Sending Cheer to the World with Fukushima in his Heart

21歳で上京した後は、日本コロムビアの専属作曲家として数々の名作を世に送り出します。

初めての大ヒット曲「船頭可愛や」をはじめ、戦前・戦中は「暁に祈る」「露営の歌」などの歴史的作品を残したほか、戦後は「とんがり帽子」「長崎の鐘」「高原列車は行く」など希望にあふれた歌謡作品を次々と発表していきます。

同郷福島出身の作詞家・野村俊夫(福島市)、歌手・伊藤久男(本宮市)と3人で、「福島三羽ガラス」と呼ばれ、その友情はドラマ「エール」でも見どころとなりました。

成功を収めた後も、妻金子に「何でも福島なのね」と嫉妬されたほど、生涯にわたり故郷福島へ想いを馳せ創作をしていた古関氏は、福島市民の誇りとなっています。



裕而・金子夫妻



福島三羽ガラス

上/野村 左/伊藤 右/古関

After moving to Tokyo, Koseki sent out a number of famous songs into the world as an in-house song writer at Nippon Columbia.

Koseki wrote a number of war-time songs, including his first hit song, 'The Little Boatman', as well as 'Payer at Dawn' and 'The Bivouac Song', which were composed prior to and during the 2nd World War. He has also left behind songs written after the end of the war such as 'The Pointed Hat', 'The Bells of Nagasaki', 'Thus Goes the Highland Train', and more ballads filled with hope one after the other.

Koseki and his two home-town friends, lyricist Nomura Toshio (Fukushima City) and singer Itou Hisao (Motomiya City) were together known as the 'three crows of Fukushima' and their close friendship has become a highlight of the 'Yell (Voices of Cheer)' drama.

Even after gaining success, Koseki continued to write with his heart full of a life-long love for Fukushima: A love so intense that it even stoked the fires of jealousy from his wife Kinko, who would say 'it's always Fukushima with you'. It is this Koseki, the man who loved Fukushima all his life, who has become the pride and joy of every citizen of Fukushima.



オープニング映像のロケ地となった水林自然林。美しい緑が印象的なシーンとなりました。

古関氏を愛する多くの市民の強い願いが叶い、ついに2020年前半の連続テレビ小説「エール」の主人公のモデルになりました。オープニングで有名になった緑の美しい水林自然林をはじめ、ハーモニカの演奏を行った旧広瀬座や信夫山など、市内でも数々の名場面が撮影されました。

The fervent hopes of the many citizens of Fukushima City who love Koseki Yuji were at last answered in 2020, when Koseki Yuji became the inspiration for the main character of the NHK's continuous morning drama for the first half of the year.

Filming was carried out at locations that are well known within the city, which included not only the beautiful scenery of Mizubayashi Natural Forest, garnering even more fame in the series' opening, but also Kyu-Hiroseza (the former Hiroseza theatre) where the harmonica concerts had been held and Mt. Shinobu.

### 窪田 正孝さん(古山 裕一役)のコメント

裕一を演じるにあたり、古関さんをよく知る方にお話を伺う機会があり、皆さん、古関さんの味方というか、古関さんの誰も敵に回さない人柄を感じました。誰かを憎んだり、怒ったりすることはあっても、古関さんはそれを別の愛情に変えている気がしています。周りに少し煙たがられても、音楽の力や自身の人柄で大きく包み込んでいるイメージがあるので、そこを大事にして演じていきたいと思います。

古関さんのふるさとである福島でのロケでは、100人を超える地元エキストラさんの前でハーモニカを吹くシーンを撮影しました。正直、最初はプレッシャーがあったのですが、ワンカット終わるたびに、皆さんが拍手を送ってくださって、1曲終わるたびにエールを送ってくださり、背中を押していただきました。すごく温かくて力強いシーンになったと思いますので、ぜひ楽しみにしてください。

※「エール」公開前の2020年2月のコメントです。

In preparing to play Yuuichi (the character based off Koseki Yuji), I had the opportunity to speak with those who were close to Mr. Koseki, and was able to get a sense that Mr. Koseki was friends with everyone, or at least had the kind of personality that didn't antagonize anyone. I have a feeling that, even when angry or upset, Mr. Koseki would turn that anger into a different kind of love. I have an image of him where although he was somewhat under-appreciated by those around him, he enveloped this in the power of music and his own accepting personality.

On location in Mr. Koseki's home town of Fukushima, we filmed a scene of a harmonica-performance in front of over 100 local extras. To be honest, I did feel some pressure at the start, but as we finished each take, the round of applause gave me great encouragement. I think it turned out to be a very heart-warming and powerful scene.

※ Comment made in February 2020, prior to the broadcast of 'Yell (Voice of Cheer)'

