

Since Ichiko Aoba's 2010 debut, *Razorblade Maiden*, the Japanese singer-songwriter-multi-instrumentalist has released seven albums, founded her independent label **hermine**, has performed in a growing list of territories worldwide. Her music, often composed on just her classical guitar or a simple synthesizer, is simultaneously intimate and boundless; fragile and unyielding; virtuosic and understated.

Her seventh album, *Windswept Adan* (2020) introduced lush orchestral arrangements to create a "soundtrack for a fictional film" that took the world by storm. From TikTok to internet music forums, *Windswept Adan* revealed the breadth of Ichiko Aoba's worldwide appeal. Yet her live performances are often stripped down affairs - guitar and voice, unadorned - that still manage to captivate and enthrall audiences.

2025 saw the release of her eighth album, *Luminescent Creatures*, a work that developed the musical and thematic motifs of *Windswept Adan*, while incorporating more sparse arrangements, much like her early albums. Acclaimed by critics and embraced across both traditional media and digital communities, the record marked a new peak in her career.

The album sparked a two-year world tour that has included iconic stages such as London's **Royal Albert Hall**, the **Sydney Opera House**, and **Walt Disney Concert Hall** in Los Angeles, with some performances incorporating up to 11 musicians on stage.

Alongside her albums and tours, Ichiko's creativity spans many fields: radio, narration, and film composition. Her soundtrack for *Amiko* (2022) received **Best Soundtrack** at the 77th Mainichi Film Awards, and she was honored with the **ANCHOR Award** at the 2023 Reeperbahn Festival.

At the heart of it all, Ichiko Aoba's music remains a space of stillness and imagination - inviting listeners into worlds both real and dreamed.