

# Touhou Project 199

## More than an Introduction



Brian Lee, Yuchen Liu, James Toth  
Con Ja Nai XXV.S  
April 13th, 2019

# What is Touhou Project?



“The Touhou Project is a series of 2D vertically-scrolling danmaku shooting games made by Team Shanghai Alice, with six fighting game spinoffs co-produced with Twilight Frontier.”

-Touhou Wiki

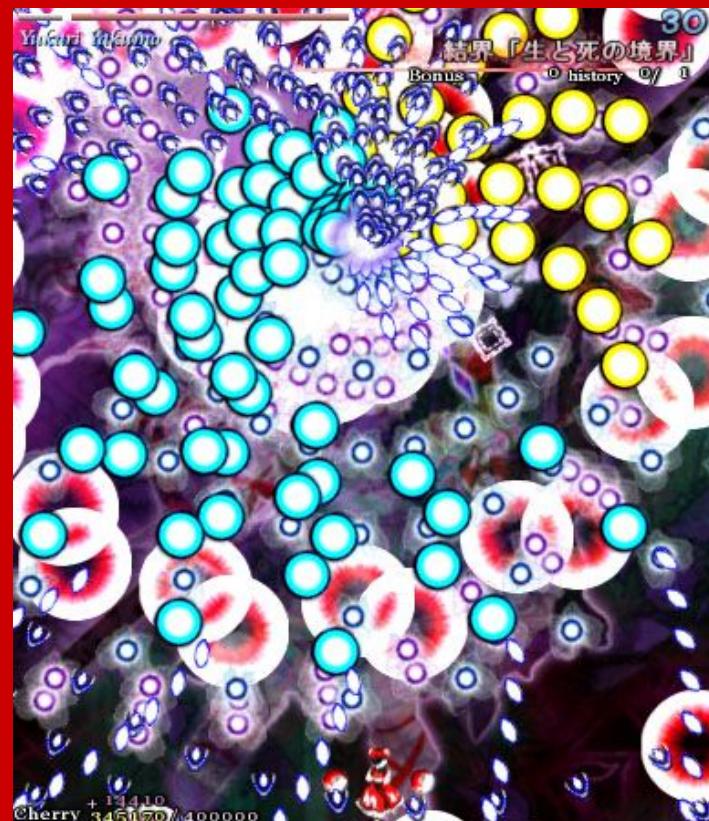


# “Danmaku”



From Kanji “弾幕” (Barrage)

- ❑ lit. “bullet curtain” or “curtain fire”
- ❑ Also referred to as bullet hell
- ❑ A subgenre of Shoot’em Ups (shmups)
- ❑ Slower but denser patterns
- ❑ Most aren’t aimed at the player



# I wanna play. How should I start?



- ❑ TH 16 is reasonably easy and is on Steam
- ❑ HW: Runs on low-spec machines
- ❑ OS: Win, Linux, and Mac (wine)
- ❑ EN-patch on thpatch.net
- ❑ More on moriyashrine.org and
- ❑ en.touhouwiki.net



# It's Too Hard!



Start easy (literally)

You don't have to start from the first game and beat every one.

- Check comment section [here](#) for which one to choose

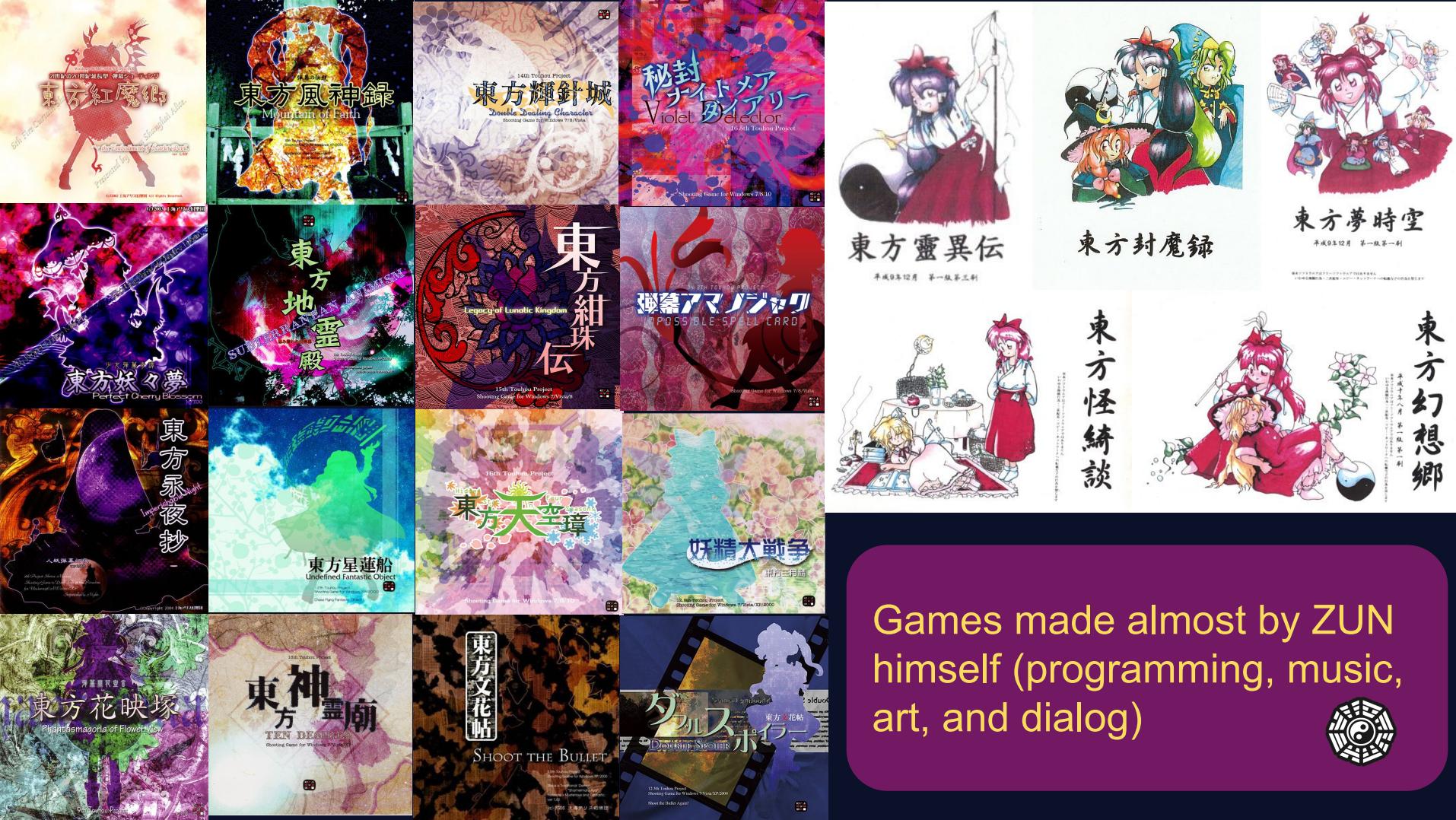
Danmaku is a sport. You can enjoy it without playing it.

- Though more enjoyable if you give it a try



Sole Member of Team Shanghai Alice, Jun'ya Ota (ZUN)

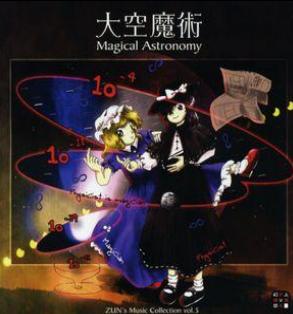




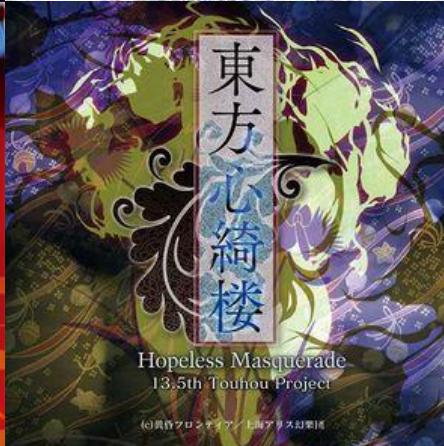
Games made almost by ZUN himself (programming, music, art, and dialog)



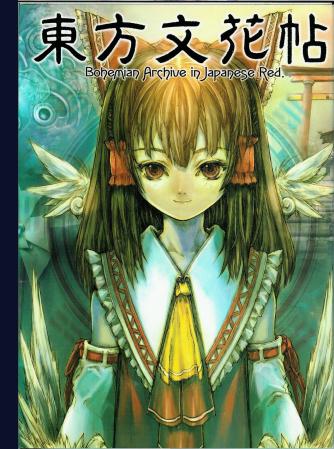
# Music CDs by ZUN



# Fighting Games from Twilight Frontier



# Printworks



Drawn  
by  
others  
but  
mostly  
written  
by  
ZUN

# Gensokyo (幻想郷 - The Land of Fantasy)





Reimu Hakurei

Marisa Kirisame



# The Rest (not quite)

A lot of “magical beings”

High-school Girl  
Tsukumogami  
Shinigami  
Magician  
Vampire  
Kappa  
Tengu  
Ghost  
Fairy  
God  
Nue  
Oni

...

Almost all-female



If the world is my enemy, I'm dead long ago

If the world is my friend, I have not struggled this much



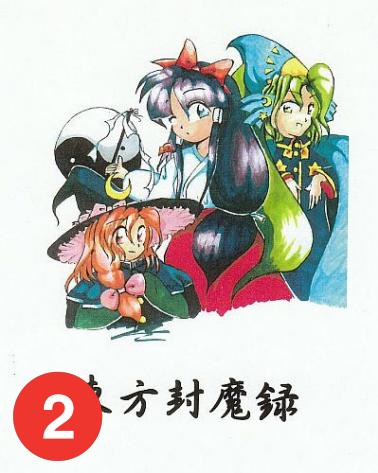
The world is only present there

In that world, I just do my power

## PC-98 Era (1996-1998)



ZUN Soft  
東方 Project



2 東方封魔錄



4



3



5

### Pictured:

2. 東方封魔錄 ~ Story of Eastern Wonderland (1997)
3. 東方夢時空 ~ Phantasmagoria of Dimensional Dream (1997)
4. 東方幻想郷 ~ Lotus Land Story (1998)
5. 東方怪綺談 ~ Mystic Square (1998)

# Doujin



- From Kanji “同人”
  - like-minded people, independent creations (in contrast to corporate)
  - Started out as self-published magazines in literary societies
  - Expanded to anime, game, music, etc.
- Works mostly distributed at events revolving around doujins
  - ComicMarket (Comiket) being the biggest one
  - Eventually went online as well, but still limited to Japan

## Taito and Seihou (1999-2002)



# Seihou Project by Amusement Makers







Programmer

ZUN

Program Support pbg

pbg helped with  
the engine for  
Embodiment of  
the Scarlet  
Devil, the first  
Touhou game  
on Windows



# ZUN at Taito



## Rebirth of Gensokyo (2002-2007)



# ZUN Returned to Doujin Scene



ZUN applied to ComicMarket 61 (winter 2001)  
for a CD he planned on...  
and was rejected

He applied again and was accepted to Comiket 62 (summer 2002)  
So he decided to make another game with the extra time

Next History

上海アリス幻樂団

Team Shanghai Alice

Lotus Asia  
Since 2002

よおこそ

当サークル「上海アリス幻樂団」では、弾幕S T Gを開発したり音楽を作成したりなサークルです。入場したい場合、上の画像をクリックしてくださいリンクを張る場合は必ずこの <http://www16.big.or.jp/~zun/> にお願いします。

当ペエジは、横解像度800以上、Internet Explorer 4.0以上で見ることを想定しています。リンクはご自由にお願いいたします。

バナアは

上海アリス幻樂団  
Team Shanghai Alice

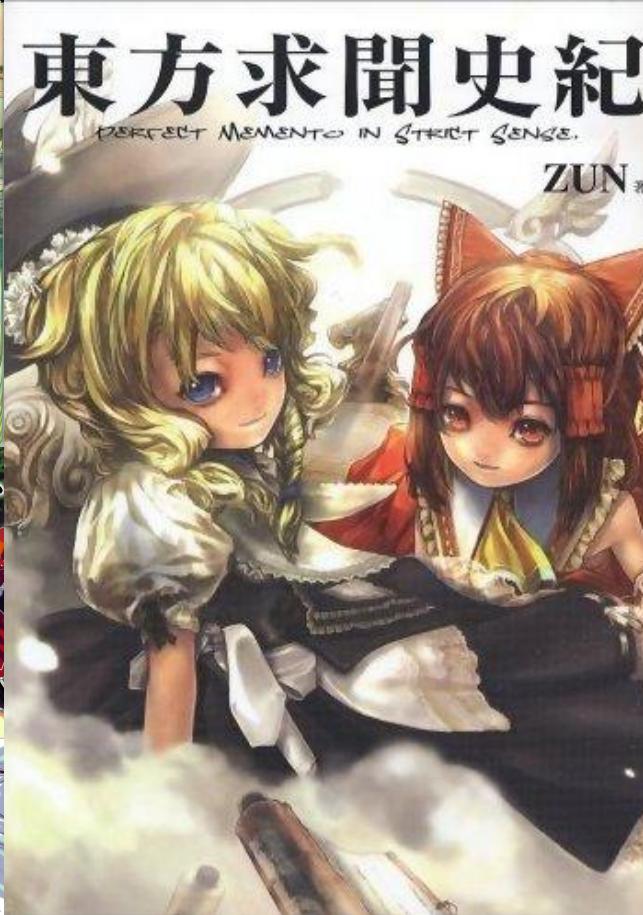
# Beginning of the Windows Era



# Episodic Incidents (TH6-9.5)



# Enriching the Lore



# The Secret Sealing Club



A CD series (10 albums so far)  
with continuous storyline independent of TH  
(but vague connections)  
about two college girls  
(Maribel Hearn and Renko Usami)  
exploring the occult in the near future  
A vehicle for ZUN to express more freely



# Settings (Again)



---

A forsaken refuge for Youkai, attracted human exorcists as well.  
500 years ago: Youkai Expansion Project (Yukari Yakumo)  
border between illusion and reality, attracting Youkai  
1885 (Meiji 18): The Great Hakurei Barrier

# Spell Card Rule (Bill for the Naming of Duels)



Duels between youkai threaten to destroy the small world of Gensokyo. However, a lifestyle without duels will cause the youkai to lose their power. Accordingly, I would like to permit such duels under the following contract.

理念	Principles
一つ、妖怪が異変を起こし易くする。	One: To make it easier for youkai to cause incidents.
一つ、人間が異変を解決し易くする。	Two: To make it easier for humans to resolve incidents.
一つ、完全な実力主義を否定する。	Three: To reject a system wherein only the strongest have the right to rule.
一つ、美しさと思念に勝る物は無し。	Four: That beauty and thoughtfulness stand above all.

# What to expect from the lore?



Yes. Touhou has lore. A lot of it, but underappreciated.

Inspiration from Japanese/Asian myth and folklore

boldly mixed with western mythology and sci-fi

Carefree atmosphere with a touch of serious undertone

Human and Youkai

Human vs Youkai

Modern vs Retro

Immortality

...

**“Gensokyo accepts everything. And that's a cruel, cruel thing.”**

## Religious War (2007-2013)



# Continuous Story (TH 10-13.5)



Mountain of Faith (Shinto)

Subterranean Animism (Former Hell)

# Continuous Story (TH 10-13.5)



Undefined Fantastic Object (Buddhism)



Ten Desires (Taoism)

# Continuous Story (TH 10-13.5)



TH 13.5 東方心綺樓 ~ Hopeless Masquerade (all)

# Sidelines (TH 10.5, 12.3, 12.5, 12.8)



# Youkai Revolt (2013-2014)



# OVERTURNING GENSO KYO (TH14, 14.3)



Double Dealing Character



Impossible Spell Card

## The Lunarians Strike Back (2015-2018)



# Urban Legend Incident



TH 14.5 東方深秘錄 ~ Urban Legend in Limbo

# Urban Legend Incident (Continued)



TH 15 東方紺珠伝 ~ Legacy of Lunatic Kingdom

# Return of the Sage



TH 16 東方天空璋 ~ Hidden Star in Four Seasons

# Perfect Possession



TH 15.5 東方憑依華 ~ Antinomy of Common Flowers

# Perfect Possession (Aftermath)



TH 16.5 秘封ナイトメアダイアリー ~ Violet Detector

## Future of the Series



# ZUN「『東方Project』は自分のライフワークみたいなものになっている」（代表作：『東方』シリーズ）

2013-03-25 22:05

39

タグを編集

ZUN 東方Project クリエイターインタビュー



## ZUN(ゲーム制作者)

ついに“神主”がプロマガに登場！ ゲーム製作者インタビュー第5弾はニコニコユーザーにはもはや説明不要のシューティングゲーム『東方Project』の作者・ZUNさんへのインタビューをお届け。自らの自作ゲーム制作者としての足跡やポリシー、そしてニコニコ自作ゲームフェスの展望や期待を語っていただいた。

ZUN: Touhou Project Has Become My Lifework



Intermission (5 min.)



# The Fandom



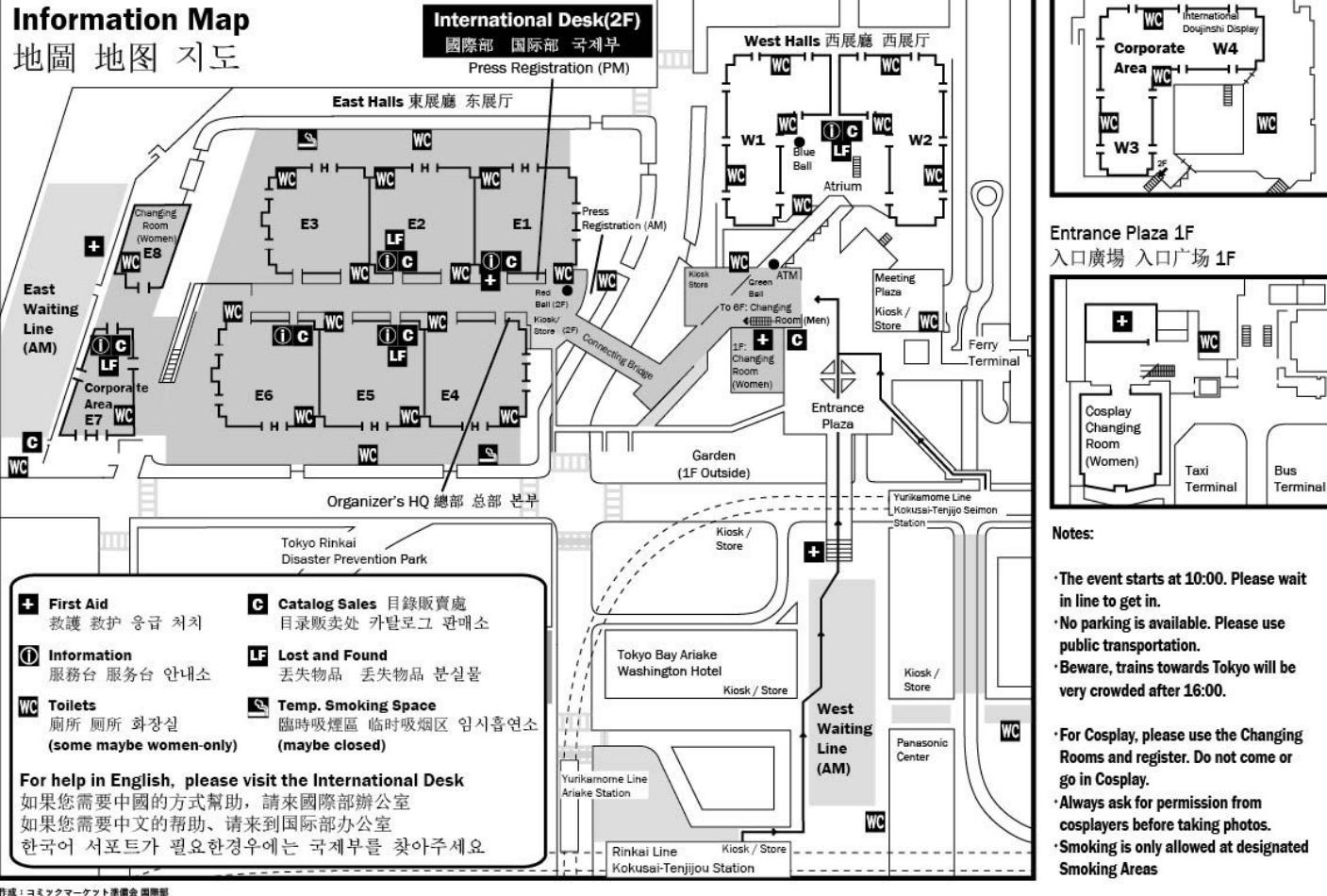


Comiket, a prominent Touhou convention

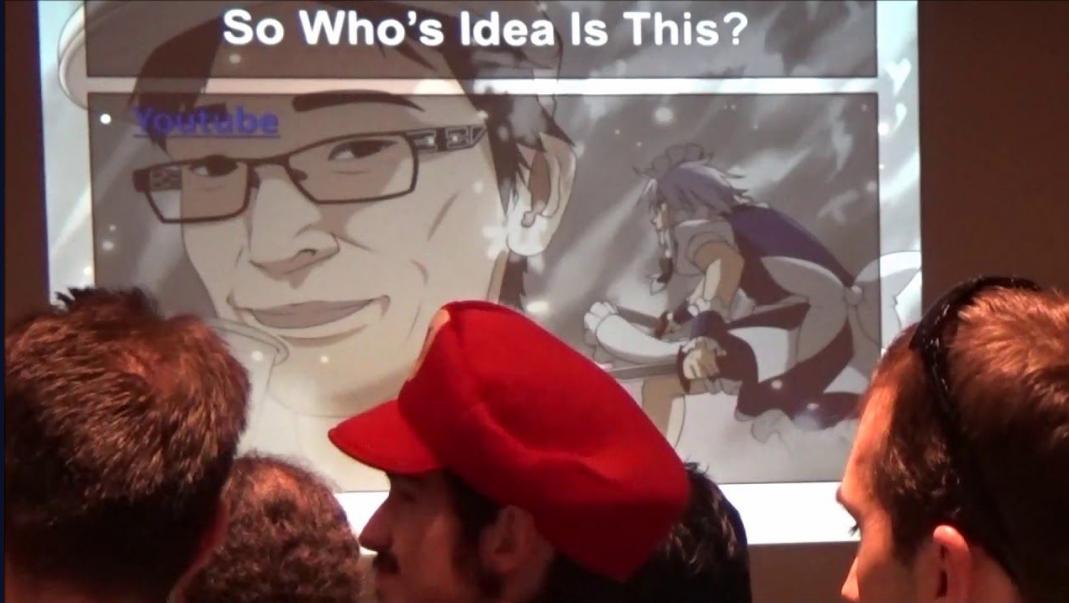


# Comic Market 95

## Information Map 地圖 地图 지도







Touhou's Western presence is ... rather sporadic, to put it that way





comments | show images (0)

/r/touhou Character Popularity Poll Results | Touhou 15.5 and Touhou 16 are available on Steam

This is an archived post. You won't be able to vote or comment.

104 ~ Redditaisai 2018 ~ Meta (self.touhou) submitted 7 months ago \* (last edited 7 months ago) by james7132 DOUJINCONNNNEEEEECCCCTTTT

**Rules**

1. Please adhere to the subreddit rules where applicable.
2. Please post your submissions to the subreddit on **July 28th 2018**
3. To help spread posts out throughout the day so that people do not all post at once. We strongly suggest everyone submit their submissions at **12 Noon** for your time zone. (If you are a group, this is the 12 Noon of the representative for your group posting for you.) This avoids everyone posting at the same time and flooding.
4. Please prefix your posts title with the [Redditaisai] tag. This tells /u/koakuma\_bot<sup>[1]</sup> to link back to the catalog post for easy navigation for viewers.
5. Enjoy the great content with everyone in the community!

If you have not already registered, please do so [here<sup>\[2\]</sup>](#). **Registered Submissions<sup>[3]\*\*</sup>**, On the day of the event, if you have not registered, you can simply post your submission and I'll add it. If you do, please PM me as soon as possible.

If you are no longer making something for Redditaisai, tell me ASAP.

Clarification since I've gotten questions about this a lot lately: **Treat the event like you would a normal convention like Comiket or Reitaisai, if you cannot finish your work on time for the deadline, you are better off delaying it to the next event or releasing it sometime else. The event will not be delayed for the whims of a single creator.** The point behind Redditaisai was to get creators to get off their butts and make something cool, whether or not it's on time, that's fine so long as you make something presentable and release it.

I will be making an announcement regarding future events after the event is over on the 29th.

Author	Title	Type	Price	Link
Agaphe	Tohou Grazing Battlefield	Fangame	Free	<a href="#">link<sup>[4]</sup></a>
Akane_the_tengu	The Winter of my Heart	Music (Album)	Free/Name your price	<a href="#">link<sup>[5]</sup></a>
asi14	4K-Pixelate	Art (Album)	Free	<a href="#">link<sup>[6]</sup></a>

search

this post was submitted on 25 Jul 2018  
**104 points** (100% upvoted)  
shortlink: <https://redd.it/9ivtd1>

**LINK Post**

**TEXT Post**

**reddit premium**  
Get an ad-free experience with special benefits, and directly support Reddit.  
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27,254 readers  
264 users here now  
 Show my flair on this subreddit. It looks like:  
 asi14 Marisa x Alice Forever (edit)





ZUN visits the US at *Anime Expo 2016*!



# Snippets from ZUN's Q & A



**“What’s your favorite beer?”**

- “Kirin beer.”

**“Who’s your favorite touhous?”**

- “Reimu and Marisa.”

**“What kinds of software instruments do you use to make the games?”**

- “I use the Roland SD-90. It’s old, but it’s something I still like to use.”

**“Why are there no boys in your game series?”**

- “Because they simply get in the way.”

**“Any change of old characters returning?”**

- “I won’t say no, but...”

# What's in a Touhou Doujin?



# ZUN's Rules for Content Providers



ZUN is generally chill with fan content, with these guidelines:

1. Contact him if you're doing a commercial distribution.
2. Don't reproduce the main game's literal endings.
3. Don't steal his own physical assets from the games.

See Touhou Wiki for more information



*Fantasy Night*, an iOS app notoriously removed for plagiarizing ZUN's assets



Touhou Music: big and diverse enough to get its own panel



# Where can I get Doujin Music?



- Typically *very* hard as most music is **Japan-release only**
  - DoujinStyle Download Threads, [www.moriyashrine.org](http://www.moriyashrine.org), Google
  - *Very small* Western release if lucky
- Late 2018: doujin circles began **global distribution**
  - Buy your music through Google Play & iTunes!
  - See [www.touhou-music.jp](http://www.touhou-music.jp) for a list of supported music

Songs	Artist	Price
1 Future Climbing	Takahito Rute Koshida/Aki	\$1.29
2 DARKSIDE DOLL	Sachibudou	\$1.29
3 Bokura ga Koi shita FANTASY	Takahito Rute Koshida/Aki	\$1.29
4 Qiu yi nong	Aki/Napoleon	\$1.29
5 Faith and salvation	Takahito Rute Koshida/Ayaponzu*	\$1.29
6 FAITH	T. Stebbins	\$1.29
7 Taga Tame ni Kaeru Naku	Takahito Rute Koshida	\$1.29
8 Blessing of Rain	Aki	\$1.29

Example Doujin Album Listing on Google Play

Tokyo Active NEETS  
Orchestral, Jazz



A-ONE  
Eurobeat



Alstroemeria Records  
Vocal, House, Electronic





ZUN's game art is ... unique, to aptly describe it





# Fan Printworks/Manga



- Touhou doujins exist for pretty much every manga type/genre
  - Fills in character details canon lore sometimes misses
  - **Lots** of yuri and ships (and hentai too)
- Common Sources:
  - MangaDex
  - DynastyScans
  - Danbooru
- Translation Sources:
  - Touhou Wiki
  - gensokyo.org



Example Doujin Cover

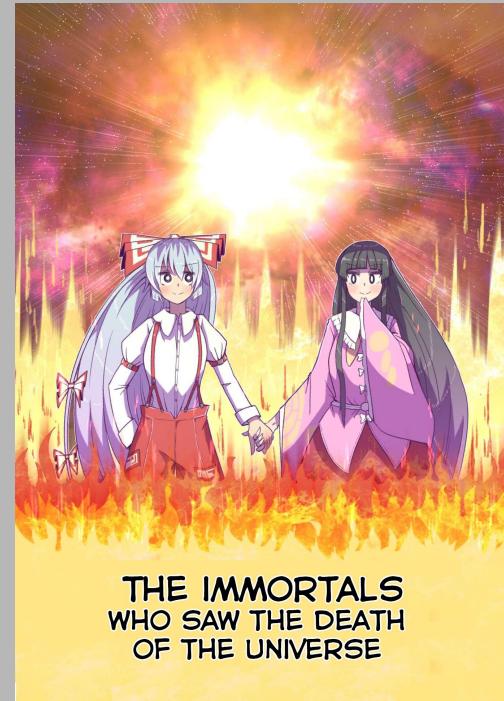
"Passion for your Sake" - Jiroo  
*Depression, Drama, Violence*

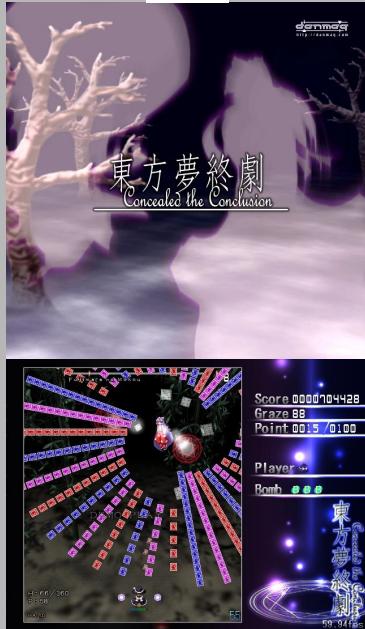


"Her and her Dolls" - Aria  
*Comedy, Romance, Alice x Marisa*



"The Immortals who saw the Death of the Universe" - Alison  
*Comedy, Sci-Fi, Supernatural*





Fangames: an extremely diverse doujin subgenre





All Games > Indie Games > 東方天空璋 ~ Hidden Star in Four Seasons.

# 東方天空璋 ~ Hidden Star in Four Seasons.



幻想界の異常気象は決して地球温暖化が原因では無い。ようとして正体の判らない異変。全ての季節に現れた不気味な現象。隠されていたのは天使か悪魔か、それとも……。敵弾に当たらないように避け、敵を擊破するゲームです。各ステージの最後にはボスが居ますので、それをやっつけるとステージ

ALL REVIEWS No user reviews

RELEASE DATE Aug 11, 2017

DEVELOPER 上海アリス幻樂団

PUBLISHER Mediascape Co., Ltd.

Popular user-defined tags for this product

Bullet Hell Great Soundtrack Indie Difficult 20 +

Sign in to add this item to your wishlist, follow it, or mark it as not interested

English language not supported  
This product does not have support for your local language. Please review the supported language list below before purchasing

Available: November 17  
This game will unlock in approximately 11 days

Is this game relevant to you?

Sign in to see reasons why you may or may not like this based on your games, friends, and curators you follow.

Sign in or Open in Steam

Welcome to Steam, ZUN! (And fangames galore)





## Miscellaneous (a.k.a. *Everything Else*)



# Additional Resources/Contact Info



## Resources

- [www.en.touhouwiki.net](http://www.en.touhouwiki.net)
- [www.moriyashrine.org](http://www.moriyashrine.org)
- [www.reddit.com/r/touhou](http://www.reddit.com/r/touhou)
- [www.tinyurl.com/touhou199](http://www.tinyurl.com/touhou199)
- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

## ZUN's Pages

- Blog 1: <https://kourindou.exblog.jp/>
- Blog 2: <http://www16.big.or.jp/~zun/>
- YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/zunyoutube>
- Twitter Handle: [@korindo](#)

## Contact Info

- Brian Lee: [leebri@umich.edu](mailto:leebri@umich.edu)
- Yuchen Liu: [lyuchen@umich.edu](mailto:lyuchen@umich.edu)

## Find Us At

- *Great Lakes Touhou* Discord: <https://discord.gg/CA5bmEE>
- *Touhou Subreddit* Discord: <https://discordapp.com/invite/MYcHUh>

**Thanks for Coming!**



Live demos, anyone?



# DOUJIN GAMES

Why do we like creating Touhou doujin  
games?

# Appendix

Enemy 1 -

24

幻世「ザ・ワールド」



最高得点 252890720

得点 138989680

Player ★★★★★★★★

Bomb ★★★★★

Power MAX

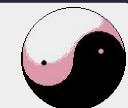
Grazo 2470

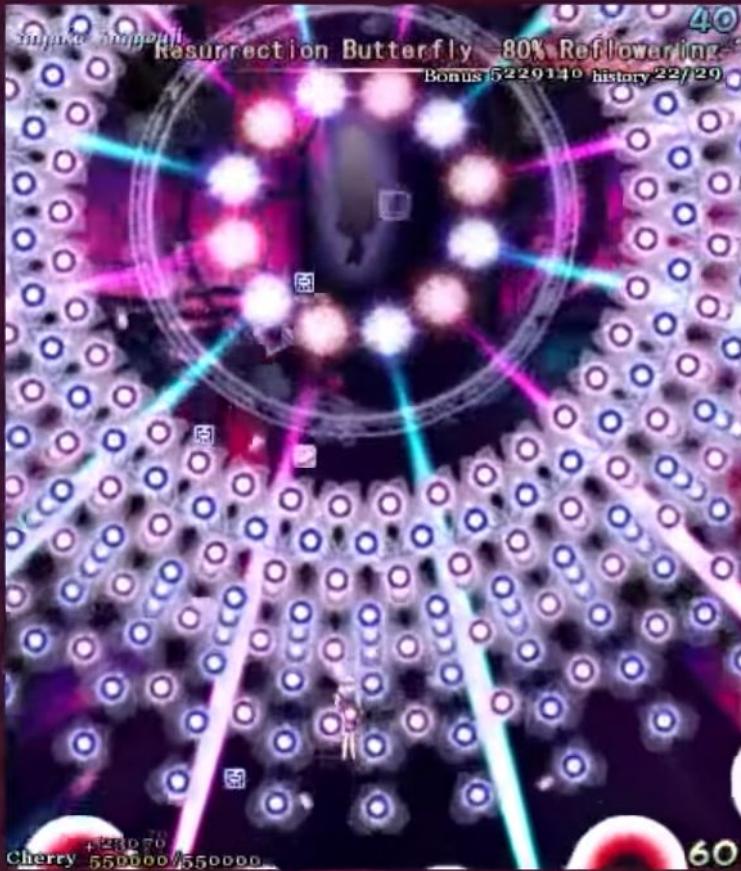
点 42

東方  
紅魔郷

60.00fps

東方紅魔郷 ~ Embodiment of Scarlet Devil





HScore 965893230  
Score 574335240

Player ★★★★★★★★  
Bomb ★★★★★★★★

Power MAX  
Graze 5534  
Point 729/800

東方妖々夢  
Perfect  
Cherry  
Blossom  
60.00fps



東方妖々夢 ~ Perfect Cherry Blossom



HiScore 3768968480  
Score 0036939990

Player ★★  
Spell ★★★

Power 107  
Graze 188  
Point 49/100  
Time 2904/3000

Lunatic

東方  
永夜抄  
Imperishable Night

60.00fps

東方永夜抄 ~ Imperishable Night



Players x 3

SCORE 0003806278

HI-SCORE 0004903155

60



First Sign [Bad Lady Scramble]

Bonus 0391843 history 000/007



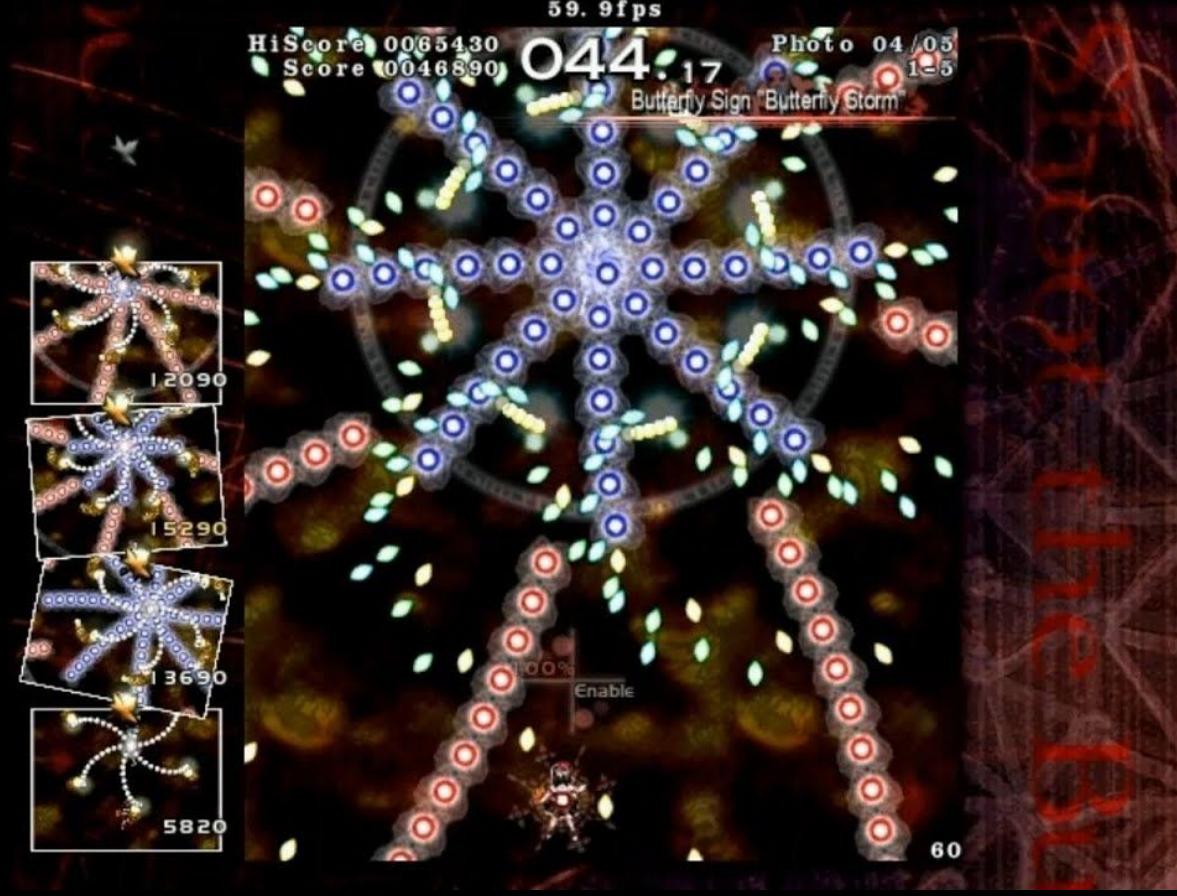
東方萃夢想 ~ Immaterial and Missing Power





東方花映塚 ~ Phantasmagoria of Flower View





東方文花帖 ~ Shoot the Bullet

