Rumi Umino is a professor at Tokyo Kasei Gakuin University in Japan.

She is a cultural anthropologist and ethnomusicologist, who has dealt with indigenous populations in southern Africa, especially a group of Griqua people, focusing on their historical practices and post-apartheid identity re-construction/rehabilitation. She is also dealing with a case of artist community building and its relation with the host community in Osaka city area in Japan. Another recent work includes a historical research of a Japanese music educator, composer, and writer in 1920-30s.