

The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music Department of Ethnomusicology

Chinese Music Ensemble at UCLA

Funded by Campus Programs Committee of the Program Activities Board

# Music of China Concert

Chi Li, Director

5:00 pm, Saturday, March 11, 2023

Schoenberg Hall

1100 Schoenberg Music Building, UCLA

[Livestream Link](#)

## Program

### 1. *Qin* unison

- a. The Song of Hua Xu (*Hua Xu Yin*) ----- Music Manuscript of *Shen Qi* (1425)

The Song of Hua Xu (*Hua Xu Yin*) is a piece from a qin music collection, known as the Manuscript of Shenqi, completed in 1425. This particular piece recounts an ancient fable telling the story of an Emperor Huang who searched far and wide for ways to bring peace and prosperity to his troubled kingdom. Without much success in his search, he finally came upon a place named Hua Xu where he had a dream of visiting an orderly kingdom surrounded by peach blossoms. Its people neither feared for loss of honor nor judged harshly. When the emperor woke up, he was deeply inspired by this utopian vision and wrote the following qin music in three parts: the first is the search, the second is the dream, and the third is the realization of peace.

Yiwen Fang

Nancy Jiayu Yao

- b. Autumn Breeze (*Qiu Feng Ci*) ----- Manuscript of Mei An (1931)

Poem by Li Bai (701 – 792): The autumn winds are chaste and wistful, the autumn moon shines softly with light. Wherever the winds travel, fallen leaves gather and scatter, startling the crows who perch on parched trees, who tremble in the sullen wake of the passing winds.

Yiwen Fang

Mel Liu

Voice: Leo Jiang

### 2. *Zheng* unison

- a. Thirty Three Beats (*San Shi San Ban*) ----- Traditional Zheng Music  
Zhejiang school

Thirty Three Beats is also called "Cloud Beats". The music has thirty three measures and each measure has one beat. It is arranged from a piece of Hang Zhou narrative music. It mainly expresses the lively, bright, and elegant style of Zhejiang *Zheng* school music.

Chanrong Guo

Lily Jiang

Monica Shiqi Lu

Zhiying Luo

Hui Qiao Wu

Bingying Yang

Amber Zhang

Ruoning Zhao

Xinyi Wu

- b. Picking Osmunda (*Cai Wei*) -----Zhang Qu

Picking Osmunda (*Cai Wei*) is one of the poems from "The book of Poetry (*Shi Jing*)", which is the oldest existing collection of Chinese poetry, completed more than 2500 years ago. *Caiwei* laments the suffering of soldiers in persistent border wars far from home. The poem describes cycles of the seasons, each bringing new and deeper tales of hardships and grief.

Anna Deng

Kyle Hurlbert

Tianqi Jiang

Xiaomeng Leng

Natalie Nielsen

Madison Starr

Jodie Jaeshin Ryu

Tiffany Tang

Eleanor Mei-Shia Vo

Jingxuan Wang

Yuxin Wu

c. Yao People's Dance Music (*Yao Zu Wu Qu*) ----- Tieshan Liu, Yuan Mao  
Arranged by Qiyang Yin

Based on Yao folk music, this piece describes a nighttime bonfire celebration of the Yao people where the men beat their drums while the women dance along to the rhythm. The music begins with slow and gentle movements and progresses with increasing excitement until the last and most vigorous part of the dance. The *zheng* plays the graceful melody on the right hand while the left hand produces the rhythm of the Yao drums.

Yiwen Fang  
Ruihan Wang

Haiyi Li  
Yumeng Yang

Xinyue Liu

### 3. Silk and Bamboo Music

a. A Poem on Autumn (*Qiu Ci*) ----- Chi Li

A Poem on Autumn (*Qiu Ci*) is a poem composed by Liu, Yuxi, a poet from Tang dynasty who lived from 772 to 842. His poem goes as following: Ever since ancient time, autumn has made man feel lonely; Yet I say it is better than spring with all its beauty. A Crane soars through the clouds to the bright sky, Brings my poetic inspiration to azure on high.

Voice: Leo Jiang

b. Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon (*Cai Yun Zhui Yue*) -----Cantonese music

This is a very popular piece of Cantonese music. Originated in coastal regions of southern China, Cantonese music has absorbed varying characteristics of non-Chinese tradition music styles and one outstanding characteristic of "Color Clouds Chase the Moon" is the use of the rhythm of the tango.

Gaohu - Benji Fleischacker

Arroyo, Raul  
Le Huang  
Annie Lo  
Sylvia Kathleen Rutkowski

Jonathan Louis Haimowitz  
Sebastian Trinh Lee  
Janice Seung Min Nam

Joyce Hong  
Chloe Marie Ling  
Augustine Jaewoo Park  
Amy Zhang

Catherine Huiwen Hu  
Max Liu  
Catherine Ren

### 4. Silk and Bamboo Music

a. Spring Morning on the Emerald Lake (*Cui Hu Chun Xiao*) ----- Er Nie

Spring Morning On The Emerald Lake is an ensemble piece based on Yunnan Dongjing music by Nie Er in the 1930s. The music vividly expresses the scenery of spring returning to the land and imbuing it full of vitality as well as the people's yearning for a better future.

b. Shimmering Lake under the Moonlight (*Hu Guang Yue Se*) ----- Zhou Chenglong

This piece is composed with a silk and bamboo music style. The graceful gaohu melody played with a calm ensemble background, depicts an elegant and poetic moonlit night at a shimmering lakeside.

Abraham Josue Bonilla  
Wanning He  
Joanna Lei  
Zibai Lyu  
Lily Shufeng Wu

Irene Emily Chang  
Kelsey Lin Jian  
Selina Shitong Li  
Madison Starr  
Luyan Zhang

Benji Fleischacker  
Mia Kuo  
Mukun Liu  
Quentin Tan

Anthony Chi-Yuen Lam  
Yi Liu  
Emily Ting Tsai

### 5. Liuqin and Ensemble

Spring Arrives at Yi River (*Chun Dao Yi He*) ----- Huiran Wang

This liuqin solo music was composed by Huiran Wang in 1975. The music is composed with the folk music style of the Shandong Province which is located in the northern part of China. The music depicts the beautiful scenery along the Yi River, the main river across the Shandong province. The music praises the people's prosperous and joyful life on this land.

Liuqin Solo – Yi Liu

### 6. Erhu unison

Visiting My Mother (*Hui Niang Jia*) ----- Chi Lyu

This erhu piece was composed by Chi Lyu in the autumn of 1981 and is based on the folk songs from the Liaoning Province of Northern China. The music depicts a newlywed couple traveling back to visit the wife's natal home and enjoying the scenes of the autumn harvest along the way with amusement and cheerfulness.

Irene Chang  
Kelsey Lin Jian

Benji Fleischacker  
Anthony Chi-Yuen Lam

Zibai Lyu

## 7. *Hulusi* unison

The Fernleaf Hedge Bamboo in the Moonlight (*Yue Guang Xia de Feng Wei Zhu*) ----- Guangnan Shi

"The Fernleaf Hedge Bamboo in the Moonlight" is a Dai style music composed by Shi Guangnan. With its melodious melody, the music gives people a sense of relaxation and happiness. The reminiscent of the lush Phoenix-tailed bamboo forest and the unique Pengjialou Pavilions are scattered among the bamboo forests, like stars in the sky. Under the mellow moonlight, the cucurbits floating in the bamboo forest faintly and quietly and elegantly.

Cindy Chen

Chun Ma

Jiezhou Yang

## 8. Kun Opera Aria

The Palace of Eternal Life - Emperor's Propose (*Chang Sheng Dian – Ding Qing*) ----- Hong Sheng (1649-1704)

Emperor's Propose (Ding Qing) - an aria from the Kun opera The Palace of Eternal Life (Chang Sheng Dian) completed in 1688. The Palace of Eternal Life tells the love story of Emperor Tang Xuanzong (713-756 AD) and his favorite concubine Yang Yuhuan in Tang Dynasty (618-907AD). The scene concerns Emperor Tang gives Yang a gold hairpin and a jewel box to pledge their love on the Chinese Valentine's Day in 751AD in front of the Palace of Eternal Life. They wish the whole world to witness their vow of being husband and wife in every fresh life as the earth endures. Kun opera is often described as China's "classical" opera; the main melodic accompanying instrument is the dizi (transverse bamboo flute).

Hanying Pan Ding  
Zhechuan Rao – Dizi

Arya Vir Hora  
Anthony Lam – Erhu

Grace Xiong  
Selina Shitong Li – Pipa

## 9. Dun Huang Dance

*Pour Cup Music (Qing Bei Yue)* ----- Choreographed by Chi Li

Dunhuang dance Pour Cup Music (Qing Bei Yue) is a Tang Dynasty style dance performance. The music Qing Bei Yue is arranged from a melody of <Dunhuang Ancient music Manuscript> which came from the Dunhuang Grottoes. The Dunhuang Grottoes is located in southeast China, constructed between 4th and 14th century. This dance movement is created with the images from the Dunhuang murals. The special gestures including Lotus pose, Orchid shaped fingers, Antler pose, etc.

Dancer: Xuan Liu      Mingyang Sun  
Percussion: Jonathan Louis Haimowitz

## 10. Cello and Pipa Duet

Three Songs for Violoncello and Pipa ----- Bright Sheng

Three songs based on popular folk tunes the composer heard while growing up in China.

I. Seasons. II. Little Cabbage. III. Native Dance

Benji Fleischacker - Cello  
Selina Shitong Li – Pipa

## 11. *Erhu* Solo

Impressions of Guan-dong (*Guan Dong Xu Yu*) ----- Chi Lyu  
Arranged by Yanbin Li

Guan-dong region is located in Northeast China. "Impressions of Guan-dong" is a single-movement concerto consisting of multiple sections. It was composed based on the melody of the Northeastern Chinese folk song "Crescent Moon". The expressive and dulcet melody, together with a dynamic and mesmerizing rhythm, depicts and eulogizes the beauty of Guan-dong, the passionate and persevering Northeastern people, and their aspirations for a better future.

Zibai Lyu

## 12. Narrative Music - *Pingtán*

Baoyu's Night Visit - Dream of the Red Chamber (*Baoyu Ye Tan*) ----- Traditional Narrative music

Pingtán is a story-telling folk art tradition that originated in the city of Suzhou, first popularized in the Jiangnan region during the Qing dynasty. The art form is characterized by the incorporation of talking, joking, singing, and acting, and the adoption of accompanying instruments like sanxian and pipa.

Bao Yu's Night Visit (*Bao Yu Ye Tan*) is an excerpt from a long-length story-telling ping tan series adapted from the famous novel Dream of the Red Chamber originally written in the 18th century. The novel depicts the rise and fall of an aristocratic clan during the Qing dynasty. This segment is a narration of the main character Jia Bao Yu visiting his sickness-ridden cousin Lin Dai Yu—whose romance with Bao Yu eventually ends in tragedy.

Alice Deng

Selina Shitong Li

### 13. Erhu and Zheng Duet

Mongolian reed whistle (*Hu Jia*) ----- Ancient Music  
Arranged by Weiliang Zhang

The main melody of this erhu and zheng duet is adapted from Qin Songs "Grand Hu Jia" and "Little Hu Jia". The lyrics were composed by the poet and musician Cai Wen Ji who lived during the late Eastern Han Dynasty (2nd century AD). She spent part of her life as a captive of the Xiongnu nomadic tribe which brought her thousands of miles away from her home. The music expresses Cai Wenji's conflicted and painful feelings of missing her homeland while also unwilling to let go of her young children who were born in and belong to the tribe. The melancholy and desolate emotions are deeply contained within the music.

Anthony Chi-Yuen Lam – Erhu  
Joanna Lei - Zheng

### 14. Pipa Duet with Tabla

Send Me A Rose (*Song Wo Yi Zhi Mei Gui Hua*) ----- Fandi Wang  
Arranged by Qiang Zhang

This pipa duet is arranged from the pipa solo piece by the same title. The solo piece was composed by Wang Fandi in 1961, based on the Uyghurs folk song. The lively melody and the passionate dance rhythm express the joy of young men and women in love.

Pipa: Selina Shitong Li, Mukun Liu  
Tabla: Gaurav Kale

Guest performer: Emily Ting Tsai

#### Performers:

Arroyo, Raul	Kuo, Mia	Rutkowski, Sylvia Kathleen
Bonilla, Abraham Josue	Lam, Anthony Chi-Yuen	Ryu, Jodie Jaeshin
Chang, Irene Emily	Lee, Sebastian Trinh	Starr, Madison
Chen, Cindy	Lei, Joanna	Sun, Mingyang
Deng, Ai	Leng, Xiaomeng	Tan, Quentin
Deng, Anna	Li, Haiyi	Tang, Tiffany
Ding, Hanying Pan	Li, Shitong	Vo, Eleanor Mei-Shia
Fang, Yiwen	Ling, Chloe Marie	Wang, Jingxuan
Fleischacker, Benji	Liu, Max	Wang, Ruihan
Guo, Chanrong	Liu, Mel	Wu, Hui Qiao
Haimowitz, Jonathan Louis	Liu, Mukun	Wu, Lily Shufeng
Handwerker, Ai De	Liu, Xinyue	Wu, Xinyi
He, Wanning	Liu, Xuan	Wu, Yuxin
Hong, Joyce	Liu, Yi	Xiong, Grace
Hora, Arya Vir	Lo, Annie	Yang, Bingying
Hu, Catherine Huiwen	Lu, Monica Shiqi	Yang, Jiezhou
Huang, Le	Luo, Zhiying	Yang, Yumeng
Hurlbert, Kyle	Lyu, Zibai	Yao, Jiayu
Jian, Kelsey Lin	Ma, Chun	Zhang, Amber
Jiang, Leo	Nam, Janice Seung Min	Zhang, Amy
Jiang, Lily	Nielsen, Natalie	Zhang, Luyan
Jiang, Tianqi	Park, Augustine Jaewoo	Zhao, Ruoning
Kale, Gaurav	Ren, Catherine	

#### About the Director:

**Professor Chi Li** is a highly accomplished performing artist on the erhu and a prolific educator of Chinese music. After graduating from the **Conservatory of Chinese Music** (Beijing), she served as the erhu soloist at the **National Traditional Orchestra of China** (the most renowned orchestra of Chinese musical instruments) and frequently performed in presidential concerts in Beijing during the 80s. In the U.S., she has been featured in concerts held at prestigious venues such as **Madison Square Garden** (New York), **Ronald Reagan Building** (Washington D.C.), and **Avery Fisher Hall/Lincoln Center** (New York). She is a recording soloist for the 2019 **Oscar** – Best Animated short film "Bao".

**Producer: Yiwen Fang**

**Associate producer: Ai Deng**

**Media associate producer: Selina Shitong Li**

**Graphic designer: Nancy Jiayu Yao**

**Stage Manager: Sebastian Trinh Lee, Catherine Huiwen Hu, Xinyi Wu**