

The UCLA  
Herb Alpert  
School of Music-  
Department of  
Ethnomusicology  
Presents:

# MUSIC OF CHINA

WINTER 2025

March 8

5pm to 7pm

Schoenberg Hall,  
1100 Schoenberg Music  
Building, UCLA

# PROGRAM

1a. Qin Unison-Qin 1

## Autumn Breeze-秋風詞 -Manuscript of Mei An (1931)

This Qin music beautifully captures the essence of sadness and nostalgia for autumn. Through vivid descriptions of autumnal elements such as the autumn wind, autumn moon, fallen leaves, and jackdaws, it evokes a melancholic atmosphere. Through the singing, one can sense the profound pain and helplessness of lovesickness, while its melody resonates with an enduring longing for love.

Joshua Dan Huang, Vivian Shan Lau, Chutian Shi, Eleanor Mei-Shia Vo

1b. Qin Unison-Qin 2

## Three Variations on the Yang Pass-陽關三疊 -Beginner's Qin Handbook (1864)

Three Variations on the Yang Pass Theme (Yang Guan San Die) A beloved and enduring melody set to a famous poem from the Tang Dynasty, Three Variations on the Yang Pass Theme conveys the deep sorrow and bittersweet sentiment of bidding farewell to a dear friend embarking on a long journey. The music first appeared in a manuscript dated 1491, though its origins and the poem it accompanies reach much further into China's rich cultural past.

Yizhuo Dong, Muzhi Ma, Jason Rasheed Orr

2a. Zheng Unison-Zheng 1

## Lady Mengjiang-孟姜女 -Folk Song

"Lady Mengjiang" is one of the most beloved Chinese traditional folk songs. The melody is characterized by its smooth and soft tones, conveying a profound sentiment with exquisite expression. This song tells the poignant love story of a newlywed couple forced apart when the groom is conscripted to build the Great Wall and lost his life during the Qin Dynasty (475–221 BCE). The music expresses Lady Mengjiang's grief at losing her husband.

Brittney Alisha Burns, Lune Wai-Sum Chan, Ethan Augustine Chang, Kayson Chen, Sophie Yu-Jen Chen, Ning Chou, Jennifer Ding, Gracie Elizabeth Lu, April W Mao, Angelina Quynh Thu Nguyen, Stephanie Ton

2b. Zheng Unison-Zheng 2

## Half an Urn of Yarn-半壺紗-Liu Keyi (2014)

“Half Pot of Yarn” is adapted from a Chinese pop song of the same title. It expresses a feeling of indifference to fame and wealth, coupled with a yearning for nature. The lyrics read: ‘Ink drifted into the water, staining the blue-white porcelain pond. Beneath the scarlet evening sky, I gathered bamboo and headed home. A gentle breeze stirred, covering the ground with mulberry and hemp. Clad in a kasaya robe, I left my memories behind.’

Isaac Chan, Brian Leung Chau, Ying Chou, Nicole Yayin Guan, Ryan Jung Lee, Rong Liu, Janice Seung Min Nam, Cory Man-Tik Poon, Nida Sanglimsuwan, Amy Wang, Haley Wang, Chuqing Xie, Naomi Zhang

2c. Zheng Unison-Zheng 3

## The General’s Command-將軍令-Zhejiang School

“General’s Command” is one of the representative pieces of the Zhejiang School Zheng music. This ancient music vividly portrays the grandeur of warriors battling on the battlefield and triumphantly returning to camp. Its advanced Zheng techniques capture the powerful momentum of military orders, galloping horses, fierce combat, and triumph.

Carol Chen, Joanna Lei, Janice Seung Min Nam, Gloria Qu, Jodie Jaeshin Ryu, Angel Jia Chi The

5. Hulusi

## A Beautiful Place- 有一個美麗的地方-Yang Fei (1960)

A Beautiful Place is a captivating Hulusi piece that vividly portrays the stunning landscapes and the vibrant daily life of the Dai people in Dehong, Yunnan Province, situated in Southwest China. Yunnan is renowned for its breathtaking scenery, often considered among the most beautiful in the country. Lush bamboo forests blanket the hillsides, and the Dai people ingeniously craft their homes from bamboo, blending harmoniously with the surrounding greenery. Together, these bamboo dwellings and the verdant landscape create a picturesque, natural beauty unique to the region.

Kayson Chen, Rachel Cheeyan Lee, Natalie Nielsen, Adeline Sun

5. Qin and Guitar Duet

## Mist and Clouds Over Xiao and Xiang Rivers-瀟湘水雲-Guo Chuwang (1207)

Composed by Guo Mian (1190–1260) during the Song dynasty, this piece evokes the serene and ethereal landscape of the Xiao and Xiang Rivers, with the distant Jiuyi Mountains shrouded in mist. One of the most celebrated works in the guqin repertoire, it has endured through centuries, with versions appearing in at least 58 music collections from 1425 to 1946. The composition’s delicate, flowing melodies capture the timeless beauty and mystery of nature, inviting listeners into a tranquil, meditative soundscape.

Yinhan Jiang, Ian Mautner

### 3. Pipa and Erhu Duet

## Heavenly Fate-天緣-Liu Xijin (1999)

“Tian Yuan” a Concerto for Pipa and Erhu, is a renowned work by Liu Xijin, a celebrated contemporary composer. Drawing inspiration from the phonology of Suzhou Tanci, Liu crafted a piece that weaves together the sounds of the pipa and erhu, evoking the soft, lilting tones of Wu dialect. The music narrates a tale of joy and love—two souls deeply in love, dancing gracefully, seeing their dreams come true, and journeying hand in hand across the land. Their affection is sweet and tender, reflected in the music’s gentle, heartfelt whispers.

Selina Li Zibai Lyu

### 4. Sheng Unison

## Grassland Cavalry-草原騎兵-Yuan Ye, Wu Rui, Hu Tianquan (1958)

Grassland Cavalry is a piece for solo sheng. This composition draws upon the melodic style of Inner Mongolian folk songs, beginning with a freely rotating prelude that depicts the vast and boundless scenery of the grasslands. The main theme incorporates the rhythmic pattern of galloping horse hooves, vividly portraying the strength and agility of the cavalry. The broad and expansive theme expresses the riders’ deep affection for and admiration of the grasslands. The piece concludes with a gradually slowing and fading melody, evoking the image of the cavalry riding into the distance, slowly disappearing beyond the horizon.

Justin Minseok Lee, Cory Man-Tik Poon, Chutian Shi, Eason Yat-Sun Tung, Anthony Zhao

### 6. Kunqu Opera Aria

## The Palace of Eternal Life - Shocking Mutiny-長生殿·驚變-粉紅蝶兒-Hong Sheng (1688)

Clouds Drifting (Xie Shou) This is an aria from the Kun opera Chang Sheng Dian (The Palace of Eternal Life). The scene features Emperor Tang Xuanzong (r. 713–756 A.D.) and his favorite concubine, Yang Yuhuan, as they walk hand in hand through the imperial garden in front of the Palace of Eternal Life, enjoying the beautiful flowers. Kun opera is often described as China’s ‘classical’ opera, with its main melodic accompanying instrument being the dizi (transverse bamboo flute).

Brittney Alisha Burns, Yinzhi Deng, Milo Dillon

Emily La – Dizi; Mandy He – Dizi; Selina Shitong Li – Pipa; Zibai Lyu – Erhu

## 8a. Silk and Bamboo Music-Ensemble 1

### Dance of the Golden Dragon-金蛇狂舞-Nie Er (1934), Arranged by Chi Li

This Chinese orchestral music piece, adapted by Nie Er in 1934 from the folk music “Dao Ba Ban”, boasts an uplifting and passionate melody. The resonant gongs and drums amplify the festive atmosphere, making it a staple at significant Chinese celebration events.

### The Blue and White Porcelain-青花瓷-Zhou Jielun (2007), Arranged by Chi Li

Qing Hua Ci (The Blue and White Porcelain) is arranged from a pop song of the same title. It is a song that describes a lover’s true feelings and his oath of love. The lyrics say: ‘My present, past and future reside in you, although the ink has begun to fade. Its art and meaning still remain.’

Martinez Armando, Udbhav Anand Avadhani, Julia Bojanowski, Chelsea Megan Chan, Keith Andrew Chen, Aidan Tyler Cheng, Ying Chou, Renxing Dang, Yinzhi Deng, Haoyan Ding, Jennifer Ding, Krystal Gan, Chloe Lin Han, Anna Hepfer, Xiaoyang Hua, Junlong Huang, Timea Jarosova, Lavinia Lei, Yushan Li, Katrina M Liu, Kelvin Luu, Jordan Nguyen, Pierre-Louis Nguyen, Natalie Nielsen, Melany Santana, Amber Hualin Shang, Baolong Su, Cindy Ta, Arwen Zhou Tan, Yinuo Tian, Yun-Rong Sophia Ting, Sophia Emma Torres Pomares, Eason Yat-Sun Tung, Xiaoyu Xing, Kyle Yang, Wenwen Zhang

## 7. Genshin Ensemble

### Moonlit Lanterns- 燈如明月在中天-Wang Yuxi, Arranged by Cory Poon

“Moonlit Lanterns”, featured in the award-winning video game Genshin Impact, beautifully captures the spirit of the Lantern Rite festival, a celebration inspired by Chinese New Year traditions and set in the bustling port of Liyue Harbor. Composed by Yuxi Wang, the piece intertwines the expressive tones of traditional Chinese instruments with lush orchestral harmonies. Beginning with a tranquil melody reminiscent of lanterns floating in the moonlit sky over Liyue Harbor, the composition gradually builds in complexity, evoking a sense of wonder and unity that defines this luminous festivity.

Isaac Chan, Lune Chan, Aidan Chang, Amber Chen, Kayson Chen, Michelle Chen, Sophie Chen, Haoyan Ding, Aria Fan, Mandy He, Wanning He, Joanna Lei, Justin Lee, Linda Li, Shitong Li, Hope Lin, Madeline Liu, Mukun Liu, Yi Liu, Yingying Lu, Zibai Lyu, Ian Mautner, Jason Orr, Leo Ross, Chutian Shi, Janice Subroto, Eason Tung, Ivy Xiao, Julie Xiang, Haoran Xu, Melissa Yan, Kacey Yang, Kyle Yang, Megan Young, Joann Zhang, Anthony Zhao  
Conductor: Cory Poon

## 8b. Silk and Bamboo Music- Ensemble 2

### Qiao’s Grand Courtyard-Love- 喬家大院-Zhao Jiping (2007)

Adapted from the music of the acclaimed television series Qiao’s Grand Courtyard, this symphonic suite reflects Zhao Jiping’s signature fusion of traditional Chinese elements with symphonic forms. The third movement, “Love,” is marked by a beautiful yet sorrowful melody. Throughout the piece, a dialogue between the orchestra and erhu evokes the protagonists’ journey through a love story filled with both hardship and sweetness, leaving a lasting emotional impression on the listener.

Erhu solo: Zibai Lyu

### Beautiful Flowers and the Full Moon- 花好月圓 Huang Yijun (1935), Arranged by Peng Xiuwen

Hua Hao Yue Yuan (Beautiful Flowers and the Full Moon) is a renowned Chinese ensemble composition that captures the jubilant atmosphere of the Chinese populace during a significant historical era marked by peace and stability. It symbolizes the optimism and joy experienced as the nation embarked upon a new chapter in its history.

Isaac Chan, Amber Chen, Kayson Chen, Meicheng Chen, Sophie Yu-Jen Chen, Aidan Tyler Cheng, Haoyan Ding, Aria Fan, Mandy He, Wanning He, Cruz Anthony Herrera, Emily La, Justin Minseok Lee, Jiayuan Li, Shitong Li, Hung Lin, Madeline Maria Liu, Mukun Liu, Yi Liu, Zibai Lyu, Ian Patrick Mautner, Jason Rasheed Orr, Micah Antony Patrick, Cory Man-Tik Poon, Leo Morris Ross, Isabel Sheng, Chutian Shi, Madison Starr, Eason Yat-Sun Tung, Michelle Wang, Julie Xiang, Haoran Xu, Kacey Chang Yang, Kyle Yang, Yingying Lu, Megan Young, Lingyan Yu, Joann Zhang, Zhixu Zhang, Anthony Zhao, Mandy Zhao, Chelsea Zhou  
Performers from UC Irvine: Lawrence Lee, Xiteng Li, Elaine Liu, Gia Uy Ngo, Annie Yin, Alina Yuan, Jeff Zhang, Ivy Zhang

Ensemble 1



Ensemble 2



Genshin Ensemble



Qin and Guitar Duet



Erhu and Pipa Duet





# PERFORMERS

ARMANDO, MARTINEZ  
AVADHANI, UDBHAV ANAND  
BOJANOWSKI, JULIA  
BURNS, BRITTNEY ALISHA  
CHAN, CHELSEA MEGAN  
CHAN, ISAAC TIN-LONG  
CHAN, LUNE WAI-SUM  
CHANG, ETHAN AUGUSTINE  
CHAU, BRIAN LEUNG  
CHEN, AMBER  
CHEN, JASON ALEXANDER  
CHEN, KAYSON  
CHEN, KEITH ANDREW  
CHEN, MEICHENG  
CHEN, CAROL  
CHEN, SOPHIE YU-JEN  
CHENG, AIDAN TYLER  
CHOU, YING  
DANG, RENXING  
DENG, YINZHI  
DILLON, MILO  
DING, HAOYAN  
DING, JENNIFER  
DONG, YIZHUO  
FAN, ARIA  
GAN, KRYSTAL  
GUAN, NICOLE YAYIN  
HAN, CHLOE LIN  
HE, MANDY  
HE, WANNING  
HEPPER, ANNA  
HERRERA, CRUZ ANTHONY  
HUA, XIAOYANG  
HUANG, JOSHUA DAN  
HUANG, JUNLONG  
JAROSOVA, TIMEA  
JIANG, YINHAN  
LA, EMILY  
LAU, VIVIAN SHAN  
LEE, JUSTIN MINSEOK  
LEE, LAWRENCE  
LEE, RACHEL CHEEYAN  
LEE, RYAN JUNG  
LEI, JOANNA  
LEI, LAVINIA  
LI, JIAYUAN  
LI, SHITONG  
LI, XITENG  
LI, YUSHAN  
LIN, HUNG  
LIU, ELAINE  
LIU, KATRINA M  
LIU, MADELINE MARIA  
LIU, MUKUN  
LIU, RONG  
LIU, YI  
LU, GRACIE ELIZABETH

LU, YINGYING  
LUO, SHIYUN  
LUU, KELVIN  
LYU, ZIBAI  
MA, MUZHI  
MAO, APRIL W  
MAUTNER, IAN PATRICK  
NAM, JANICE SEUNG MIN  
NGO, GIA UY  
NGUYEN, ANGELINA QUYNH  
THU  
NGUYEN, JORDAN  
NGUYEN, PIERRE-LOUIS  
NIELSEN, NATALIE  
ORR, JASON RASHEED  
PATRICK, MICAH ANTONY  
POON, CORY MAN-TIK  
QU, GLORIA  
ROSS, LEO MORRIS  
RYU, JODIE JAESHIN  
SANGLIMSUWAN, NIDA  
SANTANA, MELANY  
SHANG, AMBER HUALIN  
SHENG, ISABEL  
SHI, CHUTIAN  
STARR, MADISON  
SU, BAOLONG  
SUN, ADELINE  
TA, CINDY  
TAN, ARWEN ZHOU  
THE, ANGEL JIA CHI  
TIAN, YINUO  
TING, YUN-RONG SOPHIA  
TON, STEPHANIE  
TORRES P., SOPHIA EMMA  
TUNG, EASON YAT-SUN  
VO, ELEANOR MEI-SHIA  
WANG, AMY  
WANG, HALEY  
WANG, MICHELLE  
XIANG, JULIE  
XIE, CHUQING  
XING, XIAOYU  
XU, HAORAN  
YANG, KACEY CHANG  
YANG, KYLE  
YIN, ANNIE  
YOUNG, MEGAN  
YUAN, ALINA  
ZHANG, JEFF  
ZHANG, IVY  
ZHANG, JOANN  
ZHANG, NAOMI  
ZHANG, ZHIXU  
ZHANG, WENWEN  
ZHAO, ANTHONY  
ZHAO, MANDY  
ZHOU, CHELSEA



# Director Chi Li

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 was a recording soloist for the 2019 Oscar winner short film "Bao."



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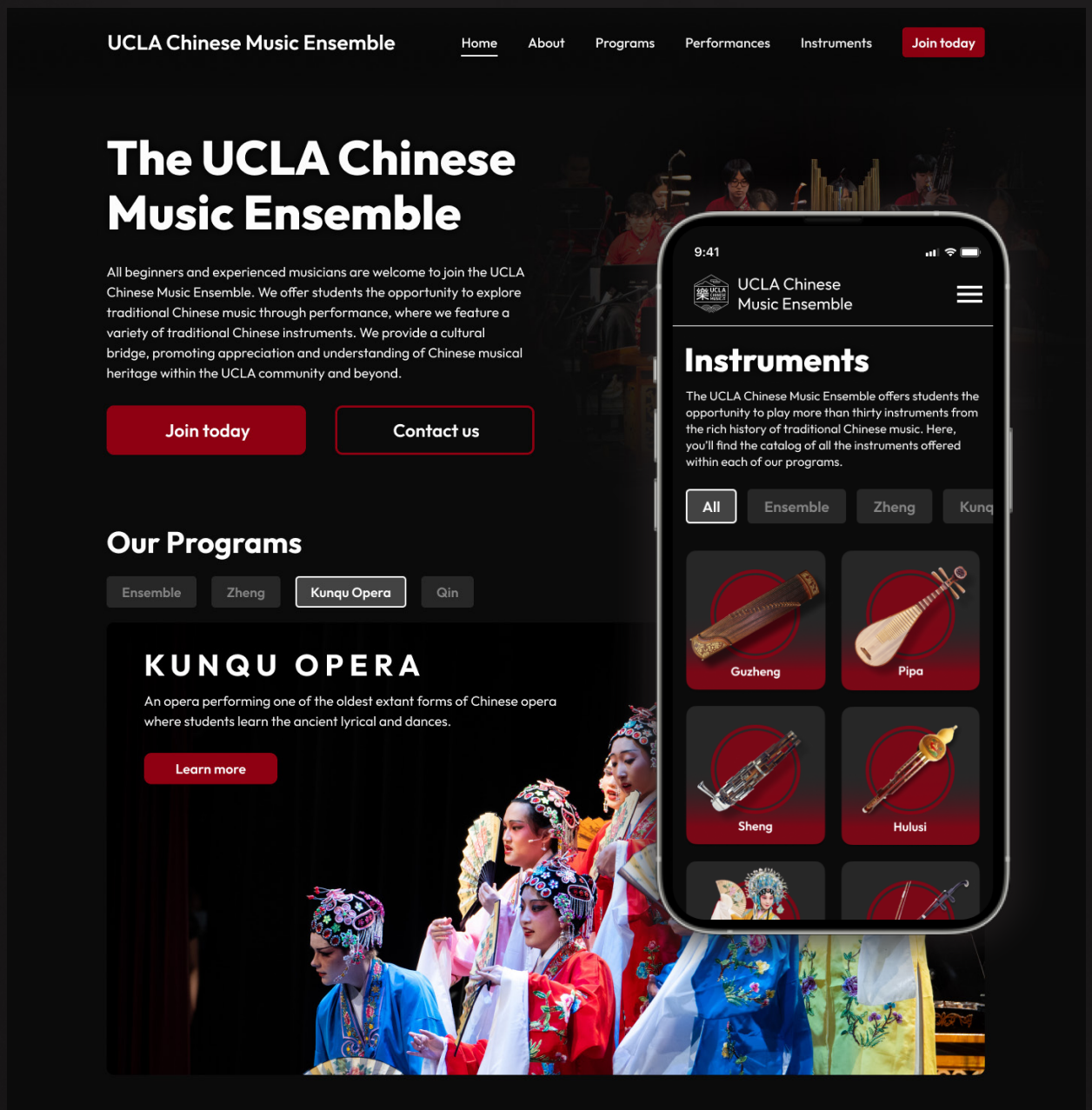
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# WEBSITE

From June 2024 to March 2025, a dedicated group of students, Cory Poon, Wennan Liu, Wanning He, Aland Liu, Kyle Yang, Lune Chan, and Ivy Xiao, collaborated to design and launch a new website for the UCLA Chinese Music Ensemble. They spent countless hours planning, designing, coding, and refining the site to ensure it would be an inviting and informative platform for anyone interested in the organization. From creating detailed pages on Chinese instruments to providing updates on upcoming events and performances, the team has worked hard to make the website a resource for both ensemble members and the wider community. The website is live and you can visit it at [uclachinesemusic.com](http://uclachinesemusic.com). We're all super excited for you to explore the website!





Design and artwork by Gracie Lu, Janice Subroto, and Cory Poon