

US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE OF THE BARD COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
PRESENTS

CHINA NOW MUSIC FESTIVAL

CHINA AND BEETHOVEN



CHINA'S SAGE OF MUSIC

Friday, December 11, 2020

7:30pm

China Now Music Festival Livestream

Leon Botstein
President, Bard College

Jindong Cai
Artistic Director, China Now Music Festival

Tan Dun
Dean, Bard College Conservatory of Music

The Orchestra Now
Andrés Rivas, conductor

Wu Weiqiao
violin, The Orchestra Now

Diana Borshcheva
piano, Bard College Conservatory of Music

Shanghai Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
Cao Peng, conductor

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

Leon Botstein, *President, Bard College*

Jindong Cai, *Artistic Director, China Now Music Festival*

Tan Dun, *Dean, Bard College Conservatory of Music*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68, 1st
Movement

Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92, 4th
Movement

The Orchestra Now (Festival Ensemble)
Andrés Rivas, conductor

Violin Sonata No. 5 in F major, Op. 24, 'Spring,'
1st Movement

Wu Weiqiao, violin
Diana Borshcheva, piano

Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67, 4th
Movement

Shanghai Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
Cao Peng, conductor

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Members of **THE ORCHESTRA NOW (TŌN)** recreated the 16-person Peking University Orchestra formed by Xiao Youmei in 1922. This early orchestra in China played many Beethoven symphonies, despite its small size.

The Orchestra Now is performing in Olin Hall at Bard College. Rehearsals and performance adhere to the strict guidelines set by the CDC, with daily health checks, the wearing of masks throughout, and musicians placed at least 6 feet apart.

The **'SPRING'** sonata for violin and piano was one of the first Beethoven pieces performed after the Cultural Revolution. Isaak Stern famously performed the sonata at a recital in Beijing in 1979. The piece remains very popular in China today.

The **SHANGHAI YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** performed the final movement of Beethoven's 5th Symphony at the "Music in the Summer Air (MISA)" festival in July, 2020. MISA is an annual festival produced by the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra.

The 2020 season of MISA concerts were some of the very first post-Covid public performances after China started to reopen in the summer.

BIOGRAPHIES

LEON BOTSTEIN has been president of Bard College since 1975. An innovative voice in American higher education, he has sought to recast undergraduate liberal arts education in a new model that contributes to the character of culture and public life. He has published widely in the fields of education, music, and history and culture. President Botstein is also music director and principal conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra, founder and music director of The Orchestra Now, and music director of the Bard Conservatory Orchestra. He is also artistic codirector of Bard SummerScape and the

Bard Music Festival, and conductor laureate of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, where he served as music director from 2003 to 2011. He has been guest conductor with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Aspen Music Festival, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Mariinsky Theatre, Russian National Orchestra in Moscow, Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Taipei Symphony, Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra, and Sinfónica Juvenil de Caracas in Venezuela, among others. Recordings include a Grammy-nominated recording of Popov's First Symphony with the London Symphony Orchestra, an acclaimed recording of Hindemith's The Long Christmas Dinner with ASO, and recordings with the London Philharmonic, NDR Orchestra Hamburg, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, and TÖN, among others. He is editor of The Musical Quarterly and the author of numerous articles and books, including The Compleat Brahms (Norton), Jefferson's Children (Doubleday), Judentum und Modernität (Böhlau), and Von Beethoven zu Berg (Zsolnay). Honors include Harvard University's Centennial Award, the American Academy of Arts and Letters award, and Cross of Honor, First Class, from the government of Austria, for his contributions to music. Other distinctions include the Bruckner Society's Julio Kilenyi Medal of Honor for his interpretations of that composer's music, Leonard Bernstein Award for the Elevation of Music in Society, and Carnegie Foundation's Academic Leadership Award. In 2011, he was inducted into the American Philosophical Society

Conductor **JINDONG CAI** is director of the US-China Music Institute, professor of music and arts at Bard College, and associate conductor of The Orchestra Now. Over his 30-year career in the United States, Cai has established himself as an active and dynamic conductor, scholar of Western classical music in China, and leading advocate of music from across Asia. Born in Beijing, Cai received his early musical training in China, where he learned to play violin and piano. He came to the United States for his graduate studies at the New England Conservatory and the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. In 1989, he was selected to study with famed conductor Leonard Bernstein at the Tanglewood Music Center, and won the Conducting Fellowship Award at the Aspen Music Festival in 1990 and 1992.

Cai started his professional conducting career with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and has worked with numerous orchestras throughout North America and Asia. He

maintains strong ties to his homeland and has conducted most of the top orchestras in China. Cai has served as the principal guest conductor of the China Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra since 2012. He is a three-time recipient of the ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music. Cai serves as the principal guest conductor of the Mongolia State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Ulaanbaatar. In 2004 he joined Stanford University faculty as director of orchestral studies and conducted the Stanford Symphony Orchestra for 11 years. He is also the founder of the Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival. Cai founded the US-China Music Institute at the Bard Conservatory in 2017 and created the Institute's the annual China Now Music Festival in the following year. In its first two seasons, China Now presented new works by some of the most important Chinese composers of our time, with concerts performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Bard's Fisher Center, and Stanford University.

Together with his wife Sheila Melvin, Cai has coauthored many articles on the performing arts in China and the book *Rhapsody in Red: How Western Classical Music Became Chinese*. Their latest book, *Beethoven in China: How the Great Composer Became an Icon in the People's Republic*, was published by Penguin in September 2015.

The world-renowned artist and UNESCO Global Goodwill Ambassador **TAN DUN**, has made an indelible mark on the world's music scene with a creative repertoire that spans the boundaries of classical music, multimedia performance, and Eastern and Western traditions. A winner of today's most prestigious honors including the Grammy Award, Oscar/Academy Award, Grawemeyer Award, Bach Prize, Shostakovich Award, and most recently Italy's Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement, Tan Dun's music has been played throughout the world by leading orchestras, opera houses, international festivals, and on radio and television. Most recently, Tan Dun was named as Dean of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. As dean, Tan Dun will further demonstrate music's extraordinary ability to transform lives and guide the Conservatory in fulfilling its mission of understanding music's connection to history, art, culture, and society.

Read Tan Dun's full biography at tandun.com.

CAO PENG is one of the most distinguished conductors in China. He was born in Jiangyin, Jiangsu in 1925. In 1946, he entered the Arts Department of Shandong University. In 1950 he was principal conductor of both the Shanghai Film Studio Orchestra and the Beijing Film Studio Orchestra. In 1955, he went to Russia to study at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory under the celebrated conductor Leo Ginsberg. Cao Peng was appointed resident conductor of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra after his return in 1961. He is now artistic director and principal conductor of the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, artistic director of the Marco Polo Symphony Orchestra, music advisor and resident conductor of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, and music director and principal conductor of the Shanghai Chamber Orchestra.

Originally from Shenyang, China, **WU WEIQIAO** began studying at the Central Conservatory of Music in China at the age of ten with Xiaoshao Huang. His passion for performance led him to study with Markus Placci at The Boston Conservatory, and he is now a member of The Orchestra Now. He has played in the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra under Conductor Benjamin Zander and performed as a soloist with the Chichibu International Music Festival Orchestra and the Boston Conservatory String Ensemble. He was the winner of 2014 and 2015 Boston Conservatory String Competitions and has appeared as concertmaster at The Boston Conservatory, National Orchestra Institute and Tanglewood Music Center orchestra under Conductor Andris Nelsons in 2017 and 2018.

Russian-born pianist **DIANA BORSHCHEVA** started her career nearly 15 years ago. Ms. Borshcheva won several competitions in Russia and Europe, among them the International Piano Competition in Gorizia (Grand Prix), Moscow Virtuoso Competition (First Prize), and International Piano Competition by S. Moniuszko (First Award) before she moved to the USA. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Solo Performance from Longy School of Music of Bard College in 2016, and Master of Music Degree in both Solo and Collaborative Piano from Cleveland Institute of Music in 2019. She is a current recipient of the Bard College Conservatory of Music Collaborative Piano Fellowship.

THE ORCHESTRA NOW (FESTIVAL ENSEMBLE)

Leon Botstein, *Music Director*

Andrés Rivas, *Conductor*

VIOLIN I

Esther Roestan,
concertmaster

Bram Margoles

BASS

Luke Stence

FLUTE

Rebecca Tutunick

HORN

Zachary Travis

TRUMPET

Guillermo García Cuesta

VIOLIN II

Yinglin Zhou, principal

Xinran Li

OBOE

Jasper Igusa

TIMPANI

Petra Elek

VIOLA

Celia Daggy, principal

Katelyn Hoag

CLARINET

Ye Hu

PIANO

Diana Borshcheva

BASSOON

Phillip McNaughton

CELLO

Pecos Singer, principal

Eva Roebuck

THE ORCHESTRA NOW (TŌN) is a group of vibrant young musicians from across the globe who are making orchestral music relevant to 21st-century audiences by sharing their unique personal insights in a welcoming environment. Hand-picked from the world's leading conservatories—including The Juilliard School, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Royal Conservatory of Brussels, and the Curtis Institute of Music—the members of TŌN are enlightening curious minds by giving on-stage introductions and demonstrations, writing concert notes from the musicians' perspective, and having one-on-one discussions with patrons during intermissions. Conductor, educator, and music historian Leon Botstein founded TŌN in 2015 as a graduate program at Bard College, where he is also president. The orchestra's home base is the Frank Gehry-designed Fisher Center at Bard, where they perform multiple concerts each season and take part in the annual Bard Music Festival. Learn more at theorchestranow.org.

CHINA NOW MUSIC FESTIVAL

Jindong Cai, *artistic director*

Kathryn Wright, *general manager*

Hsiao-Fang Lin, *producer*

Weiber Consulting, *public relations and marketing*

Liminal Entertainment Technologies, *editing and broadcast*

VIDEOGRAPHY

Nuwanda LLC, Symphony No. 6 and No. 7

Oszkar Nosek, Violin Sonata No. 5, 'Spring'

AUDIO ENGINEERING

Ian Striedter, Symphony No. 6 and No. 7

Thomas Mark, Violin Sonata No. 5, 'Spring'

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS FOR TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Bard College Conservatory of Music

Bard College Film Department

Bard College Music Department

Shanghai Symphony Orchestra

Shanghai Youth Philharmonic Orchestra

The Orchestra Now (TÖN)

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Corinna Larkin and Nigel Dawn

The Mona Foundation

Shining Sun

Thank you!

US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE

Jindong Cai, Director

Kathryn Wright, Managing Director

Hsiao-Fang Lin, Director of Music Programming

The US-China Music Institute was founded at the Bard College Conservatory of Music in 2017 by conductor and classical music scholar Jindong Cai and Robert Martin, a cellist, philosopher, and the founding director of the Bard Conservatory. The Institute's mission is to promote the study, performance, and appreciation of music from contemporary China, and to support musical exchange between the United States and China. It is the most comprehensive institution for Chinese music in the West, with unprecedented degree programs and research and performance opportunities for students, artists, composers, and scholars around the world. barduschinamusic.org

BARD COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Tan Dun, Dean

Frank Corliss, Director

Marka Gustavsson, Associate Director

Bard College Conservatory of Music expands Bard's spirit of innovation in arts and education. The Conservatory, which opened in 2005, offers a five-year, double-degree program at the undergraduate level and, at the graduate level, programs in vocal arts and conducting. At the graduate level, the Conservatory also offers an Advanced Performance Studies Program and a two-year Postgraduate Collaborative Piano Fellowship. bard.edu/conservatory

SUPPORT THE US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE

Please consider making a gift in support of our programs. The China Now Music Festival would not be possible without the generous contributions of friends and supporters of the US-China Music Institute. Your contribution of any size is greatly appreciated and will help us continue our work to build bridges and connect people together through music.

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