



US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE
Bard College Conservatory of Music
巴德美中音乐研习院

BARD CHINESE ENSEMBLE SPRING CONCERT

Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 8:00pm EDT

Recorded Live at the
Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM)
Beijing, China

US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music
presents

BARD CHINESE ENSEMBLE SPRING CONCERT

May 27, 2021 at 8:00pm EDT

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| <i>Purple Bamboo</i> 紫竹调 | JiangNan Silk & Bamboo music,
arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Little Boat</i> 小行舟 | Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Sadness of Chang Men Palace</i> 长门怨
Qi Miao, An Qizhi, <i>guqin</i>
Liu Chang, Lin Chenxiehang, <i>erhu</i> | Traditional, arr. Zhu Yi |
| <i>Three-Six</i> 三六 | Gu Guan-Ren, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Mihu Tune</i> 迷胡调
Beitong Liu, <i>erhu</i> | Lu Ri-Rong |
| <i>Northwest Rain</i> 西北雨 | Taiwanese Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Happy Life</i> 幸福的日子
Sun Dunlong, <i>trumpet</i> | Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Jasmine Flower</i> 茉莉花 | Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Song of Joy</i> 欢乐歌 | JiangNan Silk & Bamboo music |
| <i>Jackdaw Splashing in Water</i> 寒鸦戏水
Yixin Wang, <i>guzheng</i> | Trad. Chaozhou tune |
| <i>A Beautiful Place</i> 美丽的地方
Sun Dunlong, <i>trumpet</i> | Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao |
| <i>Night of Frontier Village</i> 边寨之夜 | Wang Zhi-Xin, arr. Chen Tao |

PROGRAM NOTES

Purple Bamboo 紫竹调

JiangNan Silk & Bamboo music, arr. Chen Tao

This lively tune is a folk song popular south of the Yangtze River. Traditionally, the main melody is played alternately by the dizi, the strings, and the plucking instruments and is an example of the Silk & Bamboo music style.

Little Boat 小行舟

Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao

The music is created based on the materials of the Jing-Yun drum. Composed in one of the traditional Singing & Spoken formats unique to northern China, the piece has a strong regional style.

Sadness of Chang Men Palace 长门怨

Traditional, arr. Zhu Yi & Chen Tao

The original title is meant to express Queen Chen A-Jiao's feelings of sorrow after being abandoned by Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty in the Chang Men Palace. The music depicts the queen's sadness and her mixed emotions of grief and anger.

Three-Six 三六

Gu Guan-Ren, arr. Chen Tao

This piece is adapted from the music style of Sizhu ("Silk & Bamboo") and TanCi (one of the "Singing & Spoken" music formats), popular in the south of the Yangtze River. The music is lively, smooth and has a strong JiangNan style. *Three-Six* is a popular overture for the "tannic" (also called "pinnate") narrative song genre native to the Suzhou area. San-Liu, meaning "three-six," refers to the musical structure.

Mihu Tune 迷胡调

Lu Ri-Rong

Mihu Tune is a kind of traditional folk music popular in Shaanxi Province, with rich content and beautiful tones. The theme music is based on the singing material of "Huan Yin" in the Meihu opera, and it appears repeatedly. The cheerful melody and dancing rhythm make the music feel enthusiastic, and the happiness overflows beyond the sound. The musical image of this piece is very tough, showing the bold and rugged character of the people in the Northwest.

Northwest Rain 西北雨

Taiwanese folk tune, arr. Chen Tao

Composed based on a Taiwanese ballad, the music is brisk, lively and witty.

Happy Life 幸福的日子

Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao

This is a work created based on the style of Yunnan folk songs. Using a trumpet to combine with Chinese folk music is a new attempt. The music depicts the happy and beautiful life of the people in the southwest of China.

Jasmine Flower 茉莉花

Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao

This is a well-known Chinese folk song which has often been adapted into various interpretations. The main melody was used by opera master Puccini in *Turandot*.

Song of Joy 欢乐歌

JiangNan Silk & Bamboo music

A melody in the unique style of folk music known as “JiangNan Sizhu” or literally music of silk and bamboo, from the region south of the Yangtze River. The richness and natural beauty of this region are all reflected in its music. The exquisite sounds of silk strings and the warm tones from bamboo wind instruments are fully utilized in long, flowing melodic lines which, overlapping or in unison, produce a rich tonal texture.

Jackdaw Splashing in Water 寒鸦戏水

Trad. Chaozhou tune

This famous Chaozheng song has a beautiful melody, fresh style and unique charm. It evokes the sight of jackdaws leisurely and contentedly chasing each other in the water.

A Beautiful Place 美丽的地方

Folk tune, arr. Chen Tao

This piece depicting the beautiful and charming scenery of Dai Township in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, was composed for Bard Chinese Ensemble with both Chinese and Western instruments.

Night of Frontier Village 边寨之夜

Wang Zhi-Xin, arr. Chen Tao

In the quiet, charming summer night, several girls dance gracefully. Teenagers play *Bawu* in the breeze and misty moonlight illuminates the forest, which appears like an intoxicating fairyland and fills the people with yearning.

BARD CHINESE ENSEMBLE, 2020-2021

Erhu

Lin Chenxiehong*
Liu Beitong
Liu Chang
Lin Baicun**
Tai Yixiao**

Gaohu

Liu Chang
Tai Yixiao**

Zhonghu

Lin Baicun**

Pipa

Dong JinOu
Liu Yiqiu*
Chen Danni

Yangqin

Ye Yuzhao**

Zongruan

Sun Waiki*
Yin Yijie**

Daruan

Nan Yuling

Guzheng

Wang Sabei “Betty”
Wang Yixin

Guqin

An Qizhi
Chen Danni
Qi Miao*

Dizi

Lin Yifan

Sheng

Zhang Aoxuan**

Percussion

Duan Zhiyi**
Sun Yue**

Trumpet

Sun Dunlong**

Cello

Chang TingHsuan**

Bass

Zhou Liangyao**

* 2020-21 US-China Music Fellow
(graduate assistants from
the Central Conservatory)

** guest artist from the
Central Conservatory

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



CHEN TAO

music director, conductor and arranger

Professor Chen Tao is on the faculty of the US-China Music Institute at the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He is an internationally acclaimed Chinese flutist, music educator, composer, and conductor of Chinese orchestra; founder and director of Melody of Dragon, Inc., and of Melody of Dragon & the Youth; artistic director and conductor of the Chinese Music Ensemble of New York; conductor of New Jersey Buddha's Light Youth Chinese Orchestra; director of New York Guqin Association; and executive chairman of the New York Chinese Music Instruments International Competition since 2015. He is also a 27th-generation musician of Zhi-Hua Buddhism music. At the Bard Conservatory, Chen Tao teaches dizi and directs the Bard Chinese Ensemble.



AN QIZHI

Qizhi is a first-year guqin student in the undergraduate double-degree program in the US-China Music Institute at the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she studies guqin with CCOM Professor Zhao Jiazhen.



CHANG TINGHSUAN

Chang TingHsuan is a second-year cello graduate student in the Orchestra Department of the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies with Professor Lim HeeYoung.



CHEN DANNI

Danni is a first-year student in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she studies guqin. Through Bard's partnership with CCOM, Betty studies with CCOM Professor Zhao Jiazhen.



DONG JINO

JinOu is a sophomore in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she studies pipa. Through Bard's partnership with CCOM, JinOu studies under the guidance of CCOM Professor Zhang Qiang. Her second major is global studies.



DUAN ZHIYI

Duan Zhiyi is a freshman majoring in percussion at the Central Conservatory of Music. She studies with CCOM Professor Jia Qiao.



LIN BAICUN

Lin Baicun is a sophomore majoring in banhu at the Central Conservatory of Music. He is studying under CCOM Professor Yu Hu.



LIN CHENHANGXIE

Lin Chenxiehong is a second-year graduate student at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies erhu with Professor Yu Hongmei. During the 2020-21 academic year she has served as a US-China Music Fellow at the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she teaches erhu and provides support for the Chinese Ensemble.



LIN YIFAN

Yifan is a freshman in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where he studies dizi with Professor Chen Tao.



LIU BEITONG

Beitong is a junior majoring in erhu in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she studies with CCOM Professor Yu Hongmei. Her second major is global and international studies.



LIU CHANG

Chang is a third-year erhu major in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she studies erhu with CCOM Professor Yu Hongmei.



LIU YIQIU

Liu Yiqiu is a second-year graduate student at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies pipa with Professor Zhang Qiang. During the 2020-21 academic year, she has served as a US-China Music Fellow at the Bard College Conservatory of Music, teaching pipa and supporting the Bard Chinese Ensemble.



NAN YULING

Yuling is a sophomore majoring in ruan in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she studies ruan with CCOM Professor Xu Yang. Her second major is Chinese studies.



QI MIAO

Qi Miao is a first year graduate student at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies guqin with Professor Zhao Jiazhen. During the 2020-21 academic year, she has served as a US-China Music Fellow for the Bard College Conservatory of Music, providing teaching for Bard's undergraduate guqin majors and supporting the Bard Chinese Ensemble.



SUN DUNLONG

Sun Dunlong is a junior majoring in trumpet at the Central Conservatory of Music. He is studying under the guidance of CCOM Professor Chen Guang.



SUN WAIKI

Sun Waiki is a first-year graduate student at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies ruan with Professor Xu Yang. During the 2020-21 academic year, she has served as a US-China Music Fellow at the Bard College Conservatory of Music, providing ruan teaching and support for the Bard Chinese Ensemble.



SUN YUE

Sun Yue is a second-year graduate student at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies percussion with Professor Wang Jianhua.



TAI YIXIAO

Tai Yixiao is a sophomore at the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studies erhu with Professor Huang Sun.



WANG SIBEI "BETTY"

Betty is a rising senior in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she studies guzheng. Through Bard's partnership with CCOM, Betty studies with CCOM Professor Zhou Wang. Her second major is art history.



WANG YIXIN

Yixin is a junior studying guzheng in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she is studying guzheng with CCOM Professor Zhou Wang. Yixin's second major is mathematics.



YE YUZHAO

Ye Yuzhao is a second-year graduate student studying yangqin at the Central Conservatory of Music. He studies with CCOM Professor Liu Yuening.



YIN YIJIE

Yijie is a first-year ruan major in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. Through Bard's partnership with the Central Conservatory of Music, she studies ruan with CCOM Professor Xu Yang.



ZHANG AOXUAN

Zhang Aoxuan is in his first year studying sheng at the Central Conservatory of Music. He studies with CCOM Professor Wang Lei.



ZHOU LIANGYAO

Zhou Liangyao is a sophomore majoring in double-bass at the Central Conservatory of Music. She studies with CCOM Professor Yi Song.

ABOUT THE BARD CHINESE ENSEMBLE

Chinese Ensemble is one of the key components of the Chinese instrument major at the Bard Conservatory, offering numerous public performance opportunities for students of Chinese instruments. Students of Western Instruments are also encouraged to participate, as well as non-majors with an interest in Chinese music. The Ensemble performs at least one major concert on campus every semester, with other performances both on and off campus throughout the year. Chinese Ensemble is overseen by Chen Tao, an accomplished music educator and master of the dizi (bamboo flute), with additional support from graduate-level US-China Music Fellows and the director of the US-China Music Institute.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, most of the current members of the Ensemble had to study at Bard remotely from China, due to travel restrictions related to the pandemic. Thanks to Bard's ongoing close ties to the Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM) in Beijing, these students were able to live and study together on the campus of CCOM, where they rehearsed and prepared for tonight's concert with the support of CCOM staff and students.

The Ensemble's music director, Chen Tao, incredibly orchestrated the entire program and guided the rehearsals via live video from New York throughout the year. Two Ensemble members who were not in Beijing contributed solo performances to the concert since they could not perform together with the group.

In the upcoming academic year 2021-22, with the addition of an incoming class of 7 new Chinese instrument majors, the Bard Conservatory will have a total of 17 undergraduate Chinese instrument players and 6 graduate assistants from the Central Conservatory, along with a number of Bard Conservatory students of Western instruments, to create the largest and most versatile Bard Chinese Ensemble to date.

ABOUT THE US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE

The US-China Music Institute was founded in 2017 by conductor Jindong Cai and Robert Martin, founding director of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, with the mission to promote the study, performance, and appreciation of music from contemporary China and to support musical exchange between the United States and China. In partnership with the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, the Institute has embarked on several groundbreaking projects including the first degree-granting program in Chinese instrument performance in a U.S. conservatory, the annual China Now Music Festival focusing on music from contemporary China, the annual “Sound of Spring” Chinese New Year concert, annual scholarly conferences, and public Chinese music education programs. barduschinamusic.org

Jindong Cai, Director

Kathryn Wright, Managing Director

Hsiao-Fang Lin, Director of Music Programming

PR and Marketing by Weiber Consulting: Wei Zhou, Yaqi Xu, Yu Cao

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The 2019 Bard Chinese Ensemble. Photo: Hsiao-Fang Lin



US-CHINA MUSIC INSTITUTE

Bard College Conservatory of Music

巴德美中音乐研习院

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

845-758-7026 | uschinamusic@bard.edu | barduschinamusic.org