

Glosing Geremony Goncert

Sat. May 10, 2025 7:00 pm • McAfee Performing Arts Center, Saratoga, CA

Theng and Eight Tones











音民 樂 會族



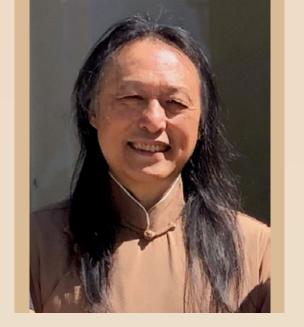








筹



Gordon Ree Aimusic.us Director

Working as composer, conductor, and musician since 1969. Came to the United States in late 1980s. MA degree from San Jose State University. In 1994, he founded a Chinese music studio which became FYCO in 2000 and Aimusic in 2013. Recipient of composer and arts leadership grant awards.



10th International Aimusic Festival 2025 • Glosing Geremony Goncert

foreword 前 言 flying through the Swirling Plouds

elcome to the Closing Ceremony of the 10th International Aimusic Festival.

The final piece of the first half of this year's Zheng and Eight Tones traditional music concert, Swirling Clouds, is arranged from a core aria in the modern Peking opera Azalea Mountain. It's considered a toptier work in the world of Chinese orchestral music. Because of its extreme difficulty, it has rarely been attempted since 1974. Fourteen years ago, Firebird Youth Chinese Orchestra (FYCO) performed it once, but at the time, no one involved was truly ready. I forced it through over the course of a school year, but the result was quite rough.

This year, the situation is entirely different. Last year, FYCO premiered the *Tiger Mountain Suite*, so the students are now familiar with Peking opera. Many musicians are especially drawn to operatic music with plot and dramatic conflict, which led everyone to choose *Azalea Mountain* as a follow-up to last year's *Tiger* Mountain. Little did we know, this mountain is no ordinary mountain—its eight-minute score posed a greater challenge than the combined thirty minutes of nine pieces from the previous suite. What's more, the orchestra spent last semester preparing for the arts festival's opening ceremony, and this semester was first busy with the opening, then with a string of community service performances. By the time we got through all that, it was already mid-February. When we began full rehearsals in April, some players couldn't find the style, couldn't count the beats correctly, couldn't come in on time, couldn't watch the conductor, couldn't hear other parts... The whole group was like a swirl of chaotic flying clouds!

I'm grateful for the chance to lead the orchestra using the Peking Opera drum—the traditional method for conducting operatic music for hundreds of years. It unites conducting, percussion playing, and leading performer into one. To lead others, you must first fulfill your own role. I'm not a professional percussionist, nor did I just pick this up on a whim. I was a reluctant rebel, forced onto this path. But through drumming, my heart settled quietly into the music, a state completely different from conducting without the drum. Without it, one can be flashy, detached, even neglect the players. But with it, you must strike clearly, gesture precisely, and communicate subtly—especially during complex transitions and changes. Whenever problems arose, I could immediately sense their root causes and discuss solutions with the musicians on equal footing.

The world is changing rapidly, and FYCO-Aimusic is flying through the swirling clouds, emerging ever more pure, more harmonious, more serene, and more joyful.





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May 7, 2025 • Hunter's Point

10th International Aimusic Festival 2025 • Glosing Geremony Goncert

foreword 前言



争與



音民樂會族



寫在第十屆自然音響國際愛樂藝術節閉幕前

自一九七四年後,很少有杜鵑山》核心唱段編配的《筝與八音》傳統音樂會上 也是天花板級的民族管絃

專業打鼓的,也不是半路出家,而是被逼上梁山的末路人;但是通過打鼓,把指揮、合奏、領奏統為一體。要指揮他人,先得把自己的本份做好。我不感謝老天給我以鼓板帶領樂團的絕妙機會,這是戲曲幾百年來的傳統方式,

,在美妙的音樂

謝坦 於 舊金山灣區獵人角下二〇二五年五月七日



Sordon Ree
Aimusic.us Director

射坦

心藝術家獎、美國音樂中心作曲家獎。 中國樂團,二〇一三年樂團擴展為愛樂音專。九九四年建立東方國樂中心,而後創建火鳳求學藝術,聖荷西州立大學劇院藝術碩士,求學藝術,聖荷西州立大學劇院藝術碩士,不十年代開始演藝編排創作,八十年代來





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Artistic Director: Gordon Lee • Narrator: Emily Banh

Lobby pre-concert program:

A. FYCO Peking Opera percussion B. Aimusic Beginner group

1. Chinese orchestra *Harvest Drums*

Composers: PENG Xiuwen, CAI Huiquan Performers: FYCO, Aimusic Pre-Orchestra, and Intermediate group

2. Sheng unison Composers: LIN Weihua, HU Tianquan

Joyous Song of the Axi Tribe

Performers: Richfield Chen, Jonathan Li, Samantha Yeung, Evan Li **Instructor:** Ying Dong

3. Yanggin duet: *The Entertainer* American jazz music Composer: Scott Joplin • Arranger/Instructor: Wenying Wu

Performers: Madelyn Cheung, Terence He Conga drum accompaniment: Yolanda Jiang

4. Zheng trio

Hunting the Tiger on the Mountain
Excerpt from the Peking Opera Taking the Tiger Mountain

Performers: Yolanda Jiang, Audrina Au, Madelyn Cheung Trio arranger/instructor: Wenying Wu

5. Suona solo *Harvest Gelebration* Composer: REN Tongxiang Orchestra accompaniment/Conductor: Wenying Wu

Performer: Owen Cobb **Instructor:** Zhang Yu

6. Chinese orchestra *Swirling Glouds*Excerpt from Peking Opera *Azalea Mountain* Composer: YU Huiyong • Orchestration: PENG Xiuwen

-- Intermission --

7. Zheng solo Lotus Emerging from the Water

Soloist: LIU Xin

Traditional Hakka Zheng music Notation: RAO Ningxin

8. Zheng solo *General's Command*

Soloist: LIU Xin

Traditional Zhejiang Zheng music Notation: WANG Xunzhi

9. Zheng duet The Charm of the Han River

Performers: LIU Xin, MA Siyi Composer: QIAO Jinwen, REN Qingzhi Adapted by WANG Zhongshan

10. Zheng unison *The Gilgrim* Performers: LIU Xin, MA Siyi

Composer: WEI Jun

All programs performed by FYCO unless otherwise noted. Program subject to change without notice.





























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會族



藝術總監:



前廳預演 火鳳靑年國樂團京劇鑼鼓

、愛樂音專一年級組

導 部: 李 心 苯

民族管絃樂 -彭修文、 胡天泉 愛樂音專準樂團與二年級組 蔡惠泉

3 教師:吳文英 美國爵士音樂 作曲 斯科特

賀 意 軒

康加鼓伴奏:江茵旻

陳沃田

李元昊

指導教師

京劇 智取威虎

吳文英

演奏:江茵旻、 、張淳睿

演奏 何江歐文 指導教師

樂隊編

京

樂隊編配

彭修文

青年國樂團

出水 客家筝曲

演奏:劉欣

8 (将軍令) 浙江筝曲 :王巽之

演奏:劉欣

9 漢江韻 河南筝曲

作曲 : 喬金文、任清芝 改編 王中山

演奏: 馬思藝

行 河南筝曲

Mimusic.us

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演奏:劉欣 馬思藝

演奏除註明外 皆為火鳳靑年國樂團 節目更換 恕無預告

爱樂音專 **Mimusic.us**

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Schoist 獨奏演員



During her early musical education and at the affiliated middle school of the China Conservatory of Music, she studied under Associate Professor YANG Lin, a guzheng virtuoso. In 2004 and 2011, she was admitted to the undergraduate program and graduate program of the China Conservatory of Music respectively, both with top overall scores, and then studied under Professor LIN Ling, a renowned guzheng virtuoso and doctoral supervisor. In 2015 and 2022, she won the first prize in the plucked instrument category of the 6th and 8th Henan Provincial Professional Instrumental Music Competition (Wenhua Award) respectively. In 2017, she was awarded the special prize in the guzheng category of the Henan division of the China Music Golden Bell Award Competition.

In LIU Xin's pursuit of artistic diversity, she has been an important member in the research project "the String Collection of the Qing Dynasty" within Professor LIN Ling's "Beijing Top-notch Talent Project" at the China Conservatory of Music. She also collaborated with the German composer Robert Zollitsch (Lao Luo), the composer of *Tan Te*, in the *San Chuan* Zheng Ensemble for three years, participating in over ten concerts/festivals held in China, Switzerland, Germany, etc. Since 2016, LIU Xin has been involved in music projects such as *IBN BATTUTA* and *II Teuzzone* in collaboration with the world-famous early-music master Jordi Savall and the Hesperion XXI Early Music Ensemble, and these projects have toured in China, France, Switzerland, Spain, Lebanon, the UAE, Morocco among others.

Since 2012, LIU Xin has been actively engaged in online and offline public service lectures, recording hundreds of videos of techniques and performances. She organized two public service music projects, Puyue Guzheng Tunes and Young Lotus Guzheng Sounds. In 2017, she initiated the establishment of a non-profit organization, the Qishui Zheng Ensemble. In January 2018, the ensemble held its first full scale concert at the concert hall of the Eastman School of Music in the United States. Subsequently, they participated in dozens of public service performances at places such as the Poly Concert Hall in China and many university concert halls. Years of persistent hard work and rich stage experiences have shaped LIU Xin's performance style, that is clean, clear, natural, free-spirited, highly expressive and moving. She can vividly convey the feelings of the music with her innermost emotions, touching the heart of the audience.









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LIU Xin 劉 欣 Guzheng 古筝

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爱樂音專 Mimusic.us

10th International Aimusic Festival + 2025

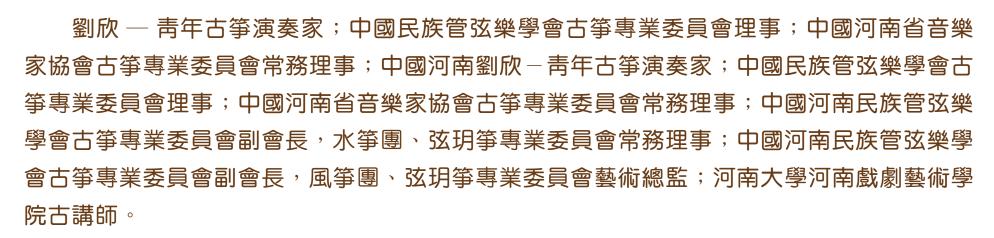
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自然音響

Soldist 獨奏演員



啟蒙及中國音樂學院附中期間,師從於古筝演奏家楊琳副教授,2004 年、2011年以總分第一名的成績分別考入—中國音樂學院本科、中國音樂學院研究生,師從著名古筝演奏家、博士生導師林玲教授。2015 年、2022 年分別取得河南省第六屆、第八屆專業器樂大賽(文華獎)彈撥樂一等獎,2017 年榮獲中國音樂金鐘獎大賽河南賽區古筝專業特等獎。

劉欣追求藝術多元化,既是中國音樂學院林玲教授「北京市拔尖人才計畫」中「淸代古譜《弦索備考》」課題研究中的重要成員,又與德國作曲家、《忐忑》的曲作者 Robert Zollitsch(老鑼)組成的《三川》。2016 年至今,劉欣與世界知名古樂大師朱蒂·薩瓦爾及晚星21 世紀古樂團合作的《IBN BATTUTA》、《Il Teuzzone》等音樂項目,陸續在中國、法國、瑞士、西班牙、黎巴嫩、阿聯酋、摩洛哥等地進行巡迴活動。

自 2012 年以來,劉欣積極投身線上、線下公益講座,錄製上百首基本功和樂曲演奏視頻,策劃"璞樂筝聲"、"稚荷筝聲"兩個公益音樂項目。2017 年發起非營利組織—淇水筝團,2018 年1月在美國伊斯曼音樂學院音樂廳舉辦首場專場音樂會,其後在中國保利音樂廳、高校音樂廳等場所參加各類公益演出活動數十場。常年堅持不懈的高強度學習、舞台表演經驗鎖造了劉欣老師「乾淨淸澈、自然灑脫、藝術表現力和渲染力極強」的演出風格,豐富多彩的表達作品和內心深處的情感,使聽眾產生共鳴。



趣





音、樂。會族





LIU Xin 劉 欣 Guzheng 古筝



10th International Aimusic Festival 2025 • Glosing Geremony Goncert

Aimusic Instructors 愛樂音專教師

(in alphabetical order of last names)



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▶ Bei Chen, Cello 陳 備・大提琴

After graduating from the Middle School of Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Mr. Chen was selected by Shanghai Symphony Orchestra as a member. In 1978, he became the principle cellist of the newly formed Shanghai Philharmonic Society. He received a BA degree in English from East China Normal University.

畢業於上海音樂學院附屬兒童音樂學校及中等音樂學校, 1969年進入上海京劇院《海港》劇組, 1978年任上海交響樂團、上海愛樂協會首席大提琴。



◆ John Chiang, Erhu 江嘉瑞・二胡

Received his bachelor degree from National Tainan University of the Arts in Taiwan, and Master of Ethnomusicology from University of Florida. Won the first prizes of erhu in the Taiwan National Music Competition and the National Yellow Bell Chinese Music Competition. Served as the concertmaster of Dachung Chinese Orchestra in Taiwan and won many prizes and rave reviews. As a soloist and chamber musician, performs in Taiwan, China, Japan, Canada, France, Italy, and Switzerland. Now he is involved in several music associations, including Society of Ethnomusicology, International Association for the Study of Popular Music, and Chinese Music Research.

2007年獲台南藝術大學學士,2010年獲全額獎學金至佛羅里達大學修民族音樂學碩士。曾獲黃鐘獎全國音樂大賽第一名、國樂龍虎榜最佳演奏團體、上海之春絲竹大賽第一名。亦曾擔任大中國樂團首席並帶團至北京、廈門、香港,澳洲等地作交流演出。一六年加入臺灣新逸藝術「首席之音」,目前為加州音樂教師協會考試委員及北加州華人音樂教師協會會長。



◆ Ying Dong, Sheng 董 穎・笙

MA degree from the Central Conservatory of Music, executive director of Sheng Committee under the Chinese Orchestral Society, lead musician in China Broadcasting Chinese Orchestra and ConTempo Beijing Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist, collaborated with Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, Germany Nationaltheater-Orchestra Mannheim, Denmark Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, and many others. Released solo album with China Record Shenzhen in 2010, and won gold prizes in a number of national and international competitions.

中央音樂學院碩士,中國廣播民族樂團演奏家, 民族管弦樂學會笙專業委員會常務理事,中國音樂家協會會員,ConTempo Beijing 現代室內樂團成員; 與莫斯科愛樂樂團、德國曼海姆國家歌劇院交響樂團、丹麥奧胡斯交響樂團等多家樂團合作演出笙獨奏;2010年成功舉辦個人音樂會,並出版發行DVD專輯;多次在全國音樂比賽中獲得大獎。



◆ Dr. Eddie Hsu, Dizi 許家豪 博士 • 笛子

BA in Dizi Performance from Tainan National University of the Arts. Performed a solo concert in Kaohsiung in 2009. PhD in ethnomusicology at the University of Texas at Austin in 2019. Served as an adjunct faculty in Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University, where he taught the Chinese Music Ensemble and World Music. Currently he is Curator at the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix, AZ.

國立台南藝術大學笛子演奏學士,2009年於高雄演奏廳舉辦笛簫個人專場音樂會,2019於德州大學奧斯汀分校獲得民族音樂學博士學位,曾在天普大學博伊爾音樂與舞蹈學院教授民族音樂合奏和世界音樂文化課程,目前任職於亞利桑那州鳳凰城的樂器博物館。作為特邀笛子演奏家,曾與多家世界音樂團體合作在製作中演奏笛子和簫,包括 Netflix 動畫系列的配樂專輯。



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10th International Aimusic Festival 2025 • Glosing Geremony Goncert

Camusic Instructors 愛樂音專教師

(in alphabetical order of last names)



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Mark Kuo, Dizi/Suona

郭霆宇 笛子、嗩吶

Born in Taiwan, Kuo joined the student Chinese orchestra from junior high to college. In college, he became the director of the Chinese Music Club and the conductor. He also participated in the Chinyuan Chinese Orchestra in Taipei. After settling down in the Bay Area, Mr. Kuo joined the South Bay Chinese Orchestra where he played the dizi, sheng, and suona. Kuo also plays the Qudi in the Kunqu ensemble in the area while teaching dizi at Aimusic/ FYCO.

生於台灣,自幼愛好音樂,參加初中至專科學校國樂團,曾任國樂社社長兼指揮,亦曾參加台北琴園國樂團,服役時加入陸軍軍樂隊。定居灣區後加入南灣國樂團、並多年在愛樂音專任教及演奏笛、嗩吶等樂器。近年學習崑曲、崑笛,也在崑曲社中擔任笛師。



◆ Ilan Emily Lin, Liuqin/Ruan

林意嵐•柳琴、阮

After winning many liuqin and ruan championships in Taiwan, Ms. Lin was honored as Hwakang Chinese music new superstar in 1999. BFA from Chinese Culture University majoring in the liuqin. Master's degree in Music Education from Pennsylvania State University in 2005. Performed the concerto *Melody on a Moonlit River* at the prestigious Taipei National Recital Hall. Served as judge at the Liuqin Grade Appraisal Competition for the Taipei Chinese Orchestra.

自 幼 學 習 鋼 琴 、 入 讀 華 岡 藝 術 學 校 國 樂 科 ,1995,1996年獲台灣 柳琴青少年組優等第一名,1999年獲華岡國樂新秀。畢業於中國文化大學中國音樂學系,主修柳琴,曾在台北國家音樂廳演奏廳演出柳琴協奏曲《江月琴聲》。2000年任台北民族樂團柳琴級數鑑定比賽評審,2005年獲得賓州州立大學音樂教育碩士學位。



♦ Wenying Wu, Yangqin/Conductor

吳文英 揚 琴/指揮

BA from China Conservatory of Music and entered the China Broadcasting Chinese Orchestra after her graduation in 1997. Co-recorded *Elementary Course of Dulcimer* with the renowned dulcimer educator Xiang Zuhua in 1999. Her 2005 book *Yangqin Made Easy* was reprinted in 2008. Performed solo at the 2014 National Centre for Performing Arts and in many countries. Winner of multiple awards in China and abroad. Currently yangqin and zheng teacher at Aimusic.

中國音樂學院揚琴本科畢業、輔修打擊樂、擅長古筝,1997年畢業進入中國廣播民族樂團,1999年與著名揚琴教育家項祖華教授共同錄制《揚琴初級教程》。其《從零起步~學揚琴輕鬆入門》一書於2005年發行,2008年再版。2014年在國家大劇院東方雅韻音樂會中演出揚琴獨奏「鄉村抒懷」。曾出訪世界十多國和地區。2021年獲中國敦煌杯民族器樂大賽室內樂銀獎第一名、作曲第三名,全美揚琴冠軍賽第三名。現任愛樂音專揚琴、古筝教師。



◆ Zhang Yu, Suona/Guanzi

于璋•嗩吶、管子

A member of China Musician Association and an examiner in the Chinese National Music Performing Examination Committee. Mr. Yu was admitted into Central Conservatory of Music in 1982 and entered Central Chinese Orchestra after graduation as an associate principal of the treble suona section in 1986. First Place winner at The Fourth Goat City Music Invitation Competition in 1987. Yu visited over 20 countries including the US, Germany Holland, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and Japan as Suona soloist along with the Conservatory and the Orchestra. He also recorded for movie and TV soundtracks with the suona and the saxophone. In recent years, Yu has studied the Guanzi with Professor Hu Zhihou, a national treasure virtuoso.

1982年考入中央音樂學院,中國音樂家協會會員、中國民族管弦學會全國民族樂器演奏考級委員會評審委員。1982年考入中央音樂學院,啟蒙老師趙春峰、後隨羅立群、陳家齊學習嗩吶。畢業後進入中央民族樂團,在1987年第四屆羊城音樂邀請賽中獲得第一名。曾多次以嗩吶及薩克斯為電影及電視劇配樂錄音,並隨院團出訪美國、荷蘭、義大利、奧地利、瑞士、德國、日本等二十多個國家。近年來,跟隨國寶級大師胡志厚教授學習管子。



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Glosing Geremony Goncert

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自然音響

Beginners初級班

◆ Wind 管樂

Dizi 笛子

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办小

Julianne Lee 李健心

Sheng 笙

Abigail Chin 陳遠航

♦ Plucked Instruments

彈撥樂

Liuqin 柳琴

Iris Chiu 邱品瑄 Hannah Thuon 文甯兒

Yangin 揚琴

Emma Chen 陳孜晗 Sophie Wu 吳雨茗

Ruan 际

Makenzie Davis-Marsh 蔡佳欣 Josephine Lee 李建悅

◆ Strings 絃樂

Erhu二胡

Mitchell Zhu 朱涵睿 Kinsley Zhou 周樂萱 Zachary Kuo 郭榮祁

Intermediate 中級班

◆ Wind 管樂

Dizi 笛子

Yunao Xu 許昀敖

Suona 嗩 吶

Ethan Zhu 朱道勤 Austin Chen 陳子華

◆ Plucked Instruments

彈撥樂

Zheng 筝

Alice Gan 甘家寧 Luna Truong 張雨平 Nicole Zheng 鄭祺英 Nova Truong 張雨安

Ruan 阮

William Zheng 鄭祺葳 Jayden Ho 何彥毅

◆ Strings 絃樂

Erhu二胡

Angela Kuang 鄺樂恩 Felicia Jin 金涵昱 Harrison Kang 康迎宣

Cello大提琴

Ryan Yu 余懷瑾







Pre-Orchestra 準樂團

◆ Wind 管樂

Dizi 笛子

Dean Chen 陳昱光 Jacob Bi 畢雅各 Kristin Cheng 鄭如意 Zuhao Liang 梁祖豪

Sheng 笙

Sean Li 李元晟

◆ Plucked Instruments

彈撥樂

Liuqin 柳琴

Michelangelo Chan 陳忠偉

Pipa 琵琶

Lisa Zhang 張悠然

Yangin 揚琴

Lanxin Nie 聶蘭馨

Zheng 筝

Nina He 何詩齡

◆ Strings 絃樂

Erhu二胡

Edrick Chiu 邱直宥 Gilbert Kang 康進宣 Nicholas Lam 林裕曦 Vanessa Jiang 江敏瑜

Cello大提琴

Benjamin He 何本杰







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10th International Aimusic Festival • 2025

Glosing Geremony Goncert

FYCO 火鳳靑年國樂團





自然音響



◆ Wind 管 樂

Banadi 梆笛

Ryan Chan 曾健勇# Xinyi Yang 楊心怡★

Qudi曲笛

Lucas Huang 黃軒穎 Ryan Ouyang 歐陽瑄*

Sheng 笙

Jonathan Li 李庭健 Samantha Yeung 楊綽敏 Evan Li 李元昊

Alto Sheng 中音笙 Charmaine Lui 雷雪睛&

Bass Sheng 低音笙 Richfield Chen 陳沃田#

Suona 嗩 吶

Owen Cobb 何江歐文★ Zhang Yu 于 璋@ Tenor Suona 次中音嗩吶

Mark Kuo 郭霆宇@

◆ Plucked Instruments 彈 撥 樂

Liugin 柳琴

Kandace Ho 何采宜# Claire Chen 陳瑾琳 Emily Lin 林意嵐@

Pipa 琵琶

Rex Ouyang 歐陽昊& Haotian (Tim) Chen 陳浩天# Nina Wu 武妮娜 Clemence Wong 黃宇馨★

Yangqin 揚琴

Madelyn Cheung 張淳睿# Terence He 賀意軒★

Zhongruan 中际

Christopher T. He 何天澤# Charis Wong 黃宇柔★

Daruan 大阪

Haotian Zhu 朱浩天

Sanxian = 弦

Monique Kuo 郭瑞濛△

Zheng 筝

Audrina Au 區潼琛 Yolanda Jiang 江茵旻★

◆ Percussion 打擊樂

Emily Wong 王心怡& Angela Chen 陳安琪& Wenting Tan 譚文婷 Ying Chen 陳 穎+ Laurie Lee 李思佳△



◆ Strings 絃樂

Jinahu 京胡

Terry Yang 楊振勇+

Gaohu 高胡

John Chiang 江嘉瑞@

Erhu二胡

Charisse Un 阮思瑜 ^ ^ Liam Cobb 何江李彥★ Sarah Tseng 曾子玹 Audrey Tam 譚朗蕎★ Isabella Luo 羅雅馨★ Kaden Liu 劉海峰 Yi Ren 任 伊 Genevieve Lam 林婉羚

Erhu中胡

Erin Liu 劉逸靈

Cello 大提琴

Noriko Denda Bei Chen 陳 備@ Sharleen Ho 何奇霞+

- ^^ Concertmaster 樂團首席
- # Principal 聲部長
- ★Soloist 獨奏樂手









音民

樂 會族



- @ Teaching artist 教師
- △Founding musician 火鳳創始團員
- & Former musician 前火鳳團員
- + Associate musician 合作樂手





2025 Graduates Testimony

應屆畢業生感言



• 10 years •

Haotian Zhu 朱浩天 ◆ Ruan 阮

Playing music was never my strong suit, but joining FYCO has helped me discover the fun and joy in it. Hearing the beats of a song slowly come together after weeks of practice and rehearsals has been incredibly rewarding. As a bass player, I've learned to carefully listen for cues from other instruments to know when to enter. This skill has also carried over into how I listen to music in general—I now find myself picking out individual parts, like drums or strings, which makes songs more enjoyable and engaging.

FYCO has also opened up so many opportunities for me, and I'm especially grateful to Gordon 老師. He encouraged me to stay with FYCO even during COVID when I was considering quitting, and he pushed me to grow by learning a new instrument (大阮) and even performing solo pieces.

Speaking of solos, they were stressful at first. I was always worried about making mistakes, but over time and with more experience, that anxiety turned into confidence. One of the most fulfilling parts of FYCO was visiting community centers and seeing the joy our music brought to children and the elderly.

Overall, FYCO has been a great experience. I've had so much fun meeting fellow musicians and making new friends. I'd also like to thank Lin 老師 for her patience and support in teaching me. I've grown a lot both musically and personally, and I'm grateful to have been a part of this community.

演奏音樂從來不是我與生俱來的長處,然而,自從加入火鳳靑年國樂團以來,在旋律的流動中,我找到了屬於自己的樂趣與喜悅。每回排練、每場演出,都是一次淬鍊的旅程。當一首首樂曲歷經反覆練習後逐漸成形,那份成就感與團隊的默契,總讓我無比感動。

身為低音聲部的演奏者,我學會了不只是演奏,更是傾聽。我學會了細心地捕捉來自其他樂器的提示,並準確地掌握了切入的時機。而這份聆聽的能力,也深深影響了我欣賞音樂的方式——如今的我,能在旋律中分辨出打擊樂、絃樂等層層聲部,因而每一首樂曲對我來說都變得非常立體,也更加感人。

我特別感謝火鳳給予我無數寶貴的機會。在這裡,我遇見了啟發我成長的老師與夥伴,也克服了許多原本無法想像的挑戰。感謝謝老師,在我動搖、想要退出的時候,他給了我堅定的鼓勵,讓我不僅留下來,勇敢地嘗試學習了新的樂器——大阮,甚至還挑戰自己成為獨奏演員。

起初的我,對獨奏充滿恐懼,總擔心犯錯出糗。但隨著一次次站上舞台,我漸漸學會在緊張中找到自己的節奏,從不安中累積自信。最讓我難忘的,是社區演出與那些老年人和孩童們的互動時光——音樂所帶來的歡笑與感動,讓我眞正體會到音樂的力量。

火鳳國樂團是我靑春歲月中最精彩的一章。在這裡,我結識了志同道合的朋友,並從中獲得無價的友情與回憶。我也 由衷感謝林老師,一路走來的耐心教導與支持,讓我在音樂路上得以穩健前行。

如今卽將畢業,回首這段旅程,我心中充滿感恩與不捨。感謝火鳳,讓我成長、讓我蛻變、也讓我帶著更堅定的步伐,迎向未來的舞台。



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10th International Aimusic Festival + 2025

2025 Graduates Testimony



自然音響







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應屆畢業生感言



• 8 years •

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Richfield Chen 陳沃田 • Sheng 笙

Eight years is a massive amount of time to do one activity, especially in adolescence, which can be - and was for me an extremely dynamic time in life.

Do you know what else is massive? The two entire pages of letter size paper that last year's graduates took up with their essays. I personally can't stand reading blocks of text so I will try to keep my remarks brief.

Through these eight years, I've felt a decent variety of emotions about my instrument from the demotivation of being unable to grasp a technique to the inescapable pride that comes with pulling off a successful performance. Despite this turbulence, I can safely say that I fully appreciate every single year I've spent in the Aimusic program. The opportunity I was able to have here in learning about the incredible world of Chinese orchestra is something I will forever cherish. I'm fortunate enough to have a Chinese ensemble program at my college of choice, so I expect to utilize the musical concepts I've learned while being a part of FYCO in the years to come.

Finally, I'd also like to say thank you. Thank you to Xie Laoshi for facilitating this amazing cultural program for the local community-students and audiences alike-to enjoy. Thank you to Calise and Monica and everyone else who helps make this program possible. And last but not least, a very big thank you to both Zhang Laoshi and Dong Laoshi for teaching me all I know about my instrument.

八年,對於一個靑少年來說,能在同一件事情上投入這麼大量的時間,確實是一件不簡單的事。靑春期本就是個多 變又充滿挑戰的階段,對我來說也不例外。

你知道還有什麼也很「大量」嗎?去年學長學姐的畢業感言,整整寫了兩大頁紙!而我本身對於密密麻麻的文字一 向不太感興趣, 所以這裡我會盡量保持簡潔

這八年來,我對自己的樂器有過各種情緒一從抓不到技巧時的挫敗,到成功演出後那種無可取代的自豪與喜悅。儘 管過程時而波折,但我可以非常肯定地說,我珍惜在愛樂音專/火鳳靑年國樂團的每一年。能在這裡接觸並學習中國音 樂,對我而言是一份無價的寶貴經歷,也將是我長久珍藏心中的記憶。

很幸運的是,我所選擇的大學也有與國樂相關的課程,因此未來我仍有機會延續這段音樂之旅,把從火鳳所學到的 運用於新的舞台。

最後,我想真誠地說一聲感謝。謝謝謝老師創辦這樣一個精彩的文化音樂計劃,讓我們學生與觀眾都能受益並享受 其中;謝謝 $Calise \setminus Monica$ 以及所有在背後默默付出的工作人員,是你們的幫助讓這個團體順暢運作;當然,也要 深深感謝張老師與董老師,感謝你們傾囊相授,將我對樂器的理解與掌握一步步帶到今天的程度。

謝謝你們,讓我走過了這段值得一生銘記的旅程。



2025 Graduates Testimony

應屆畢業生感言



• 10 years •

Owen Cobb 何江歐文 * Suona 嗩吶

Back when I was around seven years old, my mother took me to FYCO. Seeing all these new instruments for the first time, I wasn't quite sure which one to learn. After a short exam, I was recommended to learn suona, so I did just that.

Fast forward 10 years and here I am, still learning suona, still going to FYCO. Through my journey as a suona player, I have been able to connect with many communities, from our own orchestra all the way to the state of California as a whole. This invaluable experience has helped shape who I am. It has built confidence in myself and my abilities through countless performances, as a group and as a soloist. It has taught me discipline, as no matter if I am in the spotlight or merely in the background, my impact has a dramatic effect on the piece as a whole. And lastly it has created a sense of cooperation with my peers, to come together with each of our unique skill sets and create something totally beautiful.

I thank FYCO and all my instructors for giving me the gift of learning Chinese orchestra and guiding me through this decade long journey.

還記得我大約七歲那年,媽媽帶我來到了火鳳靑年國樂團。那是我第一次見到這麼多陌生又新奇的樂器,眼花撩亂之下,我也說不淸該選擇哪一樣學起。經過一場簡單的測試後,老師建議我學習嗩吶——於是我便開始了這段特別的音樂旅程。

時光荏苒,十年過去,如今的我依然在學習嗩吶,依然是火鳳的一員。在這十年裡,嗩吶不僅是一種樂器,更成為我與這個世界連結的重要橋樑。從樂團裡到整個社區,我因為音樂,認識了許多人、走過了許多路,這些寶貴的經歷深深影響著我,也塑造了今天的我。

無數次的演出,無論是與樂團共同合作還是獨奏、都讓我建立了對自己能力的信心。音樂讓我明白,即使不是站在聚光燈下,每一個聲部、每一位演奏者,都對整首曲子有著不可忽視的影響。這份認知,也教會了我什麼是紀律與責任。而與夥伴們的合作,更讓我深刻體會到——唯有攜手,融合彼此獨特的才能與聲音,才能創造出眞正動人的樂章。

我由衷感謝火鳳樂團,以及一路上教導我的老師們,謝謝你們將這份中國音樂的美好帶進我的生命,也陪我走過 這段長達十年的學習旅程。



自然音響









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Glosing Geremony Goncert

May 10, 2025 7:00 pm - McAfee Performing Arts Center, Saratoga, CA

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STAGE TEAM: Juan Liu, Kun Ouyang, Zhixin Chen, Kwan Tam

BACK STAGE: Monica Lam, Jiang Sarah Pu, Sunny Shen, Jan Wang, Wenjing Yu Jia Yuan, Felicity Miao, Hui Qin, Sunny Liu, Haoran Wu Christy Liu, Juan Ren, Fennie Song

UNIFORM AND MAKEUP: Kawa Fuh, Qing Min Li, Chunming Feng

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PHOTOGRAPHY: Kimmy Chu, Stella Xu, Joyce Un VIDEO: Infinity Production

CONCERT PROGRAM

AUTHOR: Gordon Lee
TRANSLATOR/EDITOR: Ping Huey
GRAPHIC DESIGN: Diana Hong
NARRATOR: Emily Banh

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10th International Aimusic Festival + 2025

Glosing Geremony Goncert

May 10, 2025 7:00 pm - McAfee Performing Arts Center, Saratoga, CA

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Yi

Tam Family Audrey

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Wu Family Nina

Wu Family Sophie

Xu Family Yunao

Yang Family Xinyi

Yeung Family Samantha

Zhang Family Lisa **Zhou Family**

Kinsley Zhu Family

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Haotian

UP TO \$100 Chau Le



















About Limusic

imusic.us is an American government-awarded arts institution, providing music performances, classes, and international festivals in San Jose, California. Starting from the artistic director Gordon Lee's studio in 1994 and as Firebird Youth Chinese Orchestra (FYCO) in 2000, Aimusic promotes Chinese heritage as an integral part of Silicon Valley's multicultural fabric by training students to play traditional instruments, share their musical gifts with the community, and develop a life-long appreciation for the vital role of arts.

Teamwork is the foundation for Aimusic.us pursuing its art goals. Members help each other especially when encountering great challenges and difficulties. On March 11, 2020, The White House declared Santa Clara as one of the two counties most seriously affected by Coronavirus in the nation. Within only three days, all classes were smoothly transferred from on campus to the internet without missing a single activity. There were many hours of intense communication and coordination among sectors after the city shut-down notice. Despite the steep learning curve, staff, teachers, parents, and students worked together with a community spirit to develop the best solution possible.

Serving the community is Aimusic's responsibility. Before the pandemic, more than 40 performances were held at public schools, libraries, city halls, community centers, senior homes, cultural organizations, and high tech companies in Northern California every year. Since the pandemic, more than ten community performances continued to be held online each year. The music performed includes Chinese classical, folksongs, regional operas (Xiqu), musical storytelling

(Quyi), Buddhist, Taoist, and court music. For more than a century, imitations of Western music have gradually taken away the stage from traditional music. This increasing difficulty of identifying authentic cultural heritage begs for the conscientious artists to preserve and pass on the true traditions.

Being authentic and natural is the artistic pursuit of Aimusic. No matter in a concert hall or a gymnasium, all solo, ensemble, and orchestra performances are done in natural sound. In 2010, Gordon's commissioned symphonic suite for the Erhu, Pipa, and Sheng *Young Impressions of the Old City* was premièred, an arguable first for Chinese solo instruments to play with the Western orchestra without using amplifiers. Natural sound performance requires strong skills. For decades, Aimusic has pursued scientific performing techniques to produce relaxed and crystal clear, but penetrating sounds. Teachers' seminars are held regularly so wind, string, and plucked instrument artists share their experiences and improve together. Online classes and meetings have made it even easier for the teachers to exchange ideas and learn from each other.

Integrity and fairness are the standards of Aimusic's conducts. Board of trustees are mostly parents of FYCO graduates. They have witnessed tough challenges for the organization over the years, and helped Aimusic overcome the difficulties one after another. The board is considerate towards the students and their families by making the tuition far below almost all music classes and youth orchestras in the San Francisco Bay Area. In musical instrument classes, teaching artists provide every student with equal educational opportunities, while the ensemble classes further expand the possibilities of personalized learning and performing. In 2008, Aimusic established a scholarship system, which is transparent and fair from application to review. The education not only cultivates students' artistic talents, but also hone their critical thinking ability, independent personality, cooperation level, and leadership skills. The unique perspectives and experiences from the program have enabled many high school graduates to enter their ideal universities as desired. Some even formed their own Chinese music groups on campus, spreading the Aimusic-FYCO spirit far and wide.

Thanks to its uniqueness and integrity, Aimusic.us has been the 1st minority group to play the American National Anthem at an NBA game, the 1st Chinese orchestra from the West to visit China and Taiwan, the 1st Asian cultural group holding an annual international arts festival to celebrate the Chinese music heritage especially during the pandemic, and the 1st youth group to collaborate with various symphony orchestras in California. Aimusic is one of the very few Asian-American cultural groups that receive awards from the government up to the federal level. Arts Council Silicon Valley proclaimed Aimusic as a "local treasure," and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) praised the program as "one of the very few ensembles in the United States dedicated to educating young people, their families and communities through traditional Chinese music, and is carrying out its mission with great success." Aimusic-FYCO is featured on newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations like ABC, NBC, KQED, KTSF, KICU, KTEH, CCTV, Hong Kong Phoenix, Taiwan United News, and Phoenix North America.













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10th International Aimusic Festival 2025 • Glosing Geremony Goncert















音民 樂 會族



教室及二〇〇〇年創辦的火鳳青年國樂團體,始於愛樂總監謝坦於一九九四年建立之 化交流等方面都取得了有目共共睹的成績 和為要; ·及二〇〇〇年創辦的火鳳青年國樂團。以始於愛樂總監謝坦於一九九四年建立之音樂愛樂音專為美國政府審核獎勵的非營利團 音專在音樂表演 在中西文化的交融中發揮積極作用 信為源 責為綱、簡為方, 藝術教育 社區服務 怨為戒、

互幫助。二〇二〇年三月十一日,白宮宣佈聖塔互敬互愛,而當遇到挑戰和困難時,成員之間相團隊合作是愛樂音專的運行基礎,平時大家 克拉拉為全美新冠病毒最嚴重的兩縣之一 課程從校園轉移到了互聯網 藝術家們便和行政 不分資歷先後、不論英文淺深 一面學習如何使用 起將所有 , 然 而

服務社區是愛樂的社會責任。 疫情前 樂手



困難。然而正是的大部份空間 每年仍有 公司都留下了愛樂的琴聲。疫情後,土圖寫內報學以及高科技中心、公立學校、圖書館、老人公寓、文化社團、以及高科技們每年為社區提供四十餘場演出,加州的許多市政大廳、社區們每年為 古曲 個多世紀來 間樂曲、 三正因為困難重重三間,師道有序的 |因為困難重重,有良知的藝術家們才有責任來弘],師道有序的「活態傳承」越來越稀少、越來越效仿西方音樂的做法逐漸佔盡了民族音樂所應有 曲藝 演出曲目主要為流傳華夏千百年的民歌 戲曲、佛音道曲、 以及宮廷音樂。

窮;若能享受這一與急功近利無緣。 學習更為頻繁體會,大家共同 能力 全部自然聲響,不使論音樂 廳還是體育 去滿足人 孜追求聲音 若能享受這一過程 作二胡、 樂廳還是體育館,愛樂火鳳的所有獨奏真實自然是音專的藝術追求。即為音之使, 而愛樂音專的教育目的就是要培養人的真實能力 大家共同提高 的虚榮心。 創下 琵琶 ,因為互聯網教學首先挑戰的是師生的聽覺判斷,同提高。網課全面開啟以來,藝術家之間的交流會,管樂、絃樂、彈撥樂的教師們一起交流心得、講真誠、喜探索、求進步的藝術家。年年音專品通透、富於彈性且具穿透力的演奏方法,凝聚 使用自然音響是需要功力的。了民族樂器獨奏演員與西洋管 不使用擴音器。 只要把握好這一過程 笙交響組曲 能力的培養是一個循序漸進的自然過程 【老城童趣】, 即為音之使,先求音之實 八間仙境 〇年謝 ,施受雙方都會獲益無 n演奏方法,凝聚音絃交響樂隊無擴 坦受矽谷樂團委 也以純真音響的 重奏 而非

業活水的金個 生躍平藝制性 們的、 為 每 低於舊金山灣區音樂課和青年樂團的水平。樂器課上 他們 化學習得到了全新的拓展 誠信公平是愛樂的行為準則 及領 才華 位同學都提供了均等的教育機會, 一座難關 見證了 從申 (進入自己的型型、) (2000 樂團受到的 切為學生家長著想,所定學費,遠一道又一道考驗、幫助樂團度過了準則。音專董事多為火鳳畢業生家 切為學生家長著想, 教師們

體。ABC、NBC、KQED 香港鳳凰衛視、台灣聯合新聞、及鳳凰衛視美洲臺等 國家藝術基金會讚其為全美最成功的中國音樂 · KTSF · KICU · KTEH,