

Splendid Taiwan

International Concert tour: Canada



Performance I: 2023.8.26 (Sat) 2:30 pm, Harbourfront Concert Stage
Performance II: 2023.9.2 (Sat) 8:00 pm, Orpheum Theatre

About the Concert

During the Age of Discovery, the period between late 15th and 16th century, European fleets were seen around the world, sought new trade routes and trading partners to develop Europe's nascent capitalism. During this era, the United East India Company established Penghu of Taiwan as their trading base; the western culture that came with it made great impact to the otherwise idyllic, politically stable Taiwan. Meanwhile, culture of Taiwan indigenous people was impacted significantly.

This is the context in which the concert derives its theme, through the perspectives of contemporary musicians, through new arrangements, and through matching thematic pieces, presenting Taiwan as a Formosa (beautiful island) that embraces the world with open arms.



Programme

Performance I:

2023.8.26 (Sat) 2:30 pm, Harbourfront Concert Stage

1. Dance of the Amis

Arranged by Zhou Cheng-Long

2. The Musical Sketch of Rain

Composed by Lin Hsin-Pin

3. Ciocârlia (Koudi and Orchestra)

Arranged by Qu Chun-Quan,
Koudi Solo/ Liu Chen-Ling

4. The Melody of Memory (Daguangxian and Orchestra)

Arranged by Zhu Chang-Yao, Daguangxian
Solo/ Kao Meng-Lan

5. The Hakka Folk Song (Yangqin and Orchestra)

Liu Song-Hui, Arranged by Lin Ming-Hui,
Yangqin Solo/ Lin Ming-Hui

6. Run Together Composed by Roa Lee

Gayageum / Roa (HyunYoung) Lee Erhu / Amely Zhou

~~Intermission~~

7. Clinking Coins (Zhuqin and Orchestra)

Arranged by Su Wen-Cheng, Lin Ya-Hsueh,
Zhuqin Solo/ Lin Ya-Hsueh

8. Peach Blossom Village

Arranged by Qu Chun-Quan

9. Grasshopper Teasing the Rooster

Arranged by Kuo Che-Cheng

10. Slowly Rowing on Jasmine Waves

Composed by Jen Chung

11. The Rain

Composed by Chang Yung-Chin, Arranged by Chang Yi-Hung



Performance II:

2023.9.2 (Sat) 8:00 pm, Orpheum Theatre

1. Dance of the Amis

Arranged by Zhou Cheng-Long

2. The Musical Sketch of Rain

Composed by Lin Hsin-Pin

3. The Melody of Memory (Daguangxian and Orchestra)

Arranged by Zhu Chang-Yao,
Daguangxian Solo/ Kao Meng-Lan

4. Grasshopper Teasing the Rooster

Arranged by Kuo Che-Cheng

5. España Cañí (Sheng and Orchestra)

Composed by Pascual Marquina Narro,
Sheng Solo/ Chen Chi-Mi

6. Jasmine Singer : Ginalina

Chinese folk song Arranged by Hsin-Tsai Huang
Singer/ Ginalina

~~Intermission~~

7. Clinking Coins (Zhuqin and Orchestra)

Arranged by Su Wen-Cheng ,Lin Ya-Hsueh,
Zhuqin Solo/ Lin Ya-Hsueh

8. The Hakka Folk Song (Yangqin and Orchestra)

Composed by Liu Song-Hui, Arranged by Lin Ming-Hui,
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Orchestra List

National Center for Traditional Arts

Director Chen Yue-Yi

Deputy Director Tsou Chiu-Chiang

Chief-Secretary Lai Ming-Jen

National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan

Director Liu Li-Chen

Section Leader Fu Chun Tseng Li-Feng

Executive Secretary Tu Tsung-Yun

Orchestra Administration

Kao Tzu-Yuan Kuo Chih-Ying Chang Chia-Wen

Performance Planning

Wang Chih-Fen Shih Yu-Tung Chen Shiou-Jr Lin Ming-Chi(Substitute Employee)

Marketing and Promotion

Huang Yu-Chi Wu Chia-Chien

Production Management

Kuo Tzu-Chun Huang Shih-Ting Lin Wen-Hsi Lo Wen-Hsun

Music Director Chiang Ching-Po

Associate Conductor *Chou Sheng-Wen

Concertmaster Liu Chen-Ling

Associate Concertmaster Kao Meng-Lan Lin Ming-Hui Lin Ya-Hsueh

Gaodi *Liu Chen-Ling◎

Zhongdi Chang Chun-Hao○ Lin Chia-Yin(Zhongdi/Xiao)

Xindi / Xiao Shih Mei-Yu

Soprano Sheng *Chen Chi-Mi◎

Alto Sheng Hsu Tsui-Fang○

Bass Sheng Su Hsi-Hsuan

Soprano Suona Tsui Chou-Shun◎

Alto Suona Shih Jui-Hung○

Tenor Suona Lu Yen-Ling

Yangqin *Lin Ming-Hui◎ Chen Shih-Yu



Xiaoruan / Liuqin Liu Pao-Hsiu◎ Lin Chin-Huei

Pipa *Wang I-Chu◎

Zhongruan *Chang Cheng-Chen◎ Huang Wen-Pei

Sanxian / Zhongruan Yao Pi-Ching◎

Daruan Lai Yiu-Ching◎ Lin Yi-Jung

Guzheng / Harp Hsu Huei-San

Percussion *Lin Ya-Hsueh◎ Lin Chun-Ting○ Chang Hsu Huang
Chun-Ling

Gaohu Wang Chun-Ning◎ Wang Che-Chuan○ Hsing Peng-Wen
Lin Yung-Tu

Erhu I *Wu Yi-Fang◎ Yeh Wei-Jen○ Yeh Wen-Hsuan Chang Pu-Ying
Hsu Chun-Ping

Erhu II Tai Wei◎ Chung I-Shan○ Yang Pei-I Yu Mei-Ping

Zhonghu *Kao Meng-Lan◎ Chang Wen-Jung○ Sun Yin-Chou Chen Nai-Kuo-
Fan Chong-Yu

Eco-Gehu *Hsu Ya-Ting◎ Chiu Wan-I○ Deng Huei-Wen Lin Yir-Jyun
Chang Li-Wen

Eco-Bass Gehu Chen Lu-Pei◎ Lu Chien-Tsung

Job Description: ◎Principal ○Associate Principal *Musicians on Tour



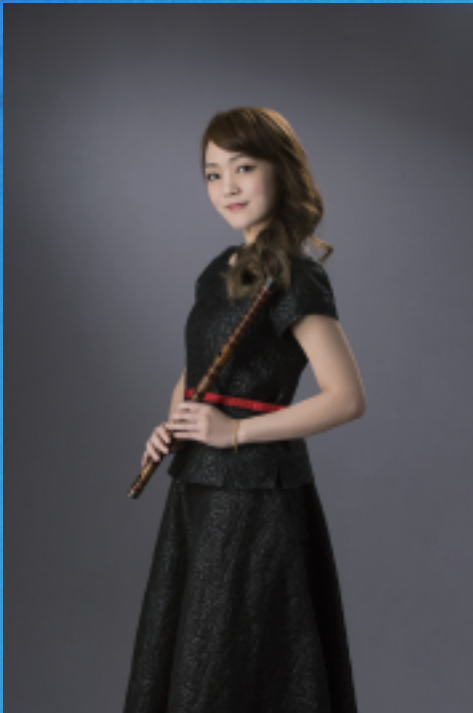
Discourser/ Chou Sheng-Wen

Currently Associate Conductor with National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO). Since taking up the position back in January 2021, Chou had performed many productions with the orchestra. He's also the conductor for the NCO Promotional Series. Apart from being a conductor, Chou also became an idea provider in new productions, the 2022 concerts Ode to Youth and Listen to the Landscape in which he also conducted had won rave reviews from the music scene. In 2018, under the guidance of conductor Hsu Ching-Hsin, graduated with masters in orchestra conducting at Department of Music, National Taiwan Normal University.

In the meantime, Chou won multiple accolades from various conducting competitions, such as the 1st prize and best stage charm during the 4th Elite for Baton conducting competition, popularity award in the 1st Elite for Baton, the popularity award as voted by fellow participants at the 5th NCO Conductor camp and most popular conductor by fellow participants at the 11th International Master Classes on Chinese Music Conducting Class, etc. Advance to late stages of the 4th International Conducting Competition for Chinese Music and Taipei International Conducting Competition, both in 2020.

Chou's passion for conducting was initiated by conductor Huang Kuang-Yu, subsequently, he was tutored by various conductors like Sir Neville Marriner (1924-2016), Gilbert Varga, Douglas Bostock, Lü Shao-Chia, Yeh Tsung, Qu Chun-Quan, Yan Hui-Chang, Kuo Lian-Chang, Yu Long, Yang Rin-Jong, Chen Mei-Ann, Wang Ya-Hui, and Chew Hee-Chiat. His conducting resume covers Symphony orchestra and also Chinese orchestra, his style of conducting is known to be refined while exuding a sense of free and easy. Chou is a young conductor that caught the attention of contemporary music scene.

Biography of Tour Artist

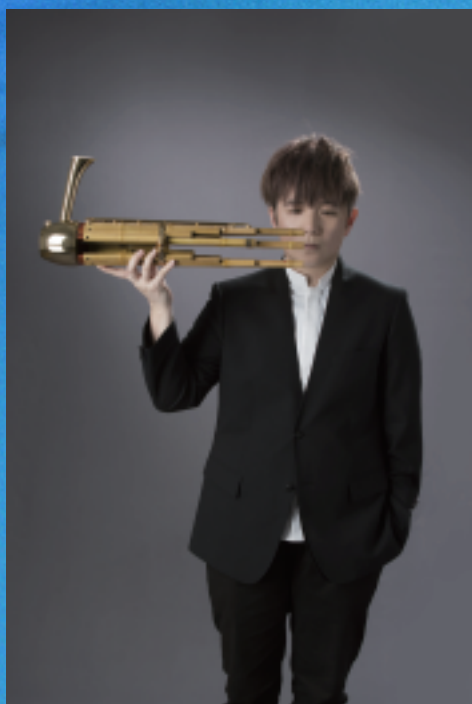


Gaodi/ Liu Chen-Ling

Currently Concertmaster of National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO), the Section Leader of Winds and the principal of Dizi section. Dubbed “the most incredible flute music from Taiwan” by renown virtuoso flute player, Sir James Galway; after an amazing and captivating improvised performance with famed vocalist Bobby McFerrin, Liu has since been known as “the Genius Flutist of Taiwan”.

Liu frequently receives performance invitation from local and abroad, resulting in many rave reviews and praises. Solo recital during the National Cultural Award by the Executive Yuan, Streaming Music, Picturesque Visuals: Along with Ma Shui-Long, “See the Music-Hear the Painting” in 2007. She was invited to record with the National Symphony Orchestra Bangdi Concerto as part of the album featuring compositions by Ma Shui-Long in 2009. Lalualumedani, Peach Blossom at the Ferry Crossing, and Music from the Mountain are pieces she performed, forming part of a wonderful music collection in NCO 30th Anniversary album.

Liu is fully committed to passing on the aesthetic legacy of wind music, creating dizi concerto such as Dawn and Dusk (2016); Love of Rhalupalingi (2019); Beyond. Manjushaka Flowers (2021); and Taiwan Pine (2022). She also teaches Chinese Music at the National Taiwan University of Arts, National Taiwan College of Performing Arts and the Chinese Culture University.



Soprano Sheng/ Chen Chi-Mi

A sheng virtuoso and music producer in Taiwan. Currently the Sheng Principal with National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO), serves as honorary director of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society. Chen is now pursuing a doctoral degree at the Graduate Institute of Transdisciplinary Performing Arts in the National Taiwan University of Arts. Chen is fully committed to the interdisciplinary vision of performing arts and keeping pace with the times. Chen's unique style of music is full of vigour and infectious, and often collaborates as a soloist with renowned conductors and orchestras.

Notable recent events:

Won Best Traditional Album and Best Audiovisual Album during the 33rd Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts and Music (2022); premiering Three Shengs A Charm (2022); Jazz Golden Triangle Improvisation (2021); commissioned by Taipei Chinese Orchestra for the erhu concerto Alangyi (2021) recorded and released in the album "Resonances"; premiered Concerto No. 1 for Dizi and Sheng (2020); collaborate with Liu Hsin-Hung, an organist studying in America for the double concerto Reeds (2020) under the invitation of Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra; invited by Taiwan Music Image Series to record "Spring Blossom, Autumn Water"; an album that marks the collaboration between Germany's E-MEX Ensemble and Taiwanese Composers in Their 30s-50s (2019) the piece was nominated in the following year for Taishin Arts Award (2020); Double Concerto Reeds (2019) in collaboration with international organist Jonathan Scott.



Yangqin/ Lin Ming-Hui

Currently Associate Concertmaster of National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO), section leader of plucked string and the principal of Yangqin section.

During her studies, Lin was a regular winner in Taiwan's music competitions and graduated top of her class at the National Taiwan College of Arts (now the National Taiwan University of Arts) and postgraduate of the Department of Music at Soochow University. In recent years, she has adapted yangqin music such as The Hakka Folk Song, Dance Rhyme in the Style of Xinjiang, A Cold Night Meditation, Concerto Love River, Indigenous Rhapsody, Sakura Fantasia, Yellow River Yangqin Concerto and so on. Lin had performed several solo concerts at the National Recital Hall after joining the orchestra.

Important awards:

In 2006, Lin represented Taiwan in the First Chinese Traditional Orchestra Home and Abroad Invitational Competition held in Hangzhou, China, and won second prize; In 2010, her Yangqin concerto A Cold Night Meditation was included in the album "The Beautiful Taiwan" published by the National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan. The album won the Best Traditional Album at the 22nd Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts and Music.



Pipa/ Wang I-Chu

Currently the principal of Pipa section at the National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO). She learned to play the piano with his father at a young age, and was mentored by Chou Bo-Ko in pipa, later studying under Wang Shih-Rong, Ji Yong-Bin, Wong Ching-Ping and Li Guang-Wah. Graduated from the postgraduate program of the Traditional Chinese Instruments Department, Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and the Traditional Music Department of Taipei National University of the Arts.

She has won first place in the Pipa Solo category of the Taiwan Music Competition 5 times and the Young Star, from the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra and National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center. Wang has collaborated with renowned orchestras such as the National Symphony Orchestra, Taipei Chinese Orchestra, Trance Music Ensemble, Chai Found Music Workshop, Ensemble ISCM-Taiwan, and Quanta Philharmonic Orchestra.

Participated in recording albums:

Soundtrack of feature film "Twa-Tiu-Tiann", symphony Hero's journey: War Clouds recorded in the album "Wind Fire Wheel Techno Nalakuvara", "Lingyen Praise (II) - The True Home of Sound and Soul", "Master Hsing Yun Buddhist Hymn Tour Concert - Song of 1953" by Fo Guang Shan, "Yo Yo Taiwan", "Beyond Boundaries" by Vita Eterna, The Dream of the Red Chamber Symphony in the album "The Voice of Taiwan 3 - Lai Deh-Ho", and "Pei Yu Shi".



**Zhongruan/
Chang Cheng-Chen**

The current principal of Zhongruan section of the National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO). Originally from Taiwan's Miaoli, Chang learned to play pipa from an early age. Graduated from National Taiwan University of Arts. She has performed pipa solos like Spring Flowers on Moonlit River and Falling Snow Decorating Evergreens in music concerts such as Bamboo Temperament Trio, Their True Love for Life, Eastern Music Meet West, Hero · Beauty · Moonlit Flowery Night, and Turn; Zhongruan Reminiscences of Yunnan, Whole River in Red, Autumn Turtle Dance, etc.; Yueqin solo Admonitions for All during the concert of Shanghai Chinese Orchestra.

Chang has performed in New York of USA, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing of mainland China, and Malaysia together with the orchestra; over the years, she also participated in traditional operas music performances like the Taiwanese opera by Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group, Peking opera and also Yue opera.



Erhu/ Wu Yi-Fang

Currently the Principal of Erhu I Section for National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO). Master in Chinese music from National Taiwan University of Arts. Wu also graduated from the Tainan National University of the Arts. She completed the seven-year programme of Chinese music under the tutelage of Chen Ting-Wei, Wu Jung-Tsan, Chen Ju-Chi, Ku Feng-Yu, Tsai Chen-Yu, Xiao Bai-Yong, Sun Huang and Lin Yu-Ting among others.

Wu was the concertmaster and lead string of the Hsinchu City Youth Chinese Orchestra, Erhu Principal of the Taipei Chinese Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Gaohu Principal of the Tainan National University of the Arts Chinese Orchestra (Undergraduate Section). She performs and collaborated with various conductors from different genres.

Wu won the first prize in erhu consecutively at the Cheer Taiwan International Music Competition in 2010 and 2011. Joined the internationally renowned Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra as huqin player in 2015. She was selected as "2017 Music Star" by the Cultural Affairs Department, New Taipei City Government. Invited by Disney to record erhu music for their movie score in 2019, the same year also saw her joining NCO as an erhu player. In 2020, Wu premiered Erhu Concerto Fantasia and Double Huqin Concerto The Legend of the Betel Nut.



Zhonghu/ Kao Meng-Lan

Taiwanese Huqin performer, currently the principal of Zhonghu section of National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO), section leader of the bowed strings and Associate Concertmaster of the orchestra. Kao is also the assistant professor of the Chinese Music Department at National Taiwan University of Arts. Graduated with a master's degree from the Chinese Music Department of National Taiwan University of Arts. In addition to performing, she is committed to research in performing art theory and is currently pursuing a doctorate at the Graduate Institute of Transdisciplinary Performing Arts, National Taiwan University of Arts.

Kao was invited to perform and hold master classes at The International Music Festival Voice of Nomads in Buryatia, Russia in 2009. In 2017, she taught and performed at the Sabah Chinese Orchestra Festival in Malaysia; in 2019, she served as an exchange guide for the visiting of National University of Singapore Chinese Orchestra to Taipei; in 2020, she was invited by the Ten Drum Art Percussion Group to premiere Glory Dance in the environmental theatre The Legend of Island; in 2019, she collaborated with the Korean National Gugak Center in Seoul to perform the concerto Memories Under the Oil-paper Umbrella. She has also performed at the National Concert Hall in collaboration with the National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan for concertos On the Prairie, Double Concerto for Erhu & Zhonghu with Orchestra on Taiwanese Themes, Dream of Mountain City, Concerto in C minor, and so on.



Gehu/ Hsu Ya-Ting

The current principal of Gehu section of the National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO). Bachelor of Music from the Seven-Year Integrated Program at Department of Music, Tainan National University of the Arts; Master of Orchestral and Percussion Research Institute of Taipei National University of the Arts. Hsu was trained under Lien Ya-Ju, Wang Yu-Ya, and Victor Coo, and also received guidance from many masters: for chamber music, Kubelik Trio, Nobuko Imai, Grieg Trio, Hu Nai-Yuan, etc.; For cello, Karel Fiala (winner of the G.B. Viotti and Vincenzo Bellini International Competitions in Italy), Reiner Ginzel (Professor at the University of Music and Theatre Munich), Rhonda Rider (American cellist), Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi (Japanese cellist), Francis Gouton (Professor of Cello at the Trossingen University of Music in Germany), Qin Li-Wei (the Silver Medal at the 11th Tchaikovsky International Competition), Narek Hakhnazaryan (the gold medal for cello at the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition). She was highly regarded for her performances.

In addition to actively engaging in various performances and cello teaching, Hsu also regularly holds personal concerts and is invited to tour. More recently, she was selected to be a member of the Music Talent Program of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra and a candidate for the Yo-Yo Ma Master Class hosted by the Management of New Arts (MNA).



Percussion/ Lin Ya-Hsueh

Currently the principal of percussion section for National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan (NCO), lead percussionist and associate concertmaster of the orchestra. A Taiwanese percussionist who holds a Master's degree in percussion from National Taiwan University of Arts, Lin is known for her agility and precision and finesse in timbre change. Explore with great interest other locations' traditional percussion music, researching western music, jazz and other country's percussion genre. Known in the field for mastering both Western and Chinese percussion art forms.

In order to explore the diverse elements and innovations of percussion and stage, Lin follows the axiom of "traditional elements as source materials and modern techniques as new interpretation". In recent years, she enlisted in the Suzuki Method of Actor Training to unlock the energy of the body and voice projection, develop a subtle awareness of the stage, effective use of core strength, and to gain a more precise grasp of the three important fundamentals of stage performance: energy, breathing and centre of gravity. A frequent featured performer in major concerts, Lin has released many superb percussion works and solo concerts. In 2005, she was nominated for the 4th Taishin Arts Award for her performance in Ya-Hsueh Lin Percussion Recital with the NCO. To date, she has been invited to perform with various groups locally and abroad.



Programme Notes

Dance of The Amis Arranged by Zhou Cheng-Long

Amis Dance is the reworking of two Amis indigenous folk songs “Dancing to the Moon” and “Pestle Dance” by Zhou Cheng-Long. It features refreshing and approachable melodies that audiences could easily relate to. Showing Taiwan’s pristine aboriginal music that is untainted by outside civilization and is filled with abundance of natural beauty.

The music is divided into two sections:

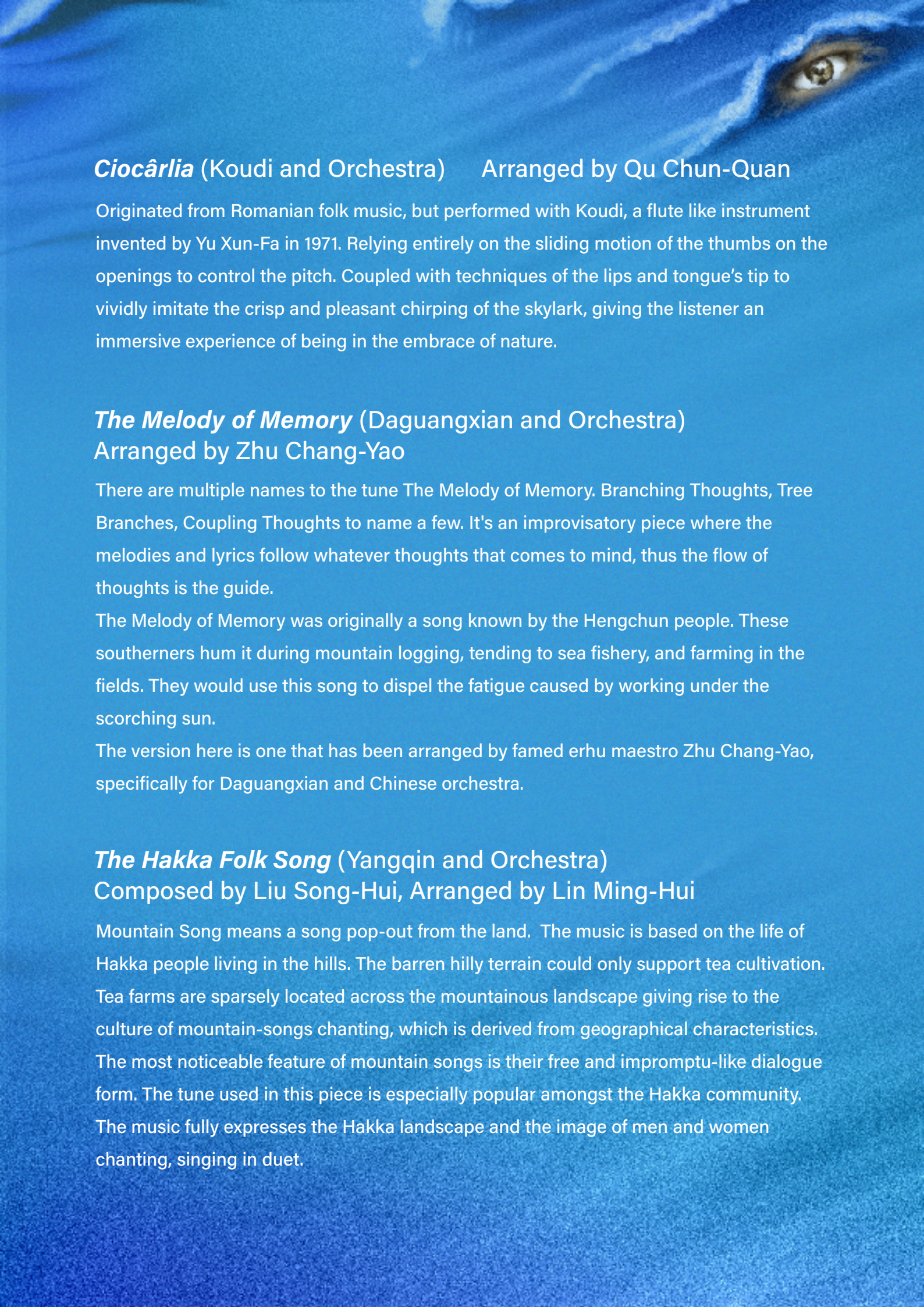
The first section: Moderato, based on the original tune of Dancing to the Moon with a lively and fluent theme music. This section begins with an expansive and light-hearted melody, depicting people dancing and singing leisurely under the moonlight; then the previous melody is re-presented and expanded, followed by a melodious musical phrase with long notes combined with sextuplets and septuplets, with free-flowing melody and a pitch descending from high to low; finally, the melody gradually rises, slowly leading to the end of the section.

The second section: Allegro, the first half is based on the tune of Pestle Dance, while the second half an evolved version of the theme from the previous section. This section is filled with enthusiasm and cheerfulness, showing the labour exertion scene of Amis clansman in a dance. The music ends with two plucked notes amidst the relaxing and festive atmosphere.

The Musical Sketch of Rain Composed by Lin Hsin-Pin

This piece is adapted from three Taiwanese folk songs related to the theme of rain, namely, in order of their sequence, The Darkening Sky, Rainy Night Flower, and Rainy Night in the Port.

The music utilises common techniques and harmony of popular music, using pluck string idiom of Chinese orchestra to reinterpret these Taiwanese folk songs, giving the piece an entirely unique flavour.



Ciocârlia (Koudi and Orchestra) Arranged by Qu Chun-Quan

Originated from Romanian folk music, but performed with Koudi, a flute like instrument invented by Yu Xun-Fa in 1971. Relying entirely on the sliding motion of the thumbs on the openings to control the pitch. Coupled with techniques of the lips and tongue's tip to vividly imitate the crisp and pleasant chirping of the skylark, giving the listener an immersive experience of being in the embrace of nature.

The Melody of Memory (Daguangxian and Orchestra) Arranged by Zhu Chang-Yao

There are multiple names to the tune The Melody of Memory. Branching Thoughts, Tree Branches, Coupling Thoughts to name a few. It's an improvisatory piece where the melodies and lyrics follow whatever thoughts that comes to mind, thus the flow of thoughts is the guide.

The Melody of Memory was originally a song known by the Hengchun people. These southerners hum it during mountain logging, tending to sea fishery, and farming in the fields. They would use this song to dispel the fatigue caused by working under the scorching sun.

The version here is one that has been arranged by famed erhu maestro Zhu Chang-Yao, specifically for Daguangxian and Chinese orchestra.

The Hakka Folk Song (Yangqin and Orchestra) Composed by Liu Song-Hui, Arranged by Lin Ming-Hui

Mountain Song means a song pop-out from the land. The music is based on the life of Hakka people living in the hills. The barren hilly terrain could only support tea cultivation. Tea farms are sparsely located across the mountainous landscape giving rise to the culture of mountain-songs chanting, which is derived from geographical characteristics. The most noticeable feature of mountain songs is their free and impromptu-like dialogue form. The tune used in this piece is especially popular amongst the Hakka community. The music fully expresses the Hakka landscape and the image of men and women chanting, singing in duet.



Run Together Composed by Roa Lee

This song shows a captivating collaboration between a resounding orchestra and the enchanting tones of the Korean Gayageum, as referencing the traditional Korean music, 'Hwimori in Sanjo'. Audiences can enjoy the dynamic rhythms and savor the interplay of instruments through each artist showcasing their unique improvisational prowess.

Clinking Coins (Zhuqin and Orchestra) Arranged by Su Wen-Cheng , Lin Ya-Hsueh

This Yilan folk song Clinking Coins was recorded by Mr. Lu Chuan-Sheng in 1943. "It was sung by the labourers of Taiwan with their sweat and strength. And was performed during the stage play Castrated Chicken."

Lyrics:

The train goes into···Yi-do-a-mo-yi-do-diu-

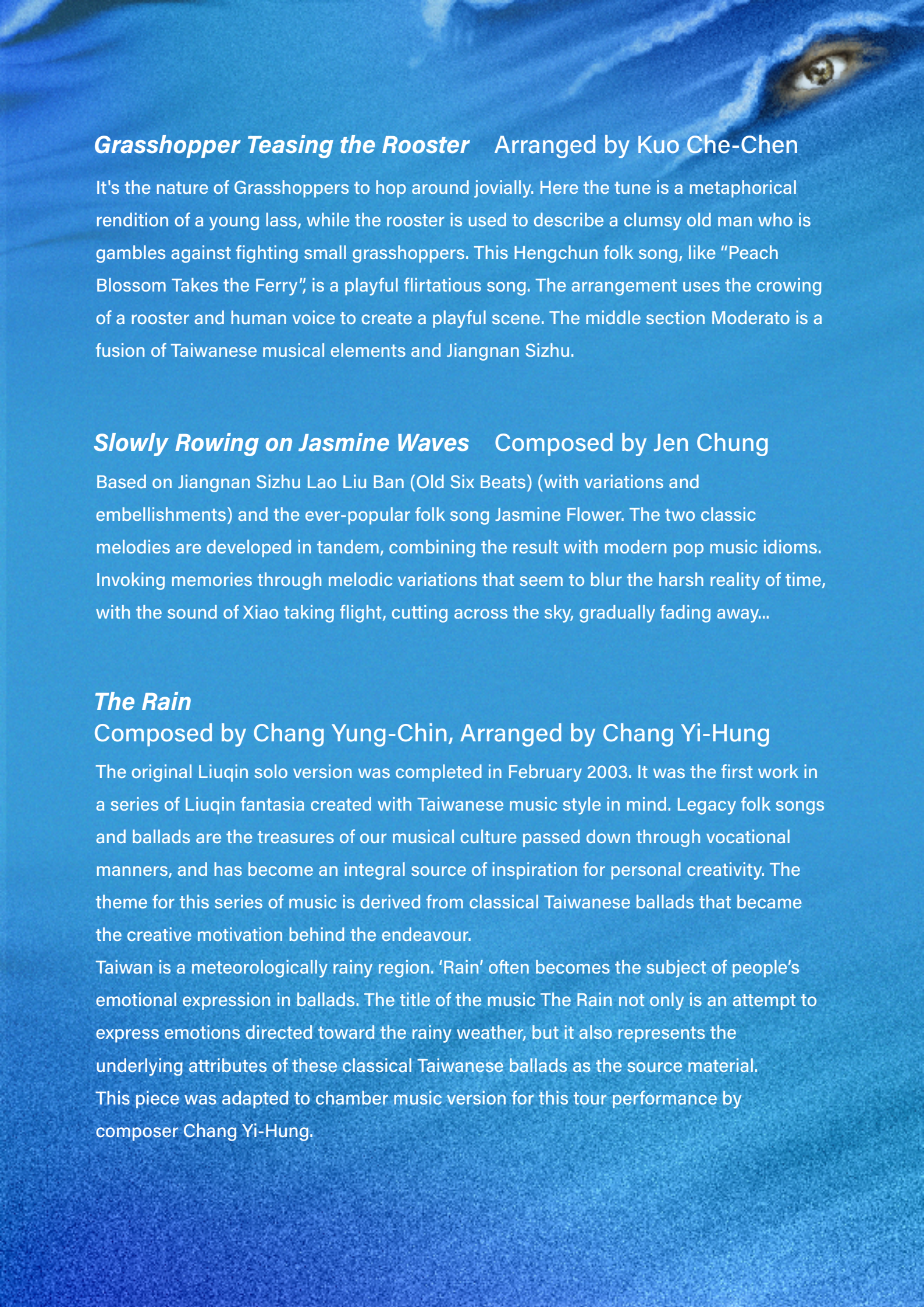
Aiyo···a tunnel.

In the tunnel, the water···Yi-do-clinking-coins-yi-do.

A-mo-yi-do-diu-a-yi-do···drops down.

Peach Blossom Village Arranged by Qu Chun-Quan

"Peach Blossom River", a popular Chinese song in the 1930's by the famed Li Jin-Hui of Shanghai. The tune drifted with steam-liners to Keelung and Taipei, spreading to inner Taipei city (Yanping North Road) with the lyrics been changed to local Taiwanese dialect by Chen Da-Ru. The composer rearranged it for ensemble, reminisce of Jiangnan Sizhu (Jiangnan style traditional Chinese ensemble music).



Grasshopper Teasing the Rooster Arranged by Kuo Che-Chen

It's the nature of Grasshoppers to hop around jovially. Here the tune is a metaphorical rendition of a young lass, while the rooster is used to describe a clumsy old man who is gambles against fighting small grasshoppers. This Hengchun folk song, like "Peach Blossom Takes the Ferry", is a playful flirtatious song. The arrangement uses the crowing of a rooster and human voice to create a playful scene. The middle section Moderato is a fusion of Taiwanese musical elements and Jiangnan Sizhu.

Slowly Rowing on Jasmine Waves Composed by Jen Chung

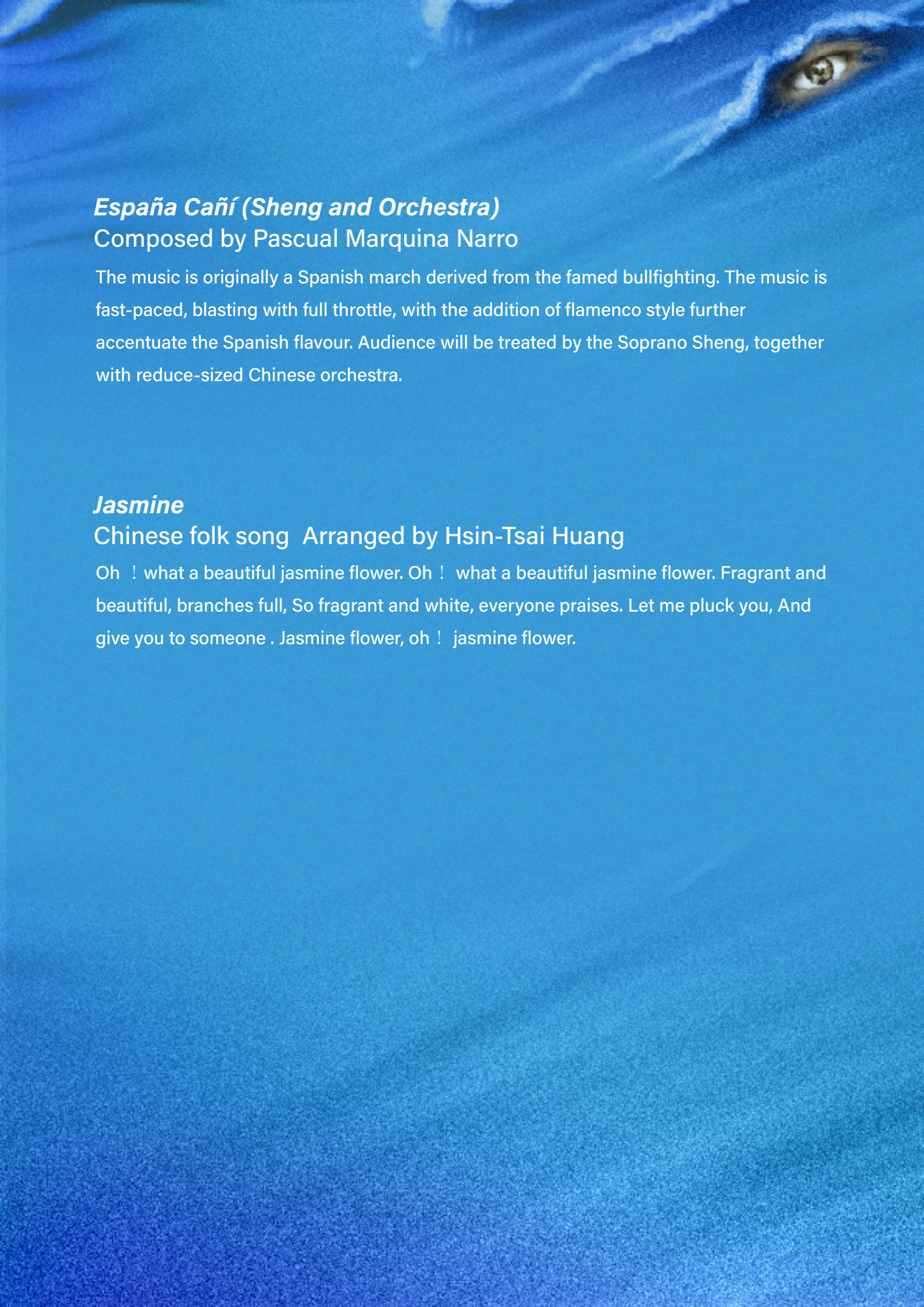
Based on Jiangnan Sizhu Lao Liu Ban (Old Six Beats) (with variations and embellishments) and the ever-popular folk song Jasmine Flower. The two classic melodies are developed in tandem, combining the result with modern pop music idioms. Invoking memories through melodic variations that seem to blur the harsh reality of time, with the sound of Xiao taking flight, cutting across the sky, gradually fading away...

The Rain

Composed by Chang Yung-Chin, Arranged by Chang Yi-Hung

The original Liuqin solo version was completed in February 2003. It was the first work in a series of Liuqin fantasia created with Taiwanese music style in mind. Legacy folk songs and ballads are the treasures of our musical culture passed down through vocational manners, and has become an integral source of inspiration for personal creativity. The theme for this series of music is derived from classical Taiwanese ballads that became the creative motivation behind the endeavour.

Taiwan is a meteorologically rainy region. 'Rain' often becomes the subject of people's emotional expression in ballads. The title of the music The Rain not only is an attempt to express emotions directed toward the rainy weather, but it also represents the underlying attributes of these classical Taiwanese ballads as the source material. This piece was adapted to chamber music version for this tour performance by composer Chang Yi-Hung.



España Cañí (Sheng and Orchestra)

Composed by Pascual Marquina Narro

The music is originally a Spanish march derived from the famed bullfighting. The music is fast-paced, blasting with full throttle, with the addition of flamenco style further accentuate the Spanish flavour. Audience will be treated by the Soprano Sheng, together with reduce-sized Chinese orchestra.

Jasmine

Chinese folk song Arranged by Hsin-Tsai Huang

Oh ! what a beautiful jasmine flower. Oh ! what a beautiful jasmine flower. Fragrant and beautiful, branches full, So fragrant and white, everyone praises. Let me pluck you, And give you to someone . Jasmine flower, oh ! jasmine flower.