

### **Thank you for attending our performance!**

The Toronto Chinese Orchestra is non-profit organization that was established in 1993. Our mission is to build cultural bridges connecting our members to the broader community by exploring and performing high quality Chinese orchestral music. Along with local performances and workshops, we participate regularly in national and international musical exchanges with other Chinese orchestras.

### **Stay in Touch**

Interested in finding out more? Looking for volunteer opportunities? Do you have suggestions for us? Let's stay in touch. Find us on our website, Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram.

### **Join Us**

Do you play a traditional Chinese instrument? Do you play cello, bass, percussion? We have guitar, piano and wind players that have joined and adapted to a traditional instrument! Audition information can be found on our website.

### **Partner with Us**

We would love to discuss possible sponsorship, collaboration, or partnership opportunities.

### **Donate**

Contributions, large or small, are greatly appreciated and will help us continue to build cultural bridges through music.

**Visit:** [www.TorontoChineseOrchestra.com](http://www.TorontoChineseOrchestra.com)



## **Concert & Instrument Petting Zoo**

March 8, 2024

Hart House, University of Toronto  
7 Hart House Circle, Toronto ON

8:00 PM - 8:45 PM (Performance)  
8:50 PM - 9:30 PM (Petting Zoo)

## CONCERT PROGRAM

Conductor: Jonathan Wong

Associate Conductor: Mike Liu

### **HAO Weiya: *Moonlit River in Autumn***

郝维亚：《秋江花月夜》

This work is a nocturne for the Chinese orchestra, adapted from HAO's own musical theater piece "Journey to the West". The name is inspired by the classic "Moonlit Night on the Spring River" and expresses the calm and introspective mood under the autumn moon.

### **WANG Aikang: *Bamboo Song (EXCERPT)***

王愛康：《竹歌》

The music is composed based on the tunes of southern Jiangsu folk songs. The lyrical slow section describes the early morning, when rays of sunshine shine through the green bamboo forest and casts a golden glow. The hard-working farmers sing folk songs leisurely and happily. The Allegro section, which builds from weak to strong, expresses their cheerful diligence and anticipation of the harvest. The Adagio then reappears, recounting the beauty of the bamboo forest.

### **Matthew Van Driel: *Whiteout***

Matthew Van Driel：《飄白》

*Whiteout* takes direct inspiration from the winter storm during which it was composed. The repeating elements in the piece reflect the continuous dense falling snow, and the absolute whiteness covering everything causing a blur between ground and sky. The cyclical form is also used to infer a feeling of getting lost in the storm, unable to find a way out, and returning back to where you started. Yet the piece is not meant to be hopeless, rather, there is a sense of beauty in the uniformity, scope and power of the storm, and the seclusion one encounters while being in one.

### **SU Wenqing: *Taiwan Capriccio***

蘇文慶：《台灣追想曲》

The original version of this piece was written in San Francisco for the Taiwan Music Competition (Chinese music ensemble set piece) in 1997. It underwent a revision in September 2000 and was since

named Taiwan Capriccio. This piece consists of five sections: A. The prelude. The dizi's melodious tone conjures sentiments of homesickness. B. The main theme. This cantabile andante is played by the Erhu solo. After a key modulation, the wind section takes over and paints a beautiful and scenic Taiwan. C. Allegro. The composer makes use of the distinctive sound and colours of the percussion, and rhythmic syncopation to portray a bustling atmosphere, which is supported by the full orchestra. The early part of this section has a cheerful and lively dance-like melody and rhythm. The later part of this section varies dynamically with note and beat transformation depicting the many challenges Taiwanese society faced during its development. D. Andante. The main theme returns. The orchestra sings of the beauty of home with a pounding sonic momentum. E. finale – Presto. The theme of the earlier allegro section recapitulates, bringing the music to a lively and joyous end.

### **LU Lianghui: *Summer (EXCERPT)***

盧亮輝：《夏》

*Summer* is the second movement of composer LU Lianghui's "The Four Seasons". The movement highlights the changing faces of nature during summertime and how they affect people's moods. The movement consists of three sections: The first section portrays the anxious, restless, and irritable mood of people on a scorching hot summer day, when the air is filled with sweltering heat and the earth is drained of all life and energy. The second section depicts dark clouds covering the sky and the sound of thunder rumbling in the background, as a violent storm and heavy rain close in. The third section portrays the sun shining after the havoc wreaked by the storm. The earth is again bright and splendid, and people sing praises of the radiant summer day.

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### **Traditional Chinese Instrument Petting Zoo**

The Chinese orchestra has four sections: winds, plucked strings, bowed strings, and percussion. Come and get a closer look at the instruments and get to know our musicians!