

# 2015 Chinese New Year Concert

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## The Yellow River Piano Concerto

### 《黄河》钢琴协奏曲

The *Yellow River Piano Concerto*, based on the *Yellow River Cantata* composed by Xian Xinghai during the Sino-Japanese War in 1939, was arranged in 1969 through the collaboration of five musicians including Yin Chengzong and Chu Wanghua. The concerto not only creatively uses Western classical piano concerto performance style, but also melds many traditional Chinese folk melody elements into the musical composition. Because of its epic structure, gorgeous compositional techniques, rich depth and magnificent artistic-conception, *The Yellow River Piano Concerto* has become the most well-loved Chinese piano concerto in the world. The concerto includes four movements: “Songs of the Yellow River Boatman,” “Ode to the Yellow River,” “Wrath of the Yellow River,” and “Defend the Yellow River”.

《黄河》钢琴协奏曲取材于抗日战争时期冼星海在 1939 年所创作的抗日救亡歌曲《黄河大合唱》，1969 年由殷承宗、储望华等改编为钢琴协奏曲。这部钢琴协奏曲在创作中运用了西洋古典钢琴协奏曲的表现手法，在曲式结构上又融了入船夫号子等中国民间传统音乐元素，不仅在当时的中国国内引起了强烈的反响，还因为其史诗的结构、华丽的技巧、丰富的层次和壮阔的意境，成为世界音乐史上最为著名的一首中国钢琴协奏曲。钢琴协奏曲《黄河》分为四个乐章：《黄河船夫曲》，《黄河颂》，《黄河愤》和《保卫黄河》。

## The Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto

### 《梁祝》小提琴协奏曲

The *Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto* was written in 1958 by two Chinese composers, Chen Gang and He Zhanhao, while they were students at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. One of the most famous modern works of Chinese music, *The Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto* is an orchestral adaptation of the ancient Chinese legend of the butterfly lovers. It is written in traditional 5-note technique (pentatonic scale) and uses Chinese folk opera melodies, chord structures and patterns, and features a solo violin played using Chinese traditional techniques. Consequently, the piece has a distinctive "Chinese" feel through it uses tonal harmonies. Written in music structure of sonata, the concerto is divided into three sections: Exposition (beginning with a harmonic love theme, developing a close friendship, falling in love and separating); Development (rejecting a loveless marriage, fighting for freedom and dying for love); Recapitulation (transforming into butterfly lovers and being free forever.)

《梁祝小提琴协奏曲》由上海音乐学院学生陈刚和何占豪等人以越剧《梁山伯与祝英台》为基础于 1958 年用奏鸣曲式写成。这部作品以浙江的越剧唱腔为素材，按照剧情构思布局，综合采用交响乐与中国民间戏曲音乐的表现手法，深入而细腻地描绘了梁祝相爱、抗婚、化蝶的情感与意境。《梁祝小提琴协奏曲》分为三部分：呈现部（爱情主题，草桥结拜，三载同窗，十八相送，长亭惜别）；展现部（抗婚，楼台会，哭灵，控诉，投坟）；再现部（化蝶）。



**Dr. Cong Fan** has earned both a Doctor of Music Arts degree and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from Temple University. Dr. Fan has won many prizes, awards and fellowships. She made her Carnegie Hall debut after winning the first prize at the *Frinna Averbuch International Piano Competition* in New York. Other awards include the *Pacific International Piano Competition* in Canada, the *Pennsylvania Piano Competition*, the *Pi Kappa Lambda Piano Competition*, the *Kennedy Music Scholarship* in Germany, and the *Martha Ellen Fisher Tye Fellowship* in Austria. In addition, she has also received the *Dean Emeritus Helen Laird Tribute Award* two years consecutively, the *David Leibig Memorial Grant*, and the *William A. Singer Memorial Award*.

Dr. Fan's experience as orchestra soloist began at the age of sixteen with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra. She has performed with leading orchestras in China, Hong Kong, Czech Republic, and Turkey with several American orchestras. After graduating from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing in 1997, she was awarded full scholarships to study at Temple University under the guidance of Professor Harvey Wedeen.

Active in both solo and chamber musical scenes, Dr. Fan has performed in central Europe, Asia, and throughout the United States. As a chamber music recitalist, she has a history of collaboration with artists from around the world. In Philadelphia, her Kimmel Center debut was a performance at the opening day ceremonies at Verizon Hall. Later she returned as a soloist to commemorate the Steinway & Sons 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Dr. Fan is currently an Adjunct Professor at the Temple University Boyer College of Music. She has also held the position of Artistic Planner for Beijing Concert Hall. The Music Teachers National Association has recognized her as a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music. In 2008, Dr. Fan's albums "Yellow River Piano Concerto" and "Piano Solo" were released by TianXuan Recording Company in China, and her performance was awarded "the best piano performance of the year."



**Ruotao Mao** is an active violinist, chamber musician while holding numerous concertmaster posts in the tri-state area. His playing was described by The Classical New Jersey as a "... virtuoso display of world-class magnitude," and "...the level of playing has reached far beyond mere technical competence." As a soloist, he appeared with orchestras such as the Jupiter Symphony, NEC Symphony, Corelliard Chamber Orchestra, the Brunswick Symphony Orchestra, Riverside Symphonia, Edison Symphony, the Philadelphia Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra, Bay-Atlantic Symphony, Arcadian Symphony Orchestra and Rutgers University Orchestra among many others. In 2004, Mr. Mao premiered a violin concerto by Ernie Stires in Stern Auditorium of Carnegie Hall. As a

chamber musician, he is one of the founding members of the Beijing Piano Quartet, winner of "Artists International Chamber Music Series" with appearances in Weill Hall of Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall of Lincoln Center, in addition to performing with the highly acclaimed Amabile String Quartet, the quartet-in-residence at Rutgers University (2000 and 2001). He has had performance tours in Korea and South America. He has performed on WNYC, WETS and WDVR-FM broadcasts and is a recording artist for the CRI and Beijing Broadcast Labels. A native of Beijing, China, Mr. Mao graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music with "distinction in performance" award. He earned his Master Degree in Music from the Mason Gross School of the Arts where he studied under violinist Arnold Sternhardt of the Guarneri String Quartet. He has also studied with Dorothy Delay, Paul Kantor and Masuko Ushioda. Mr. Mao also serves as the concertmaster of Riverside Symphonia, the Bay-Atlantic Symphony and the Glimmerglass Opera Orchestra. Mr. Mao teaches violin and chamber music at The College of New Jersey and served as Area Instructor in Princeton University.



**Jack Moore** has been the Music Conductor and Director of the Ambler Symphony Orchestra since 1995. In 1997, he was appointed Principal Conductor of the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia, and maintains a very active schedule with these organizations. Mr. Moore has made guest appearances with several other orchestras in the Philadelphia area, including the Bucks Co. Symphony, the Rose Tree Pops, and the Bux-Mont Chamber Orchestra. He is also the Music Director of the Olney Symphony Orchestra, in Philadelphia, and has previously held the position of Music Director at the Independence Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra in Wyncote, PA, and the South Shore Symphony in Ocean City, NJ. In the 2001-02 season he was named Principal Guest Conductor of the Vidin State Philharmonic in Bulgaria, and has participated in concerts and workshops throughout Europe. Mr. Moore has appeared with the Chamber Orchestra of the Hermitage, in the historic Catherine the Great Theater, in St. Petersburg, Russia, and he has conducted the acclaimed Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic in the Czech Republic. Mr. Moore also serves as a classical music announcer at WRTI, the Temple University Public Radio Network, in Philadelphia.



**Dr. Hai-Lung Dai** A graduate of National Taiwan University, Hai-Lung Dai holds a PhD from UC Berkeley, and was a postdoctoral fellow at MIT. In 1984 he joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania where he was Chair of the Chemistry Department, funding Director of the Penn Science Teacher Institute, and the Hirschmann-Makineni Professor of Chemistry.

In 2007, he moved to Temple University as Dean of the College of Science and Technology. In July 2012, Dai was appointed as Interim Provost and then Provost in February 2013. In this capacity he oversees the academic functions of 16 colleges and schools, and support activities such as technology, library, and student life. Dai is an active, funded researcher in physical chemistry and surface sciences. He has published 170 articles and delivered more than 300 invited lectures. He has received numerous national and international honors.

Dai's engagement in music conducting started during his student days; he was the assistant conductor of the National Taiwan University Chorus. In the US, he conducted the Berkeley Chinese Student Chorus, the Boston Chinese Philharmonic Chorus, and for 15 years the Chinese Musical Voices in the Greater Philadelphia Area. His orchestral debut was in 1995, when he was commissioned by the City of Philadelphia and conducted the 125<sup>th</sup> Philadelphia Chinatown Anniversary Concert in the Academy of Music. Since then he has appeared as guest conductor in concerts of Ambler Symphony in Kimmel Center and Temple Symphony Orchestra in Temple Performing Center. In 2013, he was invited to conduct the Accent Orchestra in Beijing Concert Hall and 2014 the Shanghai Metropolitan Orchestra in the Shanghai Science Hall.



**Ambler Symphony Orchestra** Founded in 1951 under the guidance of Charles Roberts and the direction of Clifford Geary, the Ambler Symphony provides cultural enrichment for the community and an opportunity for area musicians to perform. The season consists of three subscription concerts performed at area auditoriums, a Children's Concert dedicated to the young and the young at heart, a Menges Scholarship Concert featuring our scholarship winners, and a number of public appearances at local residential communities and historic sites. The symphony rehearses Wednesday evenings from early September through mid-June. There are over fifty musicians involved in the orchestra under the direction of Jack Moore, Conductor and Music Director.