

MSU Music



PRESENTS

MSU-CHINA XI
**“TWO RIVERS-
ONE STREAM”**

With students from
China Conservatory of Music,
Tianjin University of Finance and Economics
Pearl River College, and
Michigan State University College of Music

Liu Jia-Yin, piano
Elden Little, piano

Friday, October 6, 2017, 8:00 p.m.
Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

A DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Since its inception in 2005, the MSU – China Collaboration, co-founded with my dear friend and internationally acclaimed baritone Haijing Fu, has served more than 170 MSU and Chinese students as well as utilized dozens of faculty from various Chinese conservatories, universities and MSU. Tonight's student concert represents the eleventh collaborative performance at MSU for this program. This evening we welcome students from China Conservatory of Music, as well as for the first time—the Tianjin University of Finance and Economics Pearl River College. It is an honor to have these students and faculty from Tianjin and Beijing share their talent and expertise with us in our 2017 collaboration.

For more than a decade, Haijing and I have watched this collaboration develop and grow. It has provided not only excellent musical experiences for its participants and audiences alike – it has fostered enduring friendships that bind two great nations together in a unique and personal way. The collaboration has proven everything Haijing and I hoped it would be and more . . . in 2016, the collaboration presented its first full opera production and collaboration between CCOM and MSU's Opera Theater celebrating MSU's "year of China."

I wish to extend my deep appreciation to Elden Little and Liu Jia-Yin , our collaborative pianists—as well as a personal note of gratitude to my colleagues in the voice area whose expert training of their students has contributed so greatly to the success of this collaboration. Finally, special gratitude to Dean James Forger who makes this project possible at Michigan State University – and to all of my academic and choral colleagues who have made special efforts over the years to accommodate the challenging schedule of our student participants in addition to their daily thoughtful teaching and professional development of voice area students.

Richard Fracker, Co-founder, Director

PROGRAM

In a faraway place 在那遥远的地方

Wang Luobin 王洛宾
(1913–1996)

Nick Hudak, Tenor

There was a good girl in that faraway place. People walked past her house and looked back in love. I wish I could be a lamb, and be with her, and she could softly tap her whip against me.

Lanshan in the Rain 雨中岚山

Jin Xiang 雨中岚山
(1935-2015)

Ding Hui, Soprano

A second time visiting lanshan (mountain) in the rain, the pines on both sides and a couple of cherry trees. Come closer, see the mountain. The spring water flowed green in the rain and fog. The sun shines through the clouds—the real world clearer as light came into the blur, delicate and charming.

Il barbiere di Siviglia
Una voce poco fa

Gioachino Rossini
(1792-1868)

After reading a letter from Lindoro (who is really Count Almaviva), Rosina joyfully sings of her love for him, with certain conditions.

Le nozze di Figaro
Non più andrai

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756–1791)

Gabe Reitemeier, Baritone

Figaro tells Cherubino that he must give up his easy life and pursuit of women and join the army.

Luisa Miller
Quando le sere al placido

Giuseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)

Ji Xiao-Jie, Tenor

Rodolfo receives a letter from Luisa telling him that she never loved him. He reminisces about happier times together.

La Bohème
Quando me'n vo' soletta la via

Giacomo Puccini
(1858-1924)

Anna Montgomery

Musetta spots her sometimes boyfriend Marcello and sings that everyone notices her when she goes out.

La Bohème
In un coupe? . . . O Mimi, tu più non torni

Giacomo Puccini

Justin Payne, Tenor
Liu Xiao-Fei, Baritone

Rodolfo and Marcello are in their garret. Musetta has left Marcello for a rich man, while Mimi and Rodolfo have broken up. Trying to work, both men get lost in their memories.

Madama Butterfly
Tutti i fior

Giacomo Puccini

Liu Yue, Soprano
Gillian Cotter, Mezzo-soprano

Butterfly and Suzuki joyfully prepare for Pinkerton's return with flowers.

Rigoletto

La donna è mobile

Giuseppe Verdi

Nick Hudak, Tenor

Disguised as a soldier, the Duke sings that all women are fickle and betray their lovers.

Rusalka

Song to the Moon

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Alexa Zeremenko, Soprano

Rusalka, a water-nymph—has fallen in love with a human prince who regularly swims in the lake where she resides. Invisible to the prince, Rusalka prays to the moon that her love can be revealed to him.

Shenandoah

arr. Jay Althouse
(b. 1951)

Liu Xiao-Fei, Baritone

Traditional American folk tune.

La Rondine

Chi il bel sogno di Doretta

Giacomo Puccini

Jenna Washburn, Soprano

Magda finishes a song started by the poet Prunier and tells about Doretta who falls in love with a student.

I Capuleti e i Montecchi

È serbata a questa acciario

Vincenzo Bellini
(1801-1835)

Justin Payne, Tenor

The head of the Capulets, Capellio promises Giuletta in marriage to Tebaldo—a family friend, who proclaims his love for Giuletta and swears to avenge the death of Capellio's son at the hands of Romeo.

Simon Boccanegra

Vieni a mirar la cerula

Giuseppe Verdi

Jenna Washburn, Soprano
Xia Tian, Tenor

Amelia warns her lover Gabriele against the dangers of his political activities and that she is promised to another, but Gabriele remains undeterred to continue his activities or his love for Amelia.

PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

Lucia di Lammermoor

Cruda funesta smania

Peter Boylan, Baritone
Justin Payne, Tenor
Gabe Reitemeier, Baritone

Gaetano Donizetti
(1797-1848)

Enrico feels betrayed by his sister Lucia and seethes that she has had secret romantic meetings with Edgardo whose family is the mortal enemy of the Ashtons.

Un Ballo in Maschera

Ecco l'orrido campo

Liu Yue, Soprano

Giuseppe Verdi

Amelia has gone to the gallows looking for herbs at the urging of the fortune teller Ulrica. The herbs will supposedly cure her of her love for Riccardo, her husband's best friend.

Werther

Pourquoi me reveiller

Xia Tian, Tenor

Jules Massenet
(1813-1901)

Werther has come back to see his love Charlotte who is married to another man. After Charlotte shows him books they used to read together, Werther laments that sadness and grief is his fate and asks Spring to heal him.

Shepherd Song 牧歌

Anna Montgomery, Soprano

arr. Xixian Qu 瞿希贤
(1919-2008)

The white clouds fluttered in the blue sky. The white clouds are covered with white sheep. The sheep seemed to be silver on the grassland-so lovely.

That is me 那就是我

Cao Peng Fei, Tenor

Jianfen Gu 谷建芬
(b. 1935)

I love the river in my hometown and the sounds of the river. Oh, mother if its mist smiles at you—that is me. I love the kitchen smoke from my hometown and carts on the trail. Oh, mother—if you hear the bamboo flute—that is me. I miss the fires of my hometown and the beautiful conch on the beach. Oh, mother—if a sailing boat comes to you—that is me. I love the moon in my hometown and the reflection of the green hills in the water. Oh mother, if you hear a song in the distance—that is me.

Honk

Warts and All

George Stiles
(b. 1961)

MSU Ensemble

Based on the ageless tale of the Ugly Duckling, some wise bullfrogs share with MSU's T-Rex that "ugly" is matter for debate and that someone "out there" is always ready to love you.

Die Fledermaus

Sing to Love

Johann Strauss
(1825-1899)

Cast

The cast celebrates new friendships and understanding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Fu Haijing and I wish to acknowledge and thank the following donors for their support over the years of the MSU-China Collaboration.

Roger and Elaine Calantone
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Charles and Mary Ellen Toy

More than 170 students and dozens of faculty have participated and contributed to the MSU-China project since 2005. Conceived in rehearsal at the Metropolitan Opera, this collaboration has produced great musical events, prize winning competition, astonishing cultural experiences, and abiding international friendships that embody the MSU-China project. Please help this collaboration flourish by considering a donation to the MSU-China Exchange Fund. A gift of \$1,000, \$500, \$250 or \$100 supports a program students have described as a “life-changing experience”, as well as provided international visibility for Michigan State’s College of Music, and significant recruitment opportunities and impact for the Vocal Arts Area.

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