

# JIN XIANG

## Major Works

### Orchestral Compositions

#### **The Love of Dragon and Phoenix** (2000) Op. 74

Double String Concerto for Sona and Dizi and Chinese Instrument Symphony Orchestra

Duration: 22'

Premiere: 9/16/00 Singapore

#### **Oh Macao, My Macao** (1999) Op. 70

Symphonic Suite (On the return of Macao to China)

Premiere: 11/25/99 Beijing

Beijing Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Tan Li Hua

Macao Premiere: 12/3/99 Macao

Beijing Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Tan Li Hua

#### **Spring** (1998) Op. 65

Tone Poem (Adapted from a song "A Story of Spring")

Duration: 12'

Premiere: 5/23/98 Beijing

#### **Wu: A Traditional Oriental Folk Ritual** (1997) Op. 62

Symphonietta (Emanating from Chinese religious and cultural beliefs)

Duration: 14'

#### **New Beginning Sounds** (1996) Op. 60

Symphonic Overture, for Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Duration: 7'

Premiere: 12/23/96 Beijing

#### **Flower Season** (1996) Op. 59

Concerto for Zhong Hu (Chinese viola) and Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Duration: 5'20"

Commissioned by Hong Kong Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Premiere: 2/14/97 Hong Kong

#### **Symphonic Overture 1997** (1996) Op. 58

On the return of Hong Kong to China

Duration: 17'

Premiere: 4/5-7/97 Beijing

Hong Kong Premiere: 7/2/97

**Hero of the Huge Desert** (1996) Op. 56  
Symphonic Suite  
Duration 42'

**So** (1995) Op. 55  
For Erhu (Chinese violin) and Orchestra  
Duration: 9'  
Premiere: 4/29/96 Taiwan National Symphony  
Taipei, Taiwan

**Se** (1994) Op. 52  
For Pipa (Chinese lute) and Orchestra  
Duration: 16'  
Premiere: 1/20/95 Taiwan National Symphony  
Taipei, Taiwan

**Ming** (1994) Op. 51  
For Dizi (Chinese Flute) and Orchestra  
Duration: 12'  
Commissioned for Hiroshima bombing commemoration  
Premiere: 8/1/94 Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra  
Hiroshima, Japan

**Asking the Sky** (1993) Op. 49  
Symphonic Rhapsody  
Duration: 18'  
Premiere: 3/30/93 Juilliard Symphony  
Conductor: Jin Xiang  
Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York

**Nu-Hua** (1989) Op. 43  
Music Poem for orchestra and chorus  
Duration: 11'37"  
U.S. Premiere: 5/23/91, School of Music, University of  
Washington, Seattle, Washington  
Northwest Symphony Orchestra and Cornish Institute Choir  
Conductor: Anthony Spain

**The Dream of Red Mansions** (1989) Op. 42  
Music Poem  
Duration: 31'52"

**Cao Xiu-Qing** (1989) Op. 41  
Music Poem  
Duration: 27'5"

**A Glimpse of Taklamagan Desert** (1987) Op 38

Duration: 30'

Symphonic Painting for Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Recent performances: 11/14-15/95 Hong Kong

Hong Kong Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Selection: "Desert Fairyland" 12/23/96 Beijing

Central Music Academy Symphony Orchestra

**Five Songs from Shi-Jin Book** (1985) Op. 37

Symphonic Cantata for Chinese Instrument Orchestra

Texts based on five Chinese classical poems

Duration: 28'

Commissioned by Beijing Central National Symphony

Scored for: Soloists, Chorus, Orchestra

Premiere: 8/85 Beijing

Beijing Central National Symphony and Chorus

Conductor: Jin Xiang

Hong Kong Premiere: 7/92

U.S. Premiere: 12/10/94 Lincoln Center, New York

Conductor: Jin Xiang

Taiwan Premiere: 9/95

**Illusion** (1983) Op. 35

Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra

Duration: 14'

**Snow Lotus** (1982) Op. 34

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra

Duration: 28'

**Taxiwayi** (1978) Op. 30

Symphonic Poem

Duration: 36'

**OPERAS**

**Yang Gui Fei** (2004) Op. 80

Grand opera

Duration 2 hrs.

Commissioned by China-Japan Opera Society

Based on historical event involving the favorite concubine of a

Tang Dynasty emperor

Premiere: May 30, 2004 at the Chinese Opera, Dance and Drama

Theater of China, in Beijing, China

**Taxiwayi – Beloved Troubadour** (2002) Op. 79

Grand opera

Duration: 2 hrs.

Takes place in Northwest China in the Province of Xinjiang among the minority Uighur people. A young musician and a beautiful singer from a socially higher class fall in love. Her family opposes the marriage. The opera tells of their sufferings and eventual triumphs. (The composer knows the Uighur music intimately, having lived in Xinjiang Province for twenty years when in exile.)

Librettist: Jin Xiang

Premiere: Forthcoming, date to be announced, Beijing, China

**Beautiful Warrior** (2001) Op. 78

Duration: 1 hr. 15'

Commissioned by Vineyard Theater, New York

Chamber opera

Librettist: Barbara Zinn Krieger, based on book “Beautiful Warrior” by Emily Arnold McCully

Premiere: 1/27/02, Queens Theater in the Park, New York, USA

Director: Daniel Banks

**Native Fatal Woman** (1996) Op. 57

Duration: 2 hrs. 20'

Commissioned by Sichuan Opera Company

Grand opera, based on Sichuan folk songs

Premiere: 7/15/96, Sichuan Opera Company, Chengdu, China

Conductor: Tang Qing-she

**The King of Chu** (1994) Op. 50

Duration: 2 hrs. 20'

Grand opera in 2 acts, 7 scenes

Based on important historical figure from about 150 B.C.

Premiere: 3/3/94, Shanghai Opera Company, Shanghai, China

Conductor: Jin Xiang

**Savage Land** (1987) Op. 40

Duration: 2 hrs.

Grand opera in 2 acts, 4 scenes

Libretto by Wan Fang, based on play “Wilderness” by Cao Yu

Premiere: 1987, Beijing, China

U.S. Premiere: 1/18/92, Washington Opera, Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

Conductor: Paulette Haupt

Director: Leon Major

European Premiere: 7/6/97, Saarländisches Staats Orchestra and Shanghai Opera House singers, at Saarländisches Staats Theater, Saarbrücken, Germany

Conductor: Lin You-sheng

**Sunrise** (1990) Op. 44  
Duration: 2 hrs.  
A Musical

**A Warm Breeze Outside** (1980) Op. 31  
Duration: 1 hr.

### **CHAMBER, VOCAL, AND SOLO COMPOSITIONS**

**The Reticent Orchid** (2001) Op. 72  
For three Chinese instruments  
Commissioned by the Taiwan “Caifeng” Chamber Ensemble for the Taiwan Taipei Festival

**The Cold Water of Yi-Shue River** (2001) Op. 77  
Duration: 13 minutes  
For fourteen musicians  
Commissioned by the French “Grame” Chamber Ensemble  
Premiere 10/10/03, Grame Concert Hall, Lyon Opera House, Lyon, France  
Performers: Chinese Chamber Orchestra and Grame Chamber Orchestra  
Conductor: Daniel Kawka

**Song of the New Century** (2001) Op. 76  
For four soloists, chorus, and piano  
Premiere: 6/3/01 Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York

**From Ancient Style Into New Metre** (2000) Op. 75  
For eight Bian Zhong (Chinese chimes)  
Duration: 6'

**The Du Jian Bird Chirps Blood** (2000) Op. 73  
For Dizi (Chinese wooden flute) and Percussion  
Premiere: 5/31/2000 Gao Renyang and Frank Cassara  
Merkin Concert Hall, New York

**Bloody Azaleas** (2000) Op. 73a  
For String Quartet  
(Alternate version by the composer of **The Du Jian Bird Chirps Blood**)  
Premiere: 1/20/01 The Jade String Trio and guest violinist  
Donnell Library Center, New York

**Blood Over The Mountain** (2003) Op. 73b

For String Trio

(Alternate version by the composer of **The Du Jian Bird Chirps Blood**)

Premiere: 4/24/03 The Jade String Trio, Cutting Edge Music Concert, Greenwich

House Music School, New York

**Chinese Calligraphy** (1999) Op. 71

Percussion Trio

Premiere: 8/14/99 Manhattan School of Music, New York

Michael Lipsey, Frank Cassara, David Cossin

**Sacrificing to Heaven** (1999) Op. 69

Premiere: 5/3/99 Merkin Concert Hall, New York,

The New Music Consort and Chinese American Music Ensemble

Conductor: Jin Xiang

**A Desert Ship** (1998) Op. 38a

Piano Solo

Transcription of Part 3 of **A Glimpse of Taklamagan Desert**

Premiere: 5/23/98 New York fund-raising concert for the nonprofit organization East-West Music Exchange Association (EWMEA)

**Instant** (1998) Op. 63

For Clarinet and Piano

Duration: ca. 4'

Premiere: 4/21/98 Levine School of Music, Washington, D.C.

**Nanjing Lament** (1997) Op. 61

Choral work for Percussion, Alto, & Mixed Chorus

Duration: 30'

Premiere: 12/7/97 Carnegie Hall, New York

Xe Li, mezzo-soprano; Mei Gao, piano; 3 treble singers;

3 percussionists; 3 pipa players and 14 choral groups

from the U.S., China mainland, and Taiwan

Conductor: Jin Xiang

**Si** (1995) Op. 54

For Yang-Qin (Chinese instrument)

Duration: 7'

Premiere: 6/95 Tokyo, Japan

U.S. Premiere: Under English title **Thoughts**, Soloist: Si-Si Chen

5/10/98 Merkin Concert Hall, New York

**The Cooling Moon** (1995) Op. 53

For Xiao (Chinese instrument) and 13 instruments

Duration: 13'

Premiere: January '96 Tokyo Chamber Ensemble, Tokyo, Japan

Taiwan Premiere: 4//29/96

**The Shape and the Spirit** (1991) Op. 48

Wind Octet

Duration: 9'

Premiere: 11/23/92 School of Music, University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

Conductor: David Kappy

**Chamber Concerto for 14 Instruments** (1991) Op. 47

Instrumentation: flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn,  
trumpet, trombone, harp, 2 percussion, violin, viola, cello, bass

Duration: 11'

Premiere: 5/23/91 School of Music, University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

Canada Premiere: 7/30/91 Banff Festival of the Arts

**String Quartet No. 1** (1990) Op. 45

Duration: 26'

Premiere: 5/23/91, School of Music, University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

Japan Premiere: 2/26/96, Tokyo Chamber Ensemble,  
Tokyo, Japan

**An Album of Chinese Painting: Pine, Bamboo, Plum** (1985) Op. 36

Piano Suite

Duration: 23'

U.S. Premiere: 5/23/91 Pianist: Yuka Sasa

School of Music, University of Washington Seattle, Washington

**Four Seasons Songs of Zi-Ye** (1981) Op. 29

Vocal Circle

Duration: 28'

Chinese text from "An Album of Yue-Fu Poetry", handed down from the  
Jin, Song, and Qi dynasties (c. 500-300 B.C.)

U.S. Premiere: 5/23/91, School of Music, University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

**Romance of Songs Album** (1979 – 1984) Op. 27 and Op. 28

**Background Music for Television and Film** (1979 – 1989)

Approx. 40 compositions including:

**Fascinating Band** Op. 26

**Hut in Moonlight** Op. 25

**The Stars are Sparkling Tonight** Op. 12

### **Songs for Choral Ensemble and Piano**

Among the most recent:

**Song of Green** (1999)

**Hello, Forest** (1999)

**Songhua River** (Arrangement) (2001)

### **Yunnan** (2001)

Background Music for TV series “Yunnan”

Commissioned by Yunnan TV

Yunnan Province, China

## **MATERIAL AVAILABLE IN PRINT**

### *Scores*

**Savage Land** (1987) Op. 40

Grand Opera

Vocal-Piano Score

Published 2001

**Album of Art Songs** (1979 – 1984) Op. 27, Op. 28, and Op. 29

Published 1996

**Five Songs from Shi-Jing**

Chinese Instrument Orchestra Symphonic Cantata (1985) Op. 37

Published 1996

### *Book*

**Perplexities and Explorations -- The Thoughts of a Composer**

Collection of Music Essays and Articles (1979-2002)

Published March 2003, 498 pages

Shanghai Publishing Company, Shanghai, China

## CDs

### **A Collection of Musical Works by Jin Xiang (I) – Symphonic Pieces for Chinese Instrument Orchestra**

(1) **Five Pieces from The Book of Songs** Op. 37

(2) **A Snapshot of Taklamagan** Op. 38

Artists: Shanghai National Symphonic Orchestra

Conductor: Jin Xiang

Recorded 1998

CRC (China Record Company) and EWMEA (East-West Music Exchange Association)

### **A Collection of Musical Works by Jin Xiang (II) – Symphonic Pieces for Chinese Instrument Orchestra**

(1) **Ming** for Dizi and Chinese instrument orchestra Op. 51

(2) **Suo** for Erhu and Chinese instrument orchestra Op. 55

(3) **Se** for Pipa and Chinese instrument orchestra Op. 52

(4) **A New Beginning** Op. 60

Artists: Shanghai National Symphonic Orchestra

Conductor: Jin Xiang

Recorded 1998

CRC (China Record Company) and EWMEA (East-West Music Exchange Association)

### **Savage Land\_ (2 CDs) Op. 40**

Grand Opera

Artists: Ke-Qing Liu (Baritone)

Gue-Ping Deng (Soprano)

and others

Shanghai Opera House Chorus

Shanghai Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: You-Sheng Lin

Recorded 1998

China Record Company and New England Art Development Corporation

### **Three Pieces of Poetic Music**

**Cao Xuejin** Op. 41

**Dream of Red Mansions** Op. 42

**Goddess Nu-Hua** Op. 43

Recorded 1992

Bailey Record Company, Ltd.