STANFORD PAN-ASIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL SHOWCASES CHINA NATIONAL ORCHESTRA
February 8 - 10, 2013

STANFORD, CA, Jan. 11, 2013 — The 2013 Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival will showcase the China National Orchestra (CNO), a 90-person ensemble of musicians who perform on Chinese instruments. The CNO will be in residency at Stanford University from February 8-10, 2013. During this period it will give solo and symphonic concerts and master classes and conduct other educational outreach activities. The CNO will work with the Stanford Chinese Music Ensemble and with other such ensembles from around the Bay Area. Academic lectures and discussions related to Chinese music and culture will also be presented during the festival. The orchestra’s visit falls during the Chinese New Year, so it will give the very first Chinese New Year’s Eve concert to be held in Bing Concert Hall, welcoming in the Year of the Snake.

The CNO was founded in 1960 under the supervision of the late Premier Zhou Enlai. It was deliberately modeled after a Western-style symphony orchestra and intended to demonstrate the virtues of Chinese musical instruments and the power of China’s own “national music.” The CNO is directly affiliated with China’s Ministry of Culture and often plays a quasi-diplomatic role; it has performed in more than fifty countries and worked with many renowned musicians the world over. It is in the forefront of China’s efforts to be recognized as a global cultural power.
Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival Artistic Director Jindong Cai was inspired to create a Stanford residency for the CNO after observing the recent China residencies of several American orchestras. “American orchestras such as the Philadelphia Orchestra and New York Philharmonic have had a great influence in China through their own residencies there. I hope that curiosity about Chinese music in the West could be just as strong as Chinese interest in classical music – this will be a start to kindling that curiosity. The CNO is the best such orchestra in China, full of master musicians of the highest level.”

During the festival, a lecture and panel discussion called “Chinese Music, Arts, and Performance: The Revival of Chinese Culture” will be presented to the public to foster discussion on the role of Chinese art and culture in society and in the world. Because the 2014 festival will focus on music from Tibet and Mongolia, the 2013 festival will present a preparatory workshop called “Traditional and Monastic Music in Tibet” that will feature musicians and scholars from Tibet who will share their experience of collecting and performing these fast-disappearing forms of monastic music.


Now in its ninth year, the Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival has established itself as one of the most important Asian music festivals in the U.S. It is dedicated to promoting an understanding and appreciation of music in contemporary Asia through an annual series of concerts and academic activities. Jindong Cai, Director of Orchestral Studies for the Stanford Department of Music, is the founder and artistic director.

**PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

**Friday, February 8, at 8:00 PM, Bing Concert Hall**
“Masters and Masterpieces” by the China National Orchestra
- Featuring virtuoso masters of traditional Chinese and Chinese minority musical instruments performing some of the most revealing masterworks from thousands of years ago to the 21st century.
- Pre-concert discussion at 7:00 PM. “The Relationship between Poetry and Music in Chinese Tradition,” by Professor Ronald Egan, Stanford University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.
Tickets are $30 general/$20 student/$10 for students with Stanford ID.

**Saturday, February 9, 3:00-4:00 PM, Bing Concert Hall**
Family Concert: China National Orchestra Open Rehearsal
The China National Orchestra rehearses for the night's exciting Chinese New Year's Eve concert – and children of all ages are invited to attend. Enjoy this family concert presented in collaboration with Stanford’s Bing Nursery School, open to the public.
Tickets are $10 general; $8 for Bing Nursery School community
Saturday, February 9, at 8:00 PM, Bing Concert Hall
“Chinese New Year’s Concert” by the China National Orchestra
• A concert spectacular on Chinese New Year’s Eve by the most renowned Chinese music ensemble in the world, performing concertos and orchestral works on traditional Chinese instruments to celebrate the Year of the Snake.
• Pre-concert discussion at 7:00 PM. “Music Serves the People” by Dr. Barbara Mittler, University of Heidelberg.
Tickets are $30 general/$20 student/$10 for students with Stanford ID.

PANEL DISCUSSION AND WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 9, 11-1:30 PM, Bing Concert Hall’s Gunn Atrium
Panel Discussion and Demonstration:
*Chinese Music, Arts, and Performance: The Revival of Chinese Culture*

This panel discussion will focus on the role of Chinese culture in the world. The panel of four speakers will discuss the social, aesthetic, and international role of Chinese music, art, literature, and culture on the occasion of the visit by China National Orchestra at Stanford, and musicians of the orchestra will demonstrate their instruments during the symposium. Lunch will be provided for participants and the audience. This event is free, but an RSVP is required for admission by contacting pamfinfo@gmail.com. Sponsored by the Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival, the Confucius Institute, and East Asian Languages and Cultures.

The panel topics are:
• Sheila Melvin: “The Road to Revival: China’s Quest to Become a Cultural Superpower”
• Barbara Mittler: “European Opera in China”
• Haiyan Lee: "Mao's Two Bodies: On the Curious (Political) Art of Impersonating the Great Helmsman"
• Ban Wang: “The International Face of National Culture: Peking Opera and Ballet”

Sunday, February 10, 2:00-4:00 pm, Campbell Recital Hall, Department of Music
Workshop and Demonstration:
*Traditional and Monastic Music in Tibet*

This workshop will feature musicians and scholars from Tibet. Professor Jiayong Qunpei of China’s Minzu (Minority Nationalities) University will discuss music from Tibet, especially the Tibetan opera tradition. Reshi Tsering Tan, a popular and well-respected Tibetan recording artist, will share his experience as founder of the Shangri-La Folk Music Preservation Association (SFMPA). SFMPA is a non-profit organization devoted to making field recordings of traditional Tibetan music, especially fast-vanishing religious music. Select Tibetan musicians will demonstrate various types of Tibetan traditional and monastic music. This workshop anticipates the 2014 Pan-Asian Music Festival which will be dedicated to music from Tibet and Mongolia. This event is free and open to the public.
Photos of the China National Orchestra and other guests and ensembles are available upon request.

Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival is sponsored in part by:
The Albert Yu and Mary Bechmann Foundation, Stanford University’s School of Humanities and Sciences, Department of Music, Center for East Asian Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Confucius Institute.

Tickets:
To purchase tickets by phone, call 650.725.2787.
To purchase tickets online, visit: http://tickets.stanford.edu
Or visit the official Pan-Asian Music Festival website: http://panasianmusicfestival.stanford.edu

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