

 **Bard College Conservatory of Music**

**Degree Recital**  
**Jinou (Anastasia) Dong, *Pipa***

**Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 8 pm**  
**László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building**

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Hua Mulan Pipa Concerto, 1st Movement

Gu Guanren (b. 1942)

Pei-Hsuan Shen, *Piano*

Romance of the Water of Wei

Ren Hongxiang (1942-1999)

Spring Silkworm

Liu Dehai (1937-2020)

— Intermission —

Capriccios of Seven Moments for Pipa and Guitar, I IV V

Liu Chang (b. 1988)

Carlen Gong, *Classical Guitar*

Concerto for String Quartet and Pipa

Tan Dun (b.1957)

Yuchen Zhao, *Violin I*  
Mingyue Xia, *Violin II*  
Elizabeth Chernyak, *Viola*  
Abby Wolf, *Cello*

**Jinou Dong** is a fifth-year student from Beijing, China in the double-degree program at the US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she studies pipa under the guidance of Zhang Qiang. Her second major is global and international studies. She started playing pipa at the age of 6 with Cao Yang, further studied with Zhang Qiang and Chen Yin. In 2018, she won the gold award at the Beijing Student Art Festival for her solo performance. In the same year, she won the title of “Beijing Art Star.” In 2021, she performed in the concert *East/West: A Symphonic Celebration* with the New York City Ballet Orchestra at Lincoln Center. In 2022, she won the Bard Conservatory Concerto Competition for her performance of *Yun Xiang Hua Xiang (Cloud and Blossoms)* by Danhong Wang. She has performed premieres extensively with students from The Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Mannes School of Music, etc. She studied at the Bard International Global Affairs program in New York City and interned with *Welcome to Chinatown* in Fall 2022 and was selected to study abroad at Waseda University in Japan for the spring 2023. Recently, she has performed numerous times as a member of the Bard East/West Ensemble around the Washington, D.C and New York area.

Pianist **Pei-Hsuan Shen** is currently a first-year collaborative piano fellow at Bard College Conservatory of Music. She is originally from New Taipei City, Taiwan. While studying music, she discovered her passion for collaborative piano and decided to pursue a career as a collaborative pianist. She was a graduate diploma student at New England Conservatory, where she studied with Jonathan Feldman and Cameron Stowe. In 2018, She attended Bard College’s APS program on a full scholarship, studying with Frank Corliss. Previously, she earned both her bachelor’s degree in piano performance and master’s degree in collaborative piano at National Taiwan Normal University. Pei-Hsuan expressed her strong enthusiasm for working with instrumentalists and attended Music Academy of the West in 2019 and 2022 as a collaborative piano fellow. As a solo pianist, she also participated in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Music Festival at Walnut Hill in 2014. Pei-Hsuan demonstrates her diversity as a collaborative pianist through her performances in duo works, chamber music, contemporary music, orchestra, her roles in opera rehearsal pianist and rehearsal pianist. She was a rehearsal pianist in the conducting studios of Professor Apo Hsu and Professor Chia-Hong Liao at National Taiwan Normal University, as well as the studios of Professor Harold Farberman and Professor James Bagwell at Bard College.

**Carlen Gong** is a classical guitarist from Melbourne, Australia, and he began his study of classical guitar at age nine in Qingdao, China. At age 14, Carlen was accepted into Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, a specialized music school in Australia from which he graduated in 2022. He has performed as a soloist at esteemed venues in Australia; highlights include the Melbourne Recital Centre, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, and the Plenary Theatre. He was also the recipient of the Melbourne Music Performance Scholarship and the Ivy May Pendlebury Scholarship in 2023. Carlen is currently honored to be studying at the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, renowned as one of the world's foremost institutions for music education. He has been awarded a full scholarship for the Bachelor of Music Performance program and currently under the guidance from the department chair, Mark Delpriora.

**Yuchen Zhao** originally from China, violinist Yuchen Zhao is currently studying for his master's with Professor Erica Kiesewetter at Bard Conservatory of Music, NY. He has performed globally at venues like Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, National Centre for the Performing Arts in China and Jazz at Lincoln Center, sharing the stage with renowned musicians such as Kerson Leong, Marcus Roberts, Tan Dun and Piers Lane. Yuchen has won competitions in Spain, UK, Korean and Hong Kong, and attended masterclasses with top artists such as Gil Shaham and Daniel Froschauer. As an orchestral violinist, he has worked with orchestras in China and the US, and served as concertmaster for several ensembles. He is also an active event organizer, in 2020, he co-programmed and performed in concerts across major Chinese cities in cooperation with China Poly Group.

**Mingyue Xia** started playing violin at age of seven, after deciding to pursue violin performance as professional, she went to Tianjin Conservatory of Music Affiliated Middle School studying with conservatory professor Qiang Song, who gained the doctor degrees at Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin. During the time studying at high school, Mingyue Xia got many chances to perform in the master classes and studio recital. In 2018, she started her undergraduate studies at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying with Kay Stern who is the concertmaster of SF Opera. During the time studying at SFCM, she participated in many great projects including Berkeley Symphony side-by-side, Bach Millenium music summer opera program and off-campus performance at SF Jazz. During the summer of 2023, she played with San Francisco Civic Symphony for the concert series “From London to the Long Pandemic” at San Francisco Herbst Theater, and Symphony Parnassus in which she played Scheherazade as second violin principle. Currently she is doing the instrumental art program at Bard Conservatory.

**Elizabeth Chernyak** is a Canadian violinist and violist currently studying violin performance and biology at Bard College Conservatory of Music. She is a student of Luosha Fang and Daniel Phillips, and currently studies viola with Marka Gustavsson. Elizabeth has previously attended Eastern Music Festival (2019 and 2021) Round Top Festival Institute (2022 and 2023). Elizabeth is passionate about chamber music, having won the Round Top Festival Institute Best Of Chamber Competition (2023). She also has extensive experience performing in orchestras being led by notable conductors including Gerard Schwartz, Thomas Wilkins, Carl St. Clair, Robert Spano, Joseph Young, and JoAnn Falletta. Elizabeth enjoys performing solo works, having won the Binghamton Youth Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition (2020), receiving second prize in the Young Artist Group for the 20th-21st century category of the American Virtuoso International Music Competition (2024), and having participated in the Oneonta Concert Association Youth Program (2017) and Saugerties ProMusica (2022). Elizabeth is avid in discovering more contemporary music and is interested in pursuing conducting, composition, and teaching.

**Abby Wolf** is a second year student studying cello performance at Bard Conservatory of Music with Raman Ramakrishnan. She loves exploring different genres of music and has participated in Bard’s Contemporary jazz composers ensemble, Bard’s jazz standards ensemble, and Bard’s Chinese Ensemble. She also enjoys theater and is going to spend her 2nd summer playing in the pit for the College Light Opera Company. She has attended the Center Stage Strings (2019-2022) and HeifetzPEG (2017-2019) summer music festivals. In addition, as a member of the Bard’s Musical Mentorship Initiative, she loves sharing and teaching music. Her previous teachers include Peter Wiley, Horacio Contreras, Amy Barston, Udi-Bar David, and Gloria dePasquale. She wants to thank Anastasia for this experience and has loved being a part of the quintet!