



5. *Another Slow Piece - Moon over Western River*  
又慢曲子-西江月  
Tang | Ancient Dunhuang musical score 933 A.D.  
Translated and arranged by Tan Dun

6. *Scattering Gold Sand*  
撒金砂  
Tang | Ancient Dunhuang musical score 933 A.D.  
Translated and rearranged by Tan Dun

## Part Two

*Dunhuang Academy Ancient Music Consort with String Quartet*

7. *Pipa and String Quartet (from Ghost Opera)*  
琵琶与弦乐四重奏(选自鬼戏)  
Tan Dun

8. *10 Blessings from the Lotus (World Premiere)\**  
十愿莲(世界首演)  
Zhang Meng

*\*Commissioned by Dunhuang Academy Ancient Music Consort*

9. *Fantan Pipa Dance Water Drum*  
反弹琵琶舞-水鼓子  
Tang | Ancient Dunhuang musical score 933 A.D.  
Translated by Chen Yingshi and arranged by Tan Dun

## Bard Conservatory String Quartet

Yuchen Zhao, *violin*  
Mingyue Xia, *violin*  
Elizabeth Chernyak, *viola*  
Abby Wolf, *cello*

## About the Musicians

World-renowned conductor-composer and UNESCO Global Goodwill Ambassador, **Tan Dun** has made an indelible mark on the world's music scene with a creative repertoire that spans the boundaries of classical music, multimedia performance, and Eastern and Western traditions. Often programmed by the world's leading orchestras, opera houses, festivals and broadcasters, Tan Dun's music has been played by the likes of Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, China National Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and many more. A regular guest conductor of the world's premiere orchestras, the 2023/24 season sees him appear with Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, as well as at George Enescu International Festival and West & East Festival in Hong Kong.

Recent seasons have seen Tan Dun conduct the world premiere of his Requiem for Nature with Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the UK premiere of his Buddha Passion with London Philharmonic Orchestra, various programmes with Munich Philharmonic, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, Seattle Symphony Orchestra, National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra, NFM Wrocław Philharmonic, as well as opening Edinburgh International Festival with Royal Scottish National Orchestra and touring with NHK Symphony Orchestra.

With his penchant for artistic curation, Tan Dun is hugely in demand internationally. He currently sits as Dean of Bard College Conservatory of Music and Honorary Artistic Director of China National Symphony Orchestra.

Often recognised for his musical achievements, Tan Dun has been the recipient of today's most coveted honors comprising the Grammy Award for Best Soundtrack, Academy Award for Best Original Score, BAFTA Award for Best Film Music, Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition, Bach Prize of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, D. D. Shostakovich Award, Venice Biennale's Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement and, most recently, Istanbul Music Festival's Lifetime Achievement Award.

## **Dunhuang Academy Ancient Music Consort**

### **Zhang Meng, sheng**

Zhang Meng is a composer and soloist who integrates neo-classical music, traditional Chinese folk music and rock and avantgarde music. As a performer, Zhang Meng focuses on Sheng and Xun, and has collaborated with many composers, conductors and professional orchestras in China and abroad. A frequent collaborator of composer Tan Dun's, he has performed both his *Earth Concerto* (Xun) and *Five Muses* (Sheng) around the world; as well as *Thousands of miles of rivers and mountains* (Sheng) composed by Zhao Lin on tour with the China Philharmonic Orchestra. Zhang Meng is also active in the field of progressive rock.

### **Han Yan, pipa**

Han Yan is a pipa soloist and professor at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She is active on the Chinese and international music stages as a soloist and chamber musician performing in such countries as Thailand, Australia, and New Zealand. In the past year she participated in the opening ceremony of the Abu Dhabi International Music Festival as a soloist. She was the soloist in the premiere of a new composition *Requiem for Nature* by Tan Dun with the Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam and performed three concerts as soloist with the Santa Cecilia Orchestra in Rome.

### **Wenwen Liu, suona/bili**

Liu Wenwen currently serves as a professor in the Ethnic Music Department at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. Ms. Liu has won many awards on the folk music stage both in China and abroad. Representing a new generation of suona performers in China, she upholds tradition while interpreting it from a modern perspective. She has collaborated with well-known conductors Xia Feiyun, Wang Yongji, Tan Dun, Yan Huichang, Daniel Kafka, and others.. Ms. Liu has performed and collaborated with the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra of Norway, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, among others.

### **Bowen Yang, chiba**

Mr. Yang is a soloist and ethnic music artist of the Chiba also known as the Shakuhachi. He graduated from the Ethnic Department at the Central Conservatory of Music. In 2021 he won the championship of Japan's Tanabe International Shakuhachi (Chiba) Competition. He was awarded by the Yamashiro Society in Japan in 2022. Since 2018, his works have been selected for the Kumamoto Festival in Japan for three consecutive years. Mr. Yang has participated in various TV and online music programs in China.

### **Yunqi Zhu, erhu**

Ms. Zhu is currently a master's student at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She was a finalist in the national erhu competition "Golden Bell Award of Chinese Music" in both 2023 and 2019. Ms. Zhu also serves as Principal of the National Orchestra of Shanghai Conservatory of Music during the academic year.

## **Bard Conservatory String Quartet**

Violinist **Yuchen Zhao '24** is a second-year graduate student in the Instrumental Arts Program at the Bard Conservatory. Last spring he served as the concertmaster for the Bard Conservatory Orchestra with Maestro Tan Dun at Fisher Center. He graduated from Zhenjiang Conservatory of Music where he served as first concertmaster with the Philharmonic Angel Orchestra. Yuchen has won many recent competition honors, including a silver award at the Alba Music Competition, gold award at the Royal Music Competition, and bronze award at the New Talent Music Competition.

Violinist **Mingyue Xia '25**, a first-year graduate student in Bard's Instrumental Arts Program, previously studied at the Tianjin Conservatory of Music Affiliated Middle School with professor Qiang Song, where she performed frequently in master classes and studio recitals. In 2018, she began undergraduate studies at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, with Kay Stern, concertmaster of San Francisco Opera, and participated in many projects including Berkeley Symphony side-by-side, Bach Millennium music summer opera program, and 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 with Symphony Parnassus.

**Elizabeth Chernyak '24** is a Canadian violinist and violist currently studying violin performance at Bard College Conservatory of Music. She is a student of Luosha Fang and Marka Gustavsson. She has performed frequently with the Bard Conservatory Orchestra, Hartwick Chamber Orchestra, Binghamton Youth Symphony Orchestra, as well as with Bard's East/West Ensemble, Baroque Ensemble, and in projects with Graduate Vocal Arts Program and U.S.-China Institute. Her solo recitals seek to bring awareness of a wide range of composers and genres and to unite multiple art forms (film, poetry, music, literature, visual art, theater and multimedia). Elizabeth has collaborated with Sō Percussion, Joan Tower, Tan Dun, the Sinfonietta Project, and Center for Curatorial Studies, among others, to program unique concerts with contemporary music. Her second major is biology.

**Abby Wolf '27**, is a second-year student at Bard Conservatory of Music studying cello performance with Raman Ramakrishnan. She has performed with Bard's Contemporary Jazz Composers, Jazz Standards, and US-China ensembles, and will spend a second summer playing in the pit for the College Light Opera Company on Cape Cod. Abby attended the Center Stage Strings (2019-2022) and HeifetzPEG (2017-2019) summer music festivals. 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.