

Bard College Conservatory of Music

Lecture Recital

Yingren Zhao, *pipa*

Friday, May 16, 2025, at 2:00 PM

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building, Performance Space

Religious Collection (1995–1998)

Dripping Water Guanyin – Adagio (1995)

Celebrating the Arhat – Adagio (1996)

Evening Glow – Adagio (1997)

White Horse Carrying the Sutra – Adagio (1998)

Liu Dehai
(1937 - 2020)

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Yingren Zhao (Ian Chao), born in 2002, is a young Chinese pipa performer and scholar. He began studying pipa at the age of five under Professor Wang Zhenzhen, and has won numerous awards in China. Most notably, he received the Gold Medal at the first Shanxi Pipa Festival for his original composition Sunlight. His performance style is known for its sincerity and emotional authenticity.

In 2020, he was admitted to Shanxi University as the top music performance student in the province, continuing his studies with Professor Wang Zhenzhen. After graduating in 2024, he entered Bard College's US-China Music Institute to pursue graduate studies in Chinese music and culture. At Bard, he studies pipa with Professor Yang Jin and conducts academic research under Professor Cai Jindong. His current academic focus explores the relationship between pipa and Buddhist philosophy.

In addition to music, Zhao is also a student-athlete, competing in NCAA Division III track and field. He is a member of Bard's Track and Field Team, specializing in the 400m and 200m sprints under the coaching of Head Coach Brody Smith.