



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Celebrating 20 Years of Music, Vision, and Excellence

Undergraduate Degree Recital

Eric Kehan Wang, *guqin*

Friday, May 8, 2026, at 7:00pm
László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building, Performance Space

Dao Yi 捣衣

Pan Tingjian 潘庭坚 (Tang Dynasty)

Minghui Mia Wu '27, *dizi*

Guangling San 广陵散

Opening Fingerings 开指

Short Preface 小序

Grand Preface 大序

Principal Section 正声

Chaotic Section 乱声

Finale (Epilogue) 后序

Traditionally attributed to: Ji Kang (嵇康, 223–262)

Source: Shenqi Mipu (神奇秘谱, 1425)

Compiled by Zhu Quan (朱权, 1378–1448)

— INTERMISSION —

Bai He 裨阖 (2018)

Liu Tianqi 刘天琪

Danni Chen '26, *guqin*

Chén Lin 沉玲 (2016)

Li Yuejin 李玥锦

Wan-Ling Chen, *piano*

Lament of the Autumn Orchid 秋兰兮辞 (2023)

Huang Wen 黄文

Wan-Ling Chen, *piano*

NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

Dao Yi 捣衣

Daoyi means 'beating cloth', The piece is told from the perspective of a wife of a Tang Dynasty soldier stationed at the frontier. Through a twelve-section structure, it gradually unfolds a narrative thread of complex emotions—including loneliness, longing for loved ones, and anxiety. However, the interpretations recorded in ancient qin scores across the centuries do not fully align with the musical notation. The piece itself is cheerful and lively, a fact that may be attributed to misinterpretations and misrepresentations in the poetry associated with this theme.

Guangling San 广陵散

Unlike most guqin pieces, which are elegant and melodious, “Guangling San” has a violent style, imbued with a strong sense of combat and a tragic tone. The piece described Nie Zheng's Assassination of the King of Han During the Warring States Period (聂政刺韩王) within the struggle and brutal process both for mental and body. To spare his only close relative, his older sister, Nie Zheng disfigured his face with the blade, dug out his eyes, and committed suicide by disembowelment after the assassination, and his body was later left on public display.

Bai He 捭阖

The word 'Baihe' refers to the opening chapter of the classical 'Book of Guiguzi' by Wang Xu from the Warring States period. It is divided into 'Bai' and 'He', meaning 'opening' and 'closing'. Philosophically from Guiguzi's perspective, the opening and closing of things is the universal law governing their development and changes, and it is also the key to understanding them. This piece aims to convey the essence of “opening” and “closing” through two personified guqins.

Chén Lin 沉玲

“玲Lin” is a homophone for “琳Lin,” meaning “Beautiful Jade.” The piece is themed around the idea that “it takes a thousand years of refinement to become ‘玲Lin,’ and ten thousand years of silence to truly come into one’s own.” It depicts the process by which a beautiful jade, hidden in the depths and weathered by the passage of time, ultimately radiates a brilliance akin to a “phoenix greeting the sun.” The emotional tone of the piece captures both the profound sorrow of ancient scholars whose talents went unrecognized and the radiance and hope that emerge after a turn of fortune.

Lament of the Autumn Orchid 秋兰兮辞

The piece 'Lament of the Autumn Orchid' draws inspiration from the lines 'O autumn orchid, growing wild among the weeds; the brocade hangs beneath the hall' in 'The Nine Songs: The Minor Minister of Life' by Qu Yuan, a poet from the State of Chu during the Warring States period. Using modern compositional techniques, the piece combines the traditional charm of the guqin with the rich expressiveness of the piano, offering a contemporary interpretation of the poetic imagery found in classical verse.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Eric Kehan Wang was born in Inner Mongolia, China, and is currently a super senior at Bard College and Bard College Conservatory of Music, pursuing a double major in Music Performance and Theater. Since 2010, he has studied the guqin under Professor Zhao Jiazhen at the Central Conservatory of Music. In 2018, he was awarded the Gold Prize at the 2nd World Instrumental Competition hosted by the Eastman School of Music. In 2019, he received Gold Prizes at the “Hongqin Cup” Guqin Competition (Taizhou Division) in China and the International Instrumental Competition at Brigham Young University–Hawaii. In the same year, he performed in a guqin recital as part of a Chinese music exhibition at the Pacific Asia Museum, as well as in a Zen-inspired guqin concert at Hsi Lai Temple. In 2024, he won the Gold Prize in the Professional Category B (Plucked Strings – Guqin) at the 2nd “Guoyun Cup” Chinese Traditional Music Competition (Ningbo Division), organized by the Chinese National Orchestra Society, and was honored with the title “Rising Star of Chinese Music.”

Minghui Mia Wu is a dizi (Chinese flute) performer currently studying at the Bard Conservatory. She studied dizi under Li Yue and is the winner of the 2025 Bard Concerto Competition. A graduate of the Central Conservatory of Music, she is a featured artist at the National Centre for the Performing Arts and the founder and artistic director of the dizi brand Qiuyunlu. She has performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and represented China at the Santiago International Book Fair in Chile. Mia is passionate about sharing the unique beauty and versatility of the dizi through cross-cultural collaborations and contemporary performances.

Danni Chen is a member of the Chinese Guqin Society. She graduated from Kedron State High School in Brisbane, Australia, and is currently a fifth-year student majoring in Guqin and Photography at Bard College Conservatory of Music. She studies guqin with Professor Zhao Jiazhen, President of the Chinese Qin Association and PhD supervisor at China's Central Conservatory of Music. In 2022, she was awarded the gold medal in the youth category of the 3rd "Hong Qin Cup" Guqin Competition. In 2024, she won the bronze medal in the guqin professional youth group A of the 2nd “Guoyun Cup” Chinese instruments competition.

Wan-Ling Chen was raised in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Her musical journey began with piano studies at the age of five, and she started learning percussion as a minor at nine through an Arts-Talented Curriculum. Over the years, she has performed extensively with wind bands and had the opportunity to perform with the Navy Band on two occasions. In 2023, she performed as a marimba soloist with the NTNU Wind Band, and as a rehearsal piano with Taipei Philharmonic Opera Studio in annual performance opera “Il Trovatore” , then she earned her Master’s degree in Collaborative Piano from National Taiwan Normal University. In the summer of 2024, she participated in the Collaborative Piano Program at the Brevard Music Center, in fall, she participated as a rehearsal piano in opera “Al’s Variation” in Bard East and West ensemble. She’s also interested in musical theatre, and had the opportunity to perform “Assassins” as a percussionist and pianist with Bard Musical Theatre Performance Work Shop in Spring 2025. She earned her graduate certificate in Advanced Performance Studies at Bard College in New York in 2025, studied Collaborative Piano under Frank Corliss. Her previous teachers include Chih-Yu Chen, Rachel Orloske and Shih-Hsing Lin.