

RED CHAMBER



SUNDAY, 5 NOV 2017
12:00 PM
THE ROUNDHOUSE
PERFORMANCE CENTRE

Red Chamber

Mei Han, zheng | Guilian Liu, pipa
Zhimin Yu, ruan (da ruan, zhong ruan)
Jaelem Bhate, Conductor | Cameron Wilson, violin
Reg Quiring, viola | Bo Peng, cello
Tim Chan, sheng

Fire Dragon Dance, 舞火龙 (2016) Canadian Premiere, 7'

violin, viola, cello, sheng, pipa, zhongruan

Luk Wai Chun Vincent (陸尉俊) (1993) ISCM Hong Kong (China),
Young Composer Award Candidate

Chinese Wall Paper (2012), 10'

pipa, zhongruan, violin, and cello

Luiz Henrique Yudo (1962) Canadian Premiere

Peng Baban, for small Chinese ensemble, 8'

Traditional, arranged by **Mei Han**

Bamboo Silk and Stone, for Asian instruments and two digital soundtracks (1999), 10'

Barry Truax (1947) and **Randy Raine-Reusch** (1952)

The Distorted Identity Under the Globalized World (2016), 8'

pipa, zhongruan, zheng, violin, viola, and violoncello (with amplifications)

Fung Dic-lun (馮迪倫) (1988) Individual Submission, Young Composer Award Candidate

COMPOSERS



LUK WAI CHUN VINCENT (陸尉俊)

(Hong Kong, born 1993)

Luk Wai Chun Vincent is currently a doctoral student in composition at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), studying with Professor Lee Wan Ki Wendy and focusing on fusing Chinese and Western elements in contemporary music. He won the Outstanding Individual Award and the Hong Kong Composers' Guild mentor program scholarship in the 20th Schools Creative Music Showcase with *War of Ferocity*. In 2016, he was invited to present his composition *Jazz Pipa* at UCSD's Intercultural Music Conference and Concert where he was awarded the Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong Scholarship.

FIRE DRAGON DANCE, 舞火龙 (2016) (CANADIAN PREMIERE)

This composition is inspired by the Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance in Hong Kong. Accompanied by loud gongs and drums, there is a very long dragon studded with lighted incenses lifted by hundreds of people in the street parade. Luk depicts the lively atmosphere in the fire dragon dance through music and his imagery of the fire dragon. In music, the musical element of luogu (Chinese percussion ensemble) is added to imitate the gongs and drums in Fire Dragon Dance. Also, the soft and peaceful pipa passage at the end gives another impression of the dance.



LUIZ HENRIQUE YUDO

(Netherlands, born 1962)

Luiz Henrique Yudo is a Dutch/Brazilian composer of Japanese descent. He received his training as an architect at the University of São Paulo (FAU-USP) and later studied at the Nederlandse Film en Televisie Academie in Amsterdam. He studied privately with the Brazilian composer Damiano Cozzella and the American composer Tom Johnson. Many of his compositions are strongly inspired by visual associations. He writes scores in which there are aspects left open for the musicians to create an individual interpretation. Performers of his music are therefore invited to play a very active role in the creative process.

CHINESE WALL PAPER (2012) (CANADIAN PREMIERE)

Several times while visiting Taiwan, I noticed a very popular and ancient decorative pattern appearing in windows, packaging, in some metro halls, temples, and even on the sewer lids of Taipei. It is an ornament with Swastikas, which are linked originally to Buddhism. The complexity and symmetry of that design appealed to me first as a visual structure and then as a musical structure. I mapped this pattern's structure from four different corners, creating a set of four melodic lines of two sounds. This composition is therefore a musical translation of that structure. (Luiz Henrique Yudo)



MEI HAN

Mei Han is recognized internationally as one of the leading virtuosi and authorities on the Chinese zheng (zither). Han has performed and lectured on Chinese music worldwide; recorded two Juno nominated CDs; and created a large repertoire of new music, contemporary chamber music, free improv, and world music for the zheng. She has performed with orchestras in China and Canada, and been the subject of national TV and radio specials in many countries.

PENG BABAN, FOR SMALL CHINESE ENSEMBLE (TRADITIONAL, ARRANGED BY MEI HAN)

Directly translated as "knocking on baban," the title is both a suite of compositions and a genre for traditional string ensemble of southwestern Shandong. Musicians utilized baban ("eight beats"), a melody containing eight phrases, as a mother tune to further develop into individual compositions. While performing together as an ensemble, the musicians maintain the unified beat-form but vary the melodies individually and spontaneously, resulting in a rich heterophonic music. The root of peng baban is xiansuo string music popular in northern China during the Ming and Qing dynasties.



BARRY TRUAX

(Canada, born 1947)

Barry Truax is a Professor Emeritus in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University where he taught acoustic communication and electroacoustic music. He worked with the World Soundscape Project, editing its Handbook for Acoustic Ecology, and has published a book Acoustic Communication dealing with sound and technology. As a composer, Truax is best known for his computer music works and multi-channel soundscape compositions. In 1991, his Riverrun was awarded the Magisterium at the International Competition of Electroacoustic Music in Bourges, France. In 2015/2016, he was the Edgard Varèse Guest Professor at the Technical University in Berlin, and Guest Composer at the 2016 BEAST Festival in Birmingham.



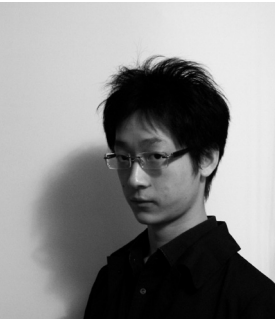
RANDY RAINE-REUSCH

(Canada, born 1952)

Specializing in New and Experimental Music for world instruments, Raine-Reusch's compositions include large-scale site-specific extravaganzas, electro-acoustic diffusions, realtime interactive computer works, soundscapes, soundtracks, chamber works, and graphic scores for improvisation.

BAMBOO SILK AND STONE, FOR ASIAN INSTRUMENTS AND TWO DIGITAL SOUNDTRACKS (1999)

Bamboo Silk and Stone is a pioneering electroacoustic work written for zheng. The tape is designed to preserve and amplify typical improvisational gestures used by the performer, sometimes stretching them in time to discover their inner complexity.



FUNG DIC-LUN (馮迪倫)

(USA, born 1988)

Fung Dic-lun is a San Franciscan Cantonese composer. As a multi-instrumentalist, Fung specialises in East Asian strings, and has been nurtured with Chinese music traditions during the years of consolidation. Such background further expands into explorations of ethnic music worldwide. As a specialist in composing for mixed use of folk and classical instruments and infusing folk essences in works, he has achieved numerous international awards. His works are heard in Croatia, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, the USA, Russia, and South Korea. As a researcher, Fung advocates the study of "folk-classic" composition.

THE DISTORTED IDENTITY UNDER THE GLOBALIZED WORLD (2016)

This work focuses on the unconventional sonorities of traditional instruments. Instead of hearing instrumental dialogues, the ensemble sounds as a whole for most of the time. Sonorities are explored as a block identity. By de-characterising the instruments' original sonorites, new timbral groups and combinations are created. Instruments from two distinct cultures form various distinctive clusters of timbres. They are identified and then approximated. Successive timbral transformations are then heard throughout.

PERFORMERS

RED CHAMBER

Canada's Red Chamber features four virtuosic performers who have collectively become an innovative powerhouse in the international music scene, with concert tours from Europe's top concert halls to Asia's premiere festivals. Red Chamber takes its inspiration from the rare traditional Chinese "Plucked String" repertoire to present a captivatingly unique program embracing string band music spanning centuries, a host of world cultures, and a myriad of musical genres. Consummate performers, their superb virtuosity is exemplified in performances of ancient Chinese Court music from the Tang Dynasty (618-907), to contemporary Canadian compositions, and an intriguing range of other works including Balkan, Gypsy jazz, American Old-Timey and Bluegrass.

MEI HAN

See *Composers*.

GUILIAN LIU

Guilian Liu is one of the world's premiere pipa (lute) masters. Liu graduated from the Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing and was the first-prize winner of the Chinese National Instrumental Music Competition in 1989. Liu's superb expressiveness and impeccable techniques were praised by renowned conductors Herbert von Karajan and Seiji Ozawa. She was featured performing in the Oscar winning documentary *From Mao to Mozart - Isaac Stern in China* (1979). Liu was the Director of the Shanghai Pipa Society before moving to Canada.

ZHIMIN YU

Zhimin Yu is a ruan (lute) virtuoso. Yu was a principle player at the Chinese National Broadcast Orchestra, with which she toured to many countries. Since immigrating to Canada in 1989, she has become one of the most sought Chinese musicians in Vancouver and has performed with the Vancouver Chinese Ensemble, the Silk Road Ensemble, and many other cross-cultural projects. Yu is also a gifted composer, actively writing for a wide variety of Chinese and Western ensembles.