

## About Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church *and*

## The Confucius Institute of Chinese Opera at Binghamton University

**Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church** is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York and a Jubilee Ministry Center dedicated to outreach ministry and service. Founded in 1886 on the west side of the Chenango River, the church is located in downtown Binghamton, across the street from Binghamton High School. The church's mission is to serve Christ passionately through self, family, parish and community, and it is committed to excellence in worship, music, and preaching in the rich tradition of the Episcopal Church. Trinity is a faith community which serves the greater community and those in need, seeking to glorify God in Christ by experiencing His Word in worship, communion, and study; by living out His Word in fellowship, healing, and love; and by proclaiming His Word through teaching and outreach.

**The Confucius Institute of Chinese Opera at Binghamton University (CICO)** was formed through collaboration between Binghamton University, SUNY and the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts (NACTA) in Beijing in November 2009. From the beginning, CICO has offered a unique variety of credit-bearing college courses, including classes on Beijing Opera, Chinese music, and Chinese language. CICO's professional performance group performs locally and across the United States, and its performances include Chinese opera, vocal music, instrumental music, dance and acrobatics. CICO also holds various lectures, exhibitions and workshops, including those which introduce the art behind Chinese opera, as well as those that focus on Chinese ethnic groups and their songs, and the "Chinese Through Song" workshop. In addition, CICO holds many richly engaging outreach activities for the local community.



## Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church

*presents*

# AMAZING CHINA



*May 9, 2015*

*7:30 PM*

*Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church*

*44 Main Street*

*Binghamton, NY 13905*

薛弟  
13.10.12

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# Program

**Recorder and Guqin: Cold Mountain, Monk Trails** 木笛與琴《寒山僧蹤》

*Barbara Kaufman, Peiyong Chang*

**Guqin solo: Wild Geese Flock to Sandy Shores** 古琴獨奏《平沙落雁》

*Jianwei Mao*

**Guqin and singing: Moon Over Guan Mountain** 琴歌《關山月》

*Peiyong Chang, Jianwei Mao*

**Guqin solo: Dialog Between Fisherman and Woodcutter**

古琴獨奏《漁樵問答》

*Peiyong Chang*

**Guqin solo and singing: Parting at the Yang-Guan Gate** 琴歌《陽關三疊》

*Jianwei Mao*

**Recorder and Guqin: Falling Plum Blossom** 木笛與琴《落梅》

*Barbara Kaufman, Peiyong Chang*

**Beijing Opera: Pear Blossom Song** 京劇《梨花頌》

*Linghui Tu, Shijun Cheng*

**Chinese Bamboo Flute: Little Shepherd** 笛子《小放牛》

*Shijun Cheng, with Pej Reitz on piano*

**Chinese Dance: Beautiful Wild Swans** 舞蹈《驚鴻舞》

*Mengxie Luo, Lu Yang*

**Chinese Opera Medley** 戲曲聯唱

Huang Mei opera: The Emperor's Female Son-In-Law 黃梅戲《女駙馬》

*Liuxiaoshuang Shi*

Beijing opera: Mistake in the Flower Field 京劇《花田錯》

*Chan Wang*

Hunan Flower Drum opera: Melon Seeds Red 花鼓戲《瓜子紅》

*Chan Wang, Liuxiaoshuang Shi*

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# Performers

## Local Community Musicians

Peiyong CHANG

Jianwei MAO

Barbara KAUFMAN

## Confucius Institute of Chinese Opera at Binghamton University

Shijun CHENG

Mengxie LUO

Pej REITZ

Liuxiaoshuang SHI

Xinyi SHI

Linghui TU

Chan WANG

Li XI

Lu YANG

Enning ZHANG

Hong ZHANG

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# Program Notes

## A Ditty from the Yimeng Mountain 《沂蒙山小调》

Lyrics: Everybody likes Yimeng Mountain because it is so pretty: a gentle breeze sweeps over sheep on the green mountain, red sorghum decorates people's happy life. (*Shangdong* folksong)

## Beautiful Grassland 《美丽的草原》

Lyrics: The beautiful grasslands are my home. Steeds gallop like colorful clouds. Cows and sheep are like spreading pearls. The shepherd girl's happy songs reach afar. (Inner Mongolian folksong)

## Returning from a Fair 《赶圩归来》

Lyrics:

## Kun Opera: Peony Pavilion: A Stroll In the Garden 昆曲《牡丹亭·游园》 *Linghui Tu, Shijun Cheng*

## Guzheng Solo: Evening Songs on the Fishing Boat 古筝独奏《渔舟唱晚》 *Enning Zhang*

## Chinese Instrument Ensemble: Purple Bamboo Tune 民乐小合奏《紫竹调》

*Shijun Cheng, Enning Zhang, Li Xi, Xinyi Shi*

## Chinese Opera: Water Sleeves Dance 戏曲《水袖舞》 *Chan Wang, Linxiaosuang Shi*

## Solo Singing 独唱

A Ditty from the Yimeng Mountain 《沂蒙山小调》

*Hong Zhang with Pej Reitz, piano*

Beautiful Grassland 《美丽的草原》

*Hong Zhang with Pej Reitz, piano*

Returning from a Fair 《赶圩归来》

*Hong Zhang with Pej Reitz, piano, Shijun Cheng, flute, Mengxie Luo, dance, and Lu Yang, dance*

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## Program Notes

### Cold Mountain, Monk Trails 《寒山僧蹤》

This song was composed by Mr. Dawei Chen (1939-2006) in 1990 from China. This is a very peaceful and tranquil piece that involves Zen philosophy, such as “form is emptiness, emptiness is form”. All the wisdom and truth are within nature. One shall not need to climb the cold mountain, hit the bell and search for the monk to find enlightenment.

### Wild Geese Flock to Sandy Shores 《平沙落雁》

“Wild Geese” is a popular example of Guqin music. The authorship of the work is not that clear-cut, but respect for its antiquity can be seen from the different attributions, one dating back to the 8-9th centuries of the Tang. This piece describes the scene when the sky is dotted by a group of geese who are singing on-and-off, and about to land. The horizon is far away, and the sand in the desert is flat. The freely flying goose in the sky embodies the ambition and breadth of mind of the hermits.

### Moon Over Guan Mountain 《關山月》

The lyrics of this piece are a famous poem by the great Tang Dynasty poet Li Bai (AD 701—762). It depicts ancient frontier soldiers, who although retaining their utmost loyalty to their country, cannot help yearning for their homes on a moonlit evening. This piece was transcribed for the Guqin during the late Qing Dynasty (ca. 1810CE). It is a very important and popular piece in classical Chinese music.

(Lyrics translated by Jiawei Mao)

*The bright moon rises from the heavenly mountains, floating in a vast sea of clouds.  
From thousands of miles away, the wind passes the Jade Gate.  
Troops of Han marched down Baideng Road, while Tartar troops peered at Blue Sea Bay.  
Down the ages, it can hardly be seen that, from the battlefield, the soldiers came back.  
Guards stare longingly at the borderland, yearning for home with sorrowful eyes.  
Those in the upper chambers tonight, would again look afar with deep sighs.*

明月出天山， 蒼茫雲海間。  
長風幾萬里， 吹度玉門關。  
漢下白登道， 胡窺青海灣。  
由來征戰地， 不見有人還。  
戍客望邊邑， 思歸多苦顏。  
高樓當此夜， 嘆息未應閒。

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## Program Notes

### Chinese Opera Medley 戏曲联唱

“The Emperor’s Female Son-In-Law” is an ancient Chinese story about an educated woman who disguised herself as a man to take the national examination and won the place of “Number One Scholar” in order to save her husband, who had been arrested due to a false accusation. “Mistake in the Flower Field” is a song excerpt from a play which is about a series of mistakes happened in a town that raises flowers. “Melon Seeds Red” is part of a *huaguxi* (Flower Drum Opera), and it is a beautiful folk song originating in the Hunan Province of China.

### Peony Pavilion: A Stroll In the Garden 《牡丹亭·游园》

This excerpt is from the play *The Peony Pavilion* written by Tang Xianzu in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and first performed in 1598. It is loved by the Chinese people and is an iconic piece of literature studied and revered around the world. The lyrics, melody and dance combine beautifully to create one of the most famous works of Kunqu Opera, which is the common source of most modern Chinese operas, still performed regularly on stage.

### Evening Songs on the Fishing Boat 《漁舟唱晚》

This piece was written in 1965 by the famous Wang Changyuan. It is quickly paced, mixing modern and traditional techniques, requiring much skill to play. This song represents workers on the coast working hard and bravely holding out against a furious typhoon.

### Purple Bamboo Tune 《紫竹調》

This is a folk ditty and love song from south of the Yangtze river and the Shanghai area. This is also a common tune in *huju*, the local opera of Shanghai. Its origins can be traced back to the folk songs of China’s Spring and Autumn period (770-476 BC) and the Warring States period (475-221 BC). This light and lively melody has also been played in Shanghai as a lovely piece of pop music.

### Water Sleeves Dance 《水袖舞》

From ancient times, Chinese dancers have used long sleeves that look like flowing water in order to perform beautiful dances. It is also one of the distinguishing characteristics of Chinese Opera. Water sleeves can express a person’s joyful mood!



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## Program Notes

### Falling Plum Blossom 《落梅》

was composed by Mr. TSE Chun-Yan from Hong Kong in 1989. This piece is based on a poem by Li Yu (937-978), “Since parting, spring has half gone. Greeted in view is the feeling of sadness. Falling plum blossoms on the steps is like unregulated snow. Wipe away from my shoulders, they fall on me again and again...” It conveys the sorrow of the subjugation of a country.

別來春半，觸目愁腸斷。砌下落梅如雪亂，拂了一身還滿。  
雁來音信無憑，路遙歸夢難成。離恨恰如春草，更行更遠還生。

### Beijing Opera: Pear Blossom Song 京剧《梨花颂》

“Pear Blossom Song” is the main theme of the new historical Beijing opera “The Highest-Ranking Imperial Concubine.” It was composed by Nailin Yang, with lyrics by Sizai Weng. The content directly echoes the love theme of Emperor Xuanzong and Concubine Yang Guifei in the opera. In this beautiful piece, the main singer and chorus complement each other.

### Little Shepherd 《小放牛》

Originally a “blowing tunes” style song in Kunqu Opera, this song depicts a lady asking a little shepherd boy for directions. Questions and answers are expressed through song and dance, and this tune has a strong pastoral atmosphere. Later on, renowned *dizi* (Chinese flute) artist Lu Chunling changed this song further in the 1950s, using his skill on the *dizi* to vividly show the innocent and lively exchange. The mood is lighthearted, the speech clear and flowing, the song full of expression. “Little Shepherd” fully displays how a high level of skill on the *dizi* can beautifully decorate a melody.

### Chinese Dance: Beautiful Wild Swans 舞蹈《惊鸿舞》

“Beautiful Wild Swans” is a beautiful and elegant example of Chinese dance repertoire. It was first performed by one of the wives of emperor Xuanzong of the Tang Dynasty. The movements imitate the posture of a swan.

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## Program Notes

### Dialog Between Fisherman and Woodcutter 《漁樵問答》

is an ancient melody. The earliest surviving notation of this piece is from 1557, however the composer is unknown. The following is a poem from Mr. Yang Shen(1488–1559) who wrote about the scenery as the same subject as this piece.

*Roaring Long river runs East with no return, storming away many a hero.  
Right or wrong, success or failure, it all comes to nothing at the end of the road,  
Yet mountains are still green, the sun goes up and down, leaving its rouge!  
The white-haired fisherman and the wood cutter rest usually on the river bank ,  
Getting used to seeing the Autumn moon and the Spring breeze coming and going.  
With a bottle of ordinary of wine, they are happy to meet and toast.  
Legends of old and new, they are all just subjects of conversation now!*

滾滾長江東逝水，浪花淘盡英雄。是非成敗轉頭空，青山依舊在，幾度夕陽紅！  
白髮漁樵江渚上，慣看秋月春風。一壺濁酒喜相逢，古今多少事，都付笑談中！

### Parting at the Yang-Guan Gate 《陽關三疊》

was composed during the Tang Dynasty (AD618–907). It expands upon a famous poem, titled Seeing Yuan Er off to Anxi by the famous Tang dynasty poet Wang Wei. It depicts a scene of bidding farewell to a friend who is about to leave the Tang capital Chang'an on a trip west through Yang-guan (Yang-guan Pass) for a military mission in a remote place in Anxi. It is one of China's best-known classical musical pieces, and it has been sung down the centuries as a farewell melody.

(Lyrics translated by Jiawei Mao)

*On a crisp but warm day in the late spring,  
In the town of Wei-cheng, the light dust is damp after morning rain,  
Tiles and willows appear fresh and green;  
I urge you to finish a cup of ale again,  
West of Yang-guan no more confidants would be seen.  
Going through frosty mornings and frosty nights,  
Make haste, make haste!  
Passes and ferries on the journey afar,  
How melancholy your body and spirit are.  
Endure aches and pains, endure aches and pains, endure aches and pains along the way,  
Please take care, please take care!*

(Lyrics continued on the next page)

## Program Notes

### Parting at the Yang-Guan Gate 《陽關三疊》

(Lyrics, continued)

*In the town of Wei-cheng, the light dust is damp after morning rain,  
Tiles and willows appear fresh and green;  
I urge you to finish a cup of ale again,  
West of the Yang-guan no more confidants would be seen.  
Tearing myself away from you,  
Tear drops flood and wet my handkerchief.  
No more would I meet a confidant like you.  
How Sad am I, How sad am I!  
I will miss you day and night,  
Separated like two stars, each on the edge of the sky.  
Who can withstand this, who can withstand this? Who is able to withstand this?  
Longing for you each day; longing for you each day...*

*In the town of Wei-cheng, the light dust is damp after morning rain,  
Tiles and willows appear fresh and green;  
I urge you to finish a cup of ale again,  
West of the Yang-guan no more confidants would be seen.  
Grasses are green and smooth as velvet.  
Delicious ale! Delicious ale!  
My heart is tipsy before the first sip.  
The galloping horses carry you away, carry you away,  
When can I hear the sound of your returning carriage again?  
How many rounds of this ale can we pour?  
A thousand rounds will still be finite, but one inch of sentiment will remain infinite,  
All that is left, is the endless sorrow.  
Like the distance between the sky of Chu and the river of Xiang.  
Upon your arrival, I implore you to ask the geese and fish,  
Send word, send word, please always remember to send word to me,  
As if you were still by my side, by my side,  
Alas! I bade farewell to you today!  
Far across the distance, we can often meet in dreams,  
Soon I hope to hear the cries of the geese as guests, bringing me your heartfelt correspondence...*

## Program Notes

### Parting at the Yang-Guan Gate 《陽關三疊》

(Chinese lyrics)

渭城朝雨浥輕塵，客舍青青柳色新。  
勸君更進一杯酒，西出陽關無故人。  
霜夜與霜晨。  
遄行，遄行，長途越渡關津，惆悵役此身。  
歷苦辛，歷苦辛，歷歷苦辛，宜自珍，宜自珍。

渭城朝雨浥輕塵，客舍青青柳色新。  
勸君更進一杯酒，西出陽關無故人。  
依依顧戀不忍離，淚滴沾巾，無復相輔仁。  
感懷，感懷，思君十二時辰。  
商參各一垠，誰相因，誰相因，誰可相因，日馳神，日馳神。

渭城朝雨浥輕塵，客舍青青柳色新。  
勸君更進一杯酒，西出陽關無故人！  
芳草遍如茵。  
旨酒，旨酒，未飲心已先醇。  
載馳驅，載馳驅，何日言旋軒轅，能酌幾多巡！  
千巡有盡，寸衷難泯，無盡的傷悲。  
楚天湘水隔遠濱，期早托鴻鱗。  
尺素申，尺素申，尺素頻申，如相親，如相親。  
噫！從今一別，兩地相思入夢頻，聞雁來賓。