



Chinese Music Ensemble

Wang Guowei, director

Program

Traditional (Cantonese)
Arr. Wang Guowei
Ensemble

Thunder in a Drought

Traditional (Xinjiang)
Arr. Wang Guowei
Ensemble

The Cart Driver's Song

Yan Tiemin
Hulusi & ensemble

Fisherman's Song

Huang Haihuai
Arr. Wang Guowei
Erhu & ensemble

Mongolian Horse Race

He Zhanhao
Zheng solo

Jasmine Flower

Lin Jiaqing
Arr. Wang Guowei
Ensemble

Where the Water Lies

Mao Yuan
Arr. Wang Guowei
Ensemble

Joyous Spring

Performers

Bingyi Wang '18, zheng
Ziqi Lu '18, dizi
Jeffrey Wang '16, erhu
Daniel Fisher '18, liuqin
Lisa Qiya Li '16, piano, percussion

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.



Wang Guowei

Born in Shanghai, China, Wang Guowei joined the Shanghai Traditional Orchestra at age 17, later becoming erhu soloist and concertmaster. He gained national prominence in garnering the prestigious “ART Cup” award at the 1989 International Chinese Instrumental Music Competition and accolades for his performances at the 15th annual “Shanghai Spring Music Festival.” He has toured internationally in Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Belgium, Canada, England, Italy, and Australia. In America, Wang Guowei has been hailed by *The New York Times* and *Washington Post* music critics as a “master of the erhu” and praised for his “extraordinary” and “gorgeous” playing of the instrument.

Joining Music From China as Artistic Director in 1996, Wang Guowei has performed throughout the U.S. with appearances at Princeton, Duke, Pittsburgh, Yale, Wisconsin, Dayton, Bucknell, Vermont, Colgate, Indiana, Illinois State, Rhode Island, Texas A&M universities; Bard, Vassar, Dartmouth, Lafayette, St. Bonaventure, Williams, Middlebury colleges; Peabody Conservatory, UMKC Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, San Diego Museum of Art, Chautauqua Institution, 92nd Street Y, Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Boston Early Music Festival, and the Library of Congress. He has also performed with Music From China at the Dionysia Center for Arts and Culture in Rome, Italy, and with the Avison Ensemble in Newcastle, England. Wang Guowei also maintains an active solo career. His musical collaboration includes performances with the Virginia Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, PRISM Quartet, Music From Copland House, New Music Consort, Norfolk Chamber Consort, Ethos Percussion Group, Amelia Piano Trio, Third Angle New Music Ensemble, Continuum; Philadelphia Classical Symphony, Post Classical Symphony, DaCamera of Houston, Brooklyn Philharmonic; jazz artists Ornette Coleman, Anthony Braxton, Butch Morris, Kenny Garrett, and cellist Yo-Yo Ma; the Ying, Shanghai, Sunrise, Cassatt, and Todd Reynolds string quartets. Mr. Wang premiered Pulitzer Prize composer Zhou Long’s *Madame White Snake* presented by Opera Boston, and in Guo Wenjin’s highly acclaimed opera *Feng Yiting* at the 2012 Spoleto and Lincoln Center Festivals. and the 2013 Luminato Festival in Canada.

Giving expression to artistic creativity in composing new work, Wang Guowei seeks to expand the lexicon of the erhu and Chinese ensemble. This often leads to exploring unusual instrumental combinations of East and West. His works include *Sheng* for solo erhu; *Tea House* for Chinese ensemble which premiered at the 1998 Adelaide Festival; *Tang Wind* commissioned by the Multicultural Group for Chinese instruments and Western orchestra; *Two Pieces for Percussion Quartet: Kong – Wu* commissioned and premiered by the Ethos Percussion Group at Weill Recital Hall; *Two Plus Two* for Chinese string trio and tape; *Three Poems for Erhu*; *Lullaby* for erhu, clarinet and piano; *Songs for Huqin and Saxophone Quartet*; and *Tea House II* for Chinese trio. Orchestra training is an important part of Wang Guowei’s work in promoting Chinese music. He founded the Wesleyan University Chinese Music Ensemble in 2001 and conducted the orchestra for eight years. A similar program was established at New York University for two years. In 2011 Wang Guowei founded a third Chinese orchestra at Westminster Choir College at Rider University. To preserve the musical heritage of Chinese Americans, Wang Guowei founded the Music From China Youth Orchestra in 2004. He has conducted the 30-member orchestra at concert venues as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Dorothy Young Center for the Arts at Drew University, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institution’s Freer & Sackler Gallery of Art, New York Public Library for the Performing arts at Lincoln Center, New York University, and Middlebury College. He brought the orchestra to Shanghai in 2008, 2010, and to Taipei in 2012 for three collaborative concerts with award-winning youth orchestras in these cities. Wang Guowei is recipient of commissioning awards and artist grants from the American Composers Forum, New York State Council on the Arts, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Queens Council on the Arts, and New York Foundation for the Arts.

See music.williams.edu for full details and to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events:

Thu May 7	8:00pm	Spring Schubertiade with Richard Giarusso '00	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri May 8	1:00pm	Master Class with Richard Giarusso '00, baritone	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri May 8	5:00pm	Senior Recital with Ethan Borre '15, clarinet	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri May 8	8:00pm	Kusika/Zambezi Marimba Band Spring concert	'62 Center
Fri May 8	8:00pm	Williams Concert Choir & Williams Chamber Choir	Thompson Memorial Chapel
Sat May 9	4:00pm	Williams Percussion Ensemble at the Clark	Clark Art Institute, lawn
Sat May 9	8:00pm	Kusika/Zambezi Marimba Band Spring concert	'62 Center
Sun May 10	3:00pm	Senior Recital Bryn Reinstadler '15, Jennifer Helinek '15	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Tues May 12	6:00pm	Senior Recital with Nicole Chen '15, violin	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed May 13	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC	Chapin Hall, stage
Wed May 13	4:30pm	Indian Music Studio Recital	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed May 13	7:00pm	Small Jazz Ensembles	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu May 14	4:00pm	Patricia Ho '16, cello, Celeste Pepitone-Nahas '17	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu May 14	7:00pm	Williams Jazz Repertory Ensemble	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall