



UNIVERSITY OF
OREGON

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

MUSIC INSPIRED BY THE WORLD
TaiHei New Music Ensemble

Li Tao, director
Pedram Diba, director

Recording of UO concerts and events without prior permission is prohibited.

Performances sponsored by the UO School of Music and Dance are sometimes video recorded and photographed for a variety of uses, including both live simulcast and digital archive on the UO website, or for publicity and publications. Images of audience members may be included in these recordings and photos. By attending this event, audience members imply approval for the use of their image by the UO and the School of Music and Dance.

Season 115, Program 52

Aasen-Hull Hall
Sunday, Feb, 28, 2016 | 7:30 p.m.



Aurora (2014)

Fixed media

Wan Fang
(b. 1989)**Sea Longing** (2016)Rebecca Larkin, flute
Ramsey Sadaka, celloRamsey Sadaka
(b. 1991)**Ikaga Shite: A Prayer for Peace** (2012)Wind Speaks Wind Quintet:
Rebecca Larkin, flute
Tass Schweiger, oboe
Chelsea Oden, clarinet
Rose Stroback, bassoon
Andrea Kennard, French hornRebecca Larkin
(b. 1992)**River Snow** (2005)Melanie Haskins, Violin
Ramsey Sadaka, CelloMei-ling Lee
(b. 1970)

起坐鱼鸟间， 动摇山水影。
岩中响自合， 溪里言弥静。
无事令人幽， 停桡向余景。

Approaching Qingxi Among Mountains

Small boat going fast!
Arrived at a place, trees like clouds,
Looking down—fish; looking up—birds;
I move, shaking the mountain reflection.

The sound of rocks inside the mountain
Makes the river sound even quieter.
Having nothing to do, I enjoy a quiet scene;
Must stop the boat to face the shadow of sunset.

*English translation by Robert Kyr and Li Tao.***Aitake** (2016)

Nikolai Valov

“Aitake” takes its name from the 11 standard chords of shou - an instrument used in Japanese Gagaku music. The chords and their relative scale are used as raw materials that this piece attempts to evolve and transform slow, often dense blocks of sound from. Influences of this piece, in addition to Gagaku and the Aitake, are Spectralism, John Luther Adams, Dark Ambient Music and Drone Metal.

who was the greatest poet in Chinese history. These poems are all related to mountains (the meaning of shan), which are also one of the main themes of Li Bai's works.

CHINESE POEMS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS:

独坐敬亭山
众鸟高飞尽，孤云独去闲。
相看两不厌，只有敬亭山。

Sitting above in Jingting Mountain

Flock of birds—
High-flying, away.
Lonely cloud—
Gone away, alone.
Looking at each other,
Not bored.
Only with
Jingting Mountain.

峨眉山月歌
峨眉山月半轮秋，影入平羌江水流。
夜发清溪向三峡，思君不见下渝州。

Emei Mountain Moon Song

Emei Mountain, crescent moon;
Autumn is coming—
Reflection on Pingqiang River;
Water flowing.
Night, departing from Qingxi
To Sanxia—
Missing you, unseen;
Down to Yuzhou, appearing.

入清溪行山中
轻舟去何疾！已到云林境。

Invocation (2015)

Robert Wakeley, flute

Justin Ralls
(b.1987)

山水歌集 **Shan Shui** (2015)

- I. 独坐敬亭山 Sitting above in Jingting Mountain
- II. Bassoon solo
- III. 峨眉山月歌 Emei Mountain Moon Song
- IV. 入清溪行山中 Approaching Qingxi Among Mountains

Yang Zhaojun, soprano
Daniel Yim, bassoon

Li Tao
(b. 1985)

Aitake (2016)

Miya Saito-Beckman, violin I
Melanie Haskins, violin II
Nora Willauer, cello
Daniel Surprenant, percussion
Thomas Wagenet, electric guitar
Pedram Diba, conductor

Nikolai Valov
(b. 1993)

Aurora (2014)

Wan Fang

Aurora, a natural light that has different colors and varied shapes, is displayed in the sky, particularly in high latitude regions. This piece musically describes how the varied auroras emerge in the sky in different ways. The sound sometimes sustains for short periods, just like the fireworks flashing in the air, and just like the fireworks, quickly disappear. Sometimes the aurora shines in the sky for a few hours, just like a colorful huge screen, such as a full-dome movie. Sometimes it is like a ribbon, and other times the aurora is like a brilliant flame.

Sea Longing (2016)

Ramsey Sadaka

Sea Longing takes its inspiration from Sara Teasdale's poem of the same name. In it, the narrator expresses their enthrallment at the sea's great power. Rather than tracing the literal narrative of the poem, this piece seeks to convey the bleak atmosphere evoked by Teasdale's masterful choice of words.

Ikaga Shite: A Prayer for Peace (2012)

Rebecca Larkin

"Ikaga Shite: A Prayer for Peace" was inspired by a visit to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Park in 2012. I entitled this work Ikaga Shite, meaning "For What Reason," because of an experience I had in the park. Some elementary school children in the park were asking for-eigners questions in English for a school project, and they asked me why I was visiting Hiroshima. They were there to study peace, and they wanted to know "my reason" for being there. When I told them that I was also studying peace, they smiled at me. To thank me for answering their questions, the students gave me a paper crane that they had folded with "Peace" written on its wings. The search for peace not only brought me to Hiroshima, but is also the reason why I wrote Ikaga Shite. Children are the future---the voice of what is to be. They grow up learning about the horrors of human history and are the world's greatest enablers for a peace. Ikaga Shite juxtaposes the memory of Hiroshima's past with the children's search for a better future. The

echoes of Hiro-shima's memory are portrayed by the horn, while the clarity of the children's voices sound through the oboe. As long as children do not give up on the future, we will one day find peace.

River Snow (2005)

Mei-ling Lee

This piece is based on the Chinese poem River Snow by Liu Zangyuan (773—819), writer and poet of the Tang Dynasty. The theme's melody mirrors the tonal shifts that can be heard when the poem is recited in its original Chinese. I've translated the poem's text as follows:

"A thousand mountains—no bird's flight.
Ten thousand paths—no man's trace.
Single boat, an old man, in a straw raincoat.
Alone, fishing, in the icy river. Snow."

柳宗元
千山鳥飛絕
萬徑人蹤滅
孤舟蓑笠翁
獨釣寒江雪

Invocation (2015)

Justin Ralls

Invocation is inspired by my study of pre-Columbian music of the Andes. Flutes and whistles are thought to have been used to evoke and communicate with the spirits of the mountains and highlands. The connection between the whistles of birds and the wind are evoked as well in this piece, adding yet another spiritual dimension. Special thanks to Robert Wakeley, who performed in UO Andean Ensemble with me as well, and whose interpretation and hard work has given this piece life.

山水歌集 **Shan Shui** (2015)

Li Tao

Shan Shui is a song cycle based on three poems by Li Bai (701-762),