



For Immediate Release

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CHICAGO'S CHINESE FINE ARTS SOCIETY ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THIRD INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPOSITION COMPETITION

CHICAGO, IL, USA - February 1, 2011 - The Chinese Fine Arts Society (www.ChineseFineArts.org), is pleased to announce the following winners in their Migratory Journeys International Composition Competition:

Student Division: First Place - Daniel Lo (Hong Kong), *Sojourner's Song* for pipa, flute, contrabass, piano and percussion; **Second Place – Tonia Ko (Hong Kong/Hawaii),** *Moon Lullaby* for oboe, vibraphone and string trio; **Third Place - Chen Yao (Beijing/Chicago),** *Yearning for Chinese* zheng and double bass. Honorable mentions were also awarded to composers **H.E. Cicada Brokaw, Dic-Lung Fung, Bin Li and Kerwin Young.** A Special Mention is awarded to 14 year old **Le Yan Zhang (Shanghai)** for her composition, *Spring Frolic* for erhu and Chinese percussion.

Professional Division: Third Place – Liu Hao, *Limpid Eyes Image* for Chinese zheng, two Chinese dizi, piano and cello. First and Second Place prizes were not awarded in the professional division.

Prize-winning works will be premiered at the Migratory Journeys World Premiere Concerts in early 2012. Professional Division Awards are as follows: Third Place - \$1000. Student Division Awards are: First Place - \$1000; Second Place - \$500; Third Place – \$250. The judging panel's decision is final. Competition guidelines are available at www.chinesefinearts.org.

Judges for the competition were Chen Yi (composer), Stephen Burns (Fulcrum Point New Music Project), and Huang Ruo (composer).

"We are thrilled with the beauty and breadth of the compositions, as well as the ethnic and geographic diversity of the composers that participated in this competition," says Julie Tiao Ma, President of the Board of Directors of CFAS. She continues: "We look forward to presenting the world premiere concert of the winning works, which feature a broad range of instrumentation and styles that reflects the fresh perspective of the current crop of new composers."

The Chinese Fine Arts Society (CFAS)'s International Music Composition Competitions are sponsored twice a decade. This year, CFAS solicited new music compositions from composers worldwide inspired by the theme "Migratory Journeys". Composers were invited to participate by creating original music inspired by the wandering, resettling, and emigration of Chinese diaspora population through the world. The winning compositions are premiered in a high profile Chicago-area venue, performed by renowned musicians. Drawing upon the submissions by emerging as well as seasoned composers, the competition seeks to inspire innovation in the global music community. Music from the competition is incorporated into the required repertoire of the annual Music Festival in Honor of Confucius. Michael Djupstrom, Vivian Fung, Lu Pei, and Huang Ruo are among the previous winners.

The Migratory Journeys Competition's distinguished advisory panel included:

- Henry Fogel, Dean of the Chicago College for the Performing Arts, Roosevelt University
- Rachel Barton Pine, violinist
- Sophia Wong Boccio, Fulcrum Point New Music Project Executive Director
- Seth Boustead, Access New Music Executive Director

The Chinese Fine Arts Society (CFAS) was founded in 1984 and is dedicated to the presentation, education and promotion of Chinese Cultural Arts. By presenting performances of traditional and contemporary Chinese music compositions by Chinese and western composers, Chinese dance, and martial arts, CFAS seeks to reach a broad audience and heighten their awareness of the richness of Chinese culture. Through our core programs, CFAS honors the creation of, participation in, and appreciation of professional art. Our activities are roughly divided into six categories:

- Large scale multi-arts presentations and concerts at high profile, premiere public venues such as Navy Pier and Millennium Park
- The Music Festival in Honor of Confucius (MFHC), a competition for talented young pre-professional classical music performers
- Two annual free public concerts at the Chicago Cultural Center
- International Music Composition Competitions
- Music and dance outreach events at various Chicago venues
- Visual arts exhibitions and programs

Many previous CFAS concerts have featured performances by distinguished, internationally renowned classical and traditional musicians. CFAS recently celebrated our 25th Anniversary in July 2009 with, among other things, two events in Chicago's Millennium Park: *In Tribute: A Chinese Voyage*, a groundbreaking all-star concert of both traditional and cutting edge Chinese music at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion and a 200-performer dance, music and martial arts spectacle called *QiXi: A Chinese Love Story*.

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