



Nicholas Michael Smith

LOVE,
FRIENDSHIP
& LONGING

A Tang Poetry Song Cycle

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1. **Li Bai** **Seeing Meng Haoran Off to Yangzhou** 2:42
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
2. **Li Bai** **A Voyage to Jiangling** 1:23
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
3. **Wang Wei** **Seeing a Friend Off** 1:51
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
4. **Wang Wei** **Song of Wei City** 2:31
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
5. **Du Fu** **Seeing Yan Wu Off Again at Fengji Courier Station** 1:18
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
6. **Du Fu** **Moonlit Night** 1:59
Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone;
Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano
7. **Wang Wei** **Random Thoughts** 0:39
Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor;
Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano

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| 8. | Li Shangyin | Written to My Wife in the North on a Rainy Night | 2:09 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 9. | Shen Quanqi | Alone with No-one in Sight | 2:19 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 10. | Wang Changling | Sorrow of a Young Wife in Her Boudoir | 0:54 |
| | Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 11. | Du Fu | Spring Scene in Time of War | 1:55 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 12. | Du Fu | The Chancellor of Shu | 1:38 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone | | |
| 13. | Du Fu | Thinking of My Younger Brothers on a Moonlit Night | 1:27 |
| | Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 14. | He Zhizhang | Coming Home | 1:32 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |
| 15. | Wang Wei | Alone in a Bamboo Grove | 2:13 |
| | Mimi Doulton, soprano; Susan Legg, mezzo soprano; Ben Hancox-Lachman, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass-baritone; Shen Yue, piano; William Hancox, piano | | |

Total Playing Time 26:34

Dedication

This recording of *Love, Friendship & Longing*, Nicholas Smith's setting of Tang Dynasty poetry, marks a deeply meaningful moment in the long story of the Chopsticks Club and a personal friendship with its director-founders, H-J Colston-Inge and Theresa Booth.

Founded in 1993, the Chopsticks Club emerged at a time when China-uk engagement was still in its relative infancy. Its vision was simple yet ambitious: to bring people together across cultures through shared experience—through conversation, learning, and friendship.

Over the decades, it became a meeting place for British professionals and members of the first generation of Chinese professionals and students making their lives in London, fostering dialogue, understanding, and enduring personal and professional connections.

The themes of this work—love, friendship, and longing—resonate profoundly with that journey. They speak not only to the emotional world of Tang poetry, but also to the lived experience of those who have crossed cultures: the forging of friendships, the distance from home, and the enduring ties that connect people across time and place.

The origins of this composition are themselves rooted in such connections. Nicholas Michael Smith's long engagement with China, his friendships formed there in the early 1990s, and his collaboration with scholars of Chinese literature all contributed to the shaping of this work. Drawing on the richness of Tang poetry—widely regarded as the high point of Chinese

literary expression—he brings together voices from different traditions in a way that feels both authentic and newly imagined.

Music has long been a natural extension of the Chopsticks Club’s vision. In 2016, Mandarin Voices was formed under Nicholas Michael Smith’s artistic direction, with a repertoire devoted entirely to Chinese works and performed in Mandarin largely by non-native Mandarin speakers. This distinctive approach reflects a belief that cultural understanding is deepened not only through study, but through shared artistic endeavour. In this sense, the music itself becomes instrumental—not only in performance, but in connection—reaching beyond language and intellect to something more instinctive and human.

Love, Friendship & Longing is dedicated to H-J Colston-Inge and Theresa Booth in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Chopsticks Club and their commitment to building China-UK understanding. It was first performed at Cadogan Hall in 2018, a moment that brought together many strands of a shared journey: music, language, friendship, and cultural exchange. This recording now allows that moment to travel further, preserving not only the music itself but the spirit of collaboration that inspired it.

In the years since then, the founders have extended their commitment to China-uk understanding into education and the next generation through the founding of the educational charity Engage with China. Yet it is in works such as this—where art, language, and shared purpose meet—that the original vision finds its most resonant expression.

H-J Colston-Inge and Theresa Booth are deeply honoured by this dedication and by the continuing life of this masterpiece of cross-cultural, artistic expression.

Composer's Note

I had two motivations to compose these settings of Tang poetry. First was the excitement of Brahms – I used to run a chamber music series at Peking University, and the Liebeslieder Waltzes were always a popular program. That got me to thinking about whether there could be a similar work in Chinese. So the idea of writing a set of Chinese love songs for the same forces that Brahms used captured my imagination. That led me to talk often with my old friend and China scholar, Dr. Andrew Andreassen. The result of those discussions was to understand that China has no love poetry tradition in the way Western Europe understands that idea (that's not to say that love poetry doesn't exist), and his suggestion was that I look to Tang poetry for inspiration, as Tang poetry is acknowledged as the greatest Chinese poetry so far, and is absolutely the poetry on the lips of all educated Chinese people. By this stage, we were both invested, and I asked Andy to curate a selection of poetry, because I felt (and still feel) that while composers are perfectly capable of selecting poems by themselves, other people's input always makes for a richer result. Dr. Andreassen kindly obliged and provided me with a selection of Tang poetry in the groupings given here, which I then moulded into the work eventually titled *Love, Friendship & Longing*. And the second motivation? Theresa Booth, who I first got to know when we were both volunteers in the Chinese countryside back in the early 1990s, and HJ Colston-Inge, who became a friend when I moved to Beijing (I believe I first met her as a swashbuckling Robin Hood back when Beijing had a UK style pantomime and I was drafted to play piano in the band). Both have done more for China – UK relations than is generally known or admitted, initially under the umbrella of the now unfashionably named Chopsticks Club, which is in fact a very serious platform for UK – China exchange. The

Club was about to celebrate 25 years, so I felt it only right to pay tribute to HJ and Theresa's work by writing a piece for them. *Love, Friendship & Longing* was premiered in Cadogan Hall in 2018. It's a source of considerable pride to me that a recording is now available, and for this I must thank Yang Ping, a native of Xianning (the place where I volunteered in the 1990s), who had the vision and generosity to enable this piece of cultural exchange to come to fruition.

作曲家手记

我创作这些唐诗音乐作品有两个动因。首先是对勃拉姆斯的热情——我曾在北京大学负责一个室内乐系列演出，其中《爱之歌圆舞曲》总是备受欢迎的曲目。这让我开始思考，是否可以创作一部类似形式的中国作品。于是我萌生了一个想法：用与勃拉姆斯相同的编制，写一组中国情歌，这个念头深深吸引了我。随后，我经常与老朋友、中国研究学者安德鲁·安德烈亚森博士进行交流。通过这些讨论让我逐渐意识到，中国并没有西欧所理解的那种爱情诗歌传统（这并不是说中国没有爱情诗）。他建议我从唐诗中寻找灵感，因为唐诗被公认为是迄今为止最伟大的中国诗歌，也是所有受过教育的中国人常挂在嘴边的作品。到这个阶段，我们都已经深度投入其中。我请安德鲁帮我挑选诗作，因为我觉得（至今仍觉得），虽然作曲家完全有能力自己选诗，但他人的参与总能带来更丰富的成果。安德烈亚森博士欣然应允，为我提供了按当前分组编排的唐诗选，我随后将其塑造成最终命名为《爱、友谊与思念》的作品。那么第二个动因呢？早在上世纪90年代初，我和特里萨·布斯在中国农村做志愿者时相识，而HJ·科尔斯顿-英奇则是在我们都居住在北京时成为朋友的（我记得第一次见她时，她扮演着豪迈的罗宾汉，那时

北京还有英国风格的哑剧）。她们为中英关系所做的贡献，比普遍所知或承认的要多得多——最初是在如今已不太时髦的“筷子俱乐部”名下，这实际上是一个非常严肃的中英交流平台。该俱乐部即将庆祝成立25周年，我觉得理应创作一首作品向HJ和特里萨的工作致敬。《爱、友谊与思念》于2018年在卡多冈音乐厅首演。令我深感自豪的是，如今已有录音版本面世。为此我必须感谢咸宁（我90年代做志愿者的地方）本地人杨平女士，正是她的远见与慷慨，促成了这一文化交流成果的诞生。

Love, Friendship & Longing

A Tang Poetry Song Cycle

Part 1. Meeting or Saying Goodbye

Li Bai

李白

Seeing Meng Haoran Off to Yangzhou

送孟浩然之广陵

故人西辞黄鹤楼
烟花三月下扬州
孤帆远影碧空尽
惟见长江天际流

Yellow Crane Terrace: my old friend bids me goodbye;
To Yangzhou in the mists of flowers and Spring he goes.
His single sail's far shadow melts in the blue void;
All I can see is the sky to which the Yangtze flows.

Translation by Vikram Seth

Li Bai

李白

A Voyage to Jiangling

下江陵

朝辞白帝彩云间
千里江陵一日还
两岸猿声啼不住
轻舟已过万重山

I bade farewell to Baidi as sunrise coloured the clouds,
And made the long journey to Jiangling in one day.
The gibbons on both riverbanks howled without pause,
Even as our boat left the endless mountains behind.

Translation by Nicholas Michael Smith

Wang Wei

王维

Seeing a Friend Off

送别

山中相送罢
日暮掩柴扉
春草明年绿
王孙归不归

After bidding you farewell in the mountains,
I reached home at dusk and closed up my gate.
The grass will be green again next spring,
But, friend of friends, when will I see you again?

Translation by Nicholas Michael Smith

Wang Wei Song of Wei City

王维

渭城曲

渭城朝雨浥轻尘
客舍青青柳色新
劝君更尽一杯酒
西出阳关无故人

In Wei City, the dust is wet with morning rain,
And the willows outside the inn are fresh and green.
I ask you to empty one more cup of wine,
As once through the Yang Pass, all will be strangers.

Translation by Nicholas Michael Smith

Du Fu

杜甫

Seeing Yan Wu Off Again at Fengji Courier Station

奉济驿重送严公四韵

远送从此别
青山空复情
几时杯重把
昨夜月同行
列郡讴歌惜
三朝出入荣
江村独归处
寂寞养残生

We have journeyed together but I can go with you no further.
The verdant mountains are behind us now, and my feelings are complex:
When shall we raise our cups to each other again,
As we did last night, strolling under the moon?
My neighbours bade you farewell in song,
As befits someone who has served three emperors with distinction.
I shall return alone to my village with its stream,
And live my remaining years in solitude.

Translation by Nicholas Michael Smith

Part 2. Pining for Husband, Wife, Home, or Friend

Du Fu

杜甫

Moonlit Night

月夜

今夜鄜州月
闺中只独看
遥怜小儿女
未解忆长安
香雾云鬟湿
清辉玉臂寒
何时倚虚幌
双照泪痕干

In Fuzhou, far away my wife is watching
The moon alone tonight and my thoughts fill
With sadness for my children, who can't think
Of me here in Chang'an; they're too young still.
Her cloud-soft hair is moist with fragrant mist.
In the clear light her white arms sense the chill.
When will we feel the moonlight dry our tears,
Leaning together on our window sill?

Translation by Vikram Seth

Wang Wei
王维

君自故乡来
应知故乡事
来日绮窗前
寒梅著花未

Random Thoughts
杂诗

You came from my hometown,
So you must know all the news.
When you set out, was the winter plum
That grows near the window in flower?
Translation by Nicholas Michael Smith

Li Shangyin Written to My Wife in the North on a Rainy Night
李商隐 夜雨寄北

君问归期未有期
巴山夜雨涨秋池
何当共剪西窗烛
却话巴山夜雨时

You asked when I will return, but I don't yet know.
It's raining here tonight in Ba Shan and the pool is overflowing.
When will I be with you again at our west window in the candle glow,
To live again with you these rainy nights at Ba Shan?

Translation by Andrew Andreasen

Shen Quanqi

沈佺期

Alone with No-one in Sight

独不见

卢家少妇郁金堂
海燕双栖玳瑁梁
九月寒砧催木叶
十年征戍忆辽阳
白狼河北音书断
丹凤城南秋夜长
谁为含愁独不见
更教明月照流黄

Lonely and sad in her room is Lu's young wife;
Above her a pair of sea swallows are perched on the rafter.
It's September and the leaves are falling in the cold wind;
Ten years he's been away soldiering in Liaoyang.
North of the White Wolf River, no words or letters come;
South of Red Bird Town, autumn nights are long;
Who can't see her lonely sadness
And not ask the moon to shine its golden light on her?

Translation by Andrew Andreassen

Wang Changling Sorrow of a Young Wife in Her Boudoir
王昌龄 闺怨

闺中少妇不知愁
春日凝妆上翠楼
忽见陌头杨柳色
悔教夫婿觅封侯

In her bedroom chamber, the young wife is untroubled;
One spring day, she dresses up and climbs the Jade Tower;
But, suddenly she sees the green weeping willows;
And wishes her lover was not elsewhere searching for the trappings of office.

Translation by Andrew Andreasen

Part 3. Sorrow for the Coming of War, the State of the Country

Du Fu

杜甫

国破山河在
城春草木深
感时花溅泪
恨别鸟惊心
烽火连三月
家书抵万金
白头搔更短
浑欲不胜簪

Spring Scene in Time of War

春望

guo po shan he zai
cheng chun cao mu shen
gan shi hua jian lei
hen bie niao jing xin
feng huo lian san yue
jia shu di wan jin
bai tou sao geng duan
hun yu bu sheng zan

The state lies ruined; hills and streams survive;
Spring in the city; grass and leaves now thrive.
Moved by the times the flowers shed their dew;
The birds seem startled; they hate parting too.
The steady beacon fires are three months old;
A word from home is worth a ton of gold.
I scratch my white hair, which has grown so thin
It soon won't let me stick my hairpin in!

Translation by Vikram Seth

Du Fu

杜甫

丞相祠堂何处寻
锦官城外柏森森
映阶碧草自春色
隔叶黄鹂空好音
三顾频频天下计
两朝开济老臣心
出师未捷身先死
长使英雄泪满襟

The Chancellor of Shu

蜀相

The Chancellor of Shu, where may his shrine be seen?
Among dense cypress trees beyond city walls.
Unviewed against the steps the grass greets spring in green;
Sweet-voiced, leaf screened, unheard, a yellow oriole calls.
Begged thrice to plan the world, he finally complied;
He founded or maintained two reigns with faithfulness.
Before his armies proved victorious he died.
Heroic men shed tears to think of his distress.

Translation by Vikram Seth

Du Fu
杜甫

Thinking of My Younger Brothers on a Moonlit Night
月夜忆舍弟

戍鼓断人行
边秋一雁声
露从今夜白
月是故乡明
有弟皆分散
无家问死生
寄书长不达
况乃未休兵

The sound of drums breaks through the marching soldiers;
At the edge of the autumn wilderness, the cry of a goose.
Tonight the dew begins to turn white;
In my home town the moon was always brighter.
My brothers are all in different places now;
And I have no one to ask if they are still alive;
My letters are no longer getting through.
It's natural though, with fighting going on.

Translation by Andrew Andreassen

Part 4. The Eremitic Tradition

He Zhizhang

贺知章

Coming Home

回乡偶书

少小离家老大回
乡音未改鬓毛衰
儿童相见不相识
笑问客从何处来

I left home as a youth and return now an old man;
No change in the words I speak, but less hair at my temples.
The children I meet do not remember me;
And laughingly ask, "Where are you from?"

Translation by Andrew Andreassen

Wang Wei
王维

Alone in a Bamboo Grove
竹里馆

独坐幽篁里
弹琴复长啸
深林人不知
明月来相照

In a shady stand of bamboo, I sit alone;
Whistling as I play my instrument.
No one sees me in the deep forest;
But the moon illumines me.

Translation by Andrew Andreasen

MIMI DOULTON – SOPRANO

Mimi is a soprano of British-Pakistani heritage, who has been living in Stuttgart, Germany since 2020. She studied Musicology and Foreign Languages at King's College London, followed by a Masters in Vocal Performance at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Second prize-winner at the 2021 John Cage Interpretation Awards Halberstadt, Mimi was also a finalist in the 2022 Royal Overseas League Vocal Competition and the 2024 Peter Hulsen Orchestral Song Award.

She is committed to the creation of new theatrical works, and made her professional debut as Mary in the world premiere of Giorgio Battistelli's *Wake* with Birmingham Opera Company in 2018. Subsequent roles have included Max in Knussen's *Where the Wild Things Are* with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra and Shadwell Opera, DHL Driver in the premiere of Oliver Leith's *Last Days* at the Royal Ballet and Opera and with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, 1. Mädchen in Weill's *Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny* at Staatsoper Stuttgart, and Thea in Ludger Vollmer's new opera of *Frühlings Erwachen* at Staatsoper Hamburg. She has understudied in new creations by Beat Furrer at Opernhaus Zürich, and Philippe Manoury at Oper Köln.

On the concert stage she has worked with ensembles such as Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, Decoder Ensemble, Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne Montreal, London Sinfonietta, the österreichisches ensemble für neue musik, and soloists from the Bayerische Rundfunk Symphony Orchestra. She has sung under conductors including Thomas Adès, Vimbayi Kaziboni, Peter Rundel, Johannes Kalitzke and Naomi Woo, and appeared at venues and festivals including Wigmore Hall, the Southbank Centre Purcell Room, Time of Music Festival in Finland, Cervantino Festival in Mexico, and the Residenzsaal in Munich.

mimidoulton.com



Mimi Doulton © Anna-Sophie Peschke

米米·道尔顿 - 女高音

这位英巴混血女高音自2020年起定居德国斯图加特。她毕业于伦敦国王学院音乐学与外语专业，后于市政厅音乐与戏剧学院获声乐表演硕士学位。2021年荣获哈尔伯施塔特约翰·凯奇演绎奖二等奖，2022年入围皇家海外联盟声乐比赛总决赛，2024年跻身彼得·胡尔森管弦乐艺术歌曲奖决赛圈。

她致力推动新剧场作品创演：2018年以伯明翰歌剧公司世界首演的乔治·巴蒂斯利《苏醒》中玛丽一角完成职业首秀。此后塑造的经典角色包括：与班贝格交响乐团及沙德韦尔歌剧公司合作的克努森《野兽家园》中的马克斯、皇家芭蕾舞歌剧院与洛杉矶爱乐联合首演的奥利弗·利斯《最后的日子》中的快递司机、斯图加特国家歌剧院上演的魏尔《马哈哥尼城的兴衰》中的少女、汉堡国家歌剧院推出的路德格·福尔默新歌剧《春之觉醒》中的蒂娅。她还曾在苏黎世歌剧院为贝亚特·富勒的新作、在科隆歌剧院为菲利普·马努里的创作担任替补演员。

在音乐会舞台上，她与伯明翰当代音乐集团、解码乐团、蒙特利尔新现代乐团、伦敦小交响乐团、奥地利新音乐团及巴伐利亚广播交响乐团独奏家们保持密切合作。她合作

过的指挥包括托马斯·阿德斯、文巴伊·卡齐博尼、彼得·伦德尔、约翰内斯·卡利茨克、娜奥米·吴等。她登台的场所与音乐节包括威格摩尔音乐厅、南岸中心普塞尔音乐厅、芬兰时间音乐节、墨西哥塞万提诺艺术节及慕尼黑官邸音乐厅。

mimidoulton.com

SUSAN LEGG – MEZZO SOPRANO

Susan studied singing and piano as joint first studies at the Royal College of Music and National Opera Studio.

Since winning the National Mozart Singing Competition, Susan's career has taken her to major venues worldwide. She has given vocal and piano recitals at the Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room and St. John's Smith's Square, has performed at Glyndebourne, Bayreuth, Wexford and Aldeburgh Festivals, the Walton Trust, Ischia and toured Handel's *Messiah* in Mexico.

Susan has broadcast for BBC Radio 3, Norwegian Radio and has freelanced with the BBC Singers. In 2019 she featured on ITV's *Endeavour* as the tragic opera diva in Matthew Slater's TV opera *La Sposa del Demonio*.

Engagements include the world premiere of Nicholas Michael Smith's *Love, Friendship & Longing* in Cadogan Hall, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* in Queen Elizabeth Hall, Mozart's *Requiem* in Cadogan Hall and Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* in Dorchester Abbey. She performed Elgar's *Sea Pictures* with conductor Brian Wright and Maidstone Symphony Orchestra in 2024.

During the first Lockdown Susan wrote the song "Hold on Tight" which she performed and recorded with Guy Fletcher from Dire Straits, raising money for NHS Charities Together.

For cinema and TV, Susan has collaborated with composer Stephen Baysted on scores for director Phil Grabsky's feature films: *The Impressionists and the man who made them*; *Renoir: Revered and Reviled*; *I, Claude Monet* and *The Young Picasso*. Susan was solo vocalist and pianist on video game soundtracks for *Project CARS*; *Project Cars 2 and 3*, *RuneScape* and *Need for Speed: Shift 2 Unleashed*. She has sung on films including *Chicken Run: Dawn*

of the Nugget, Shaun the Sheep Movie: Farmageddon, Mulan, Gladiator II and The Dog Stars.

Susan co-wrote the scores with Stephen Baysted for the films *My National Gallery* (2024) and *Dawn of Impressionism: Paris 1874* (2025).

susanlegg.co.uk



苏珊在英国皇家音乐学院及国家歌剧工作室以声乐与钢琴双主修完成学业。

自赢得全国莫扎特声乐比赛后，苏珊的艺术足迹遍及全球重要场馆。她曾在威格摩尔音乐厅、普塞尔音乐厅及史密斯广场圣约翰教堂举办声乐与钢琴独奏会，登台格林德伯恩、拜罗伊特、韦克斯福德、奥尔德堡音乐节，亮相沃尔顿信托基金与伊斯基亚岛艺术活动，并赴墨西哥巡演亨德尔名作《弥赛亚》。

她为BBC第三电台、挪威广播电台录制节目，并以自由演唱者身份与BBC合唱团合作。2019年出演ITV电视剧《摩斯探长前传》，在马修·斯莱特创作的电视歌剧《魔鬼新娘》中塑造了悲情歌剧女伶的形象。

近期重要演出包括：尼古拉斯·史密斯《爱、友谊与思念》世界首演（卡多冈音乐厅）、贝多芬《庄严弥撒》（伊丽莎白女王音乐厅）、莫扎特《安魂曲》（卡多冈音乐厅）及罗西尼《小庄严弥撒》（多切斯特修道院）。2024年与指挥布莱恩·赖特及梅德斯通交响乐团合作演绎埃尔加《海景》。

英国首次疫情封控期间，苏珊创作歌曲《坚守》，与恐怖海峡乐队成员盖伊·弗莱彻共同录制，为英国NHS联合慈善机构筹款。

在影视领域，她与作曲家斯蒂芬·贝斯特德合作为导演菲尔·格拉布斯基的多部纪录片创作配乐：《印象派与缔造者》《雷诺阿：备受尊崇与唾弃》《我，克劳德·莫奈》《青年毕加索》。她还担任《赛车计划》三部曲、《江湖》及《极品飞车：变速2》等游戏原声的独唱与钢琴演奏，并演唱过《小鸡快跑：鸡块新时代》《小羊肖恩2：末日农场》《花木兰》《角斗士II》《狗星》等电影配乐。

苏珊与斯蒂芬·贝斯特德联合创作纪录片《我的国家美术馆》（2024）与《印象派黎明：巴黎1874》（2025）的配乐。

susanlegg.co.uk

BEN HANCOX-LACHMAN – TENOR

Ben is establishing himself as a tenor in London and the Southeast, performing oratorio, song and opera. Alongside his singing career, he is studying for a PhD at Imperial College London with Bill Rutherford, focussing on the structure and function of photosynthetic proteins.

Growing up in a family with two working musicians, Ben has performed regularly since childhood. He was an honorary music scholar at Sevenoaks School and was a prize winner in the 2017 Junior Association of English Singers and Speakers Competition.

Since embarking on a freelance career, he has performed many oratorio works including the title role in Handel's *Samson*, Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, and Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.

Ben has a wealth of experience on stage, playing the lead role in Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, and more recently as Don Curzio/Basilio in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, and Marco in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*.

Additionally, he has performed an extensive repertoire in recital, with a range of styles and composers from Schumann to Messiaen, and in 2025 premiered John Hawkins' song cycle *Both Beauties*.

He has participated in multiple recordings, including as a boy treble in a live studio recording with Shelley Katz, and more recently *Love, Friendship & Longing*, a setting of Tang Dynasty poems by Nicholas Michael Smith.

Future engagements include Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* with orchestra, the evangelist in Bach's *St John Passion*, Lucas in Haydn's *Seasons*, and a project in collaboration with The Symphonova bringing to light music from suppressed composers.

benhancoxlachman.co.uk



Ben Hancox-Lachman

本·汉考克斯-拉克曼 - 男高音

本正以伦敦及英格兰东南部为据点，在清唱剧、艺术歌曲与歌剧领域崭露头角。在歌唱事业之外，他同时在帝国理工学院攻读博士学位，师从比尔·拉瑟福德，主攻光合蛋白的结构与功能研究。

本成长于双音乐从业者家庭，自幼便活跃于舞台。他曾在七橡树学校获得荣誉音乐奖学金，并斩获2017年英语演唱与演讲青少年协会大赛奖项。

开启自由职业生涯后，他演绎了多部清唱剧作品，包括亨德尔《参孙》中的同名主角、海顿《纳尔逊弥撒》以及巴赫《圣诞清唱剧》。

本在舞台剧领域同样积淀深厚：曾主演桑德海姆音乐剧《理发师陶德》，近年饰演莫扎特《费加罗的婚礼》中的唐·库尔齐奥/巴西利奥、吉尔伯特与萨利文《贡多拉船夫》中的马可。

此外，他的独唱音乐会曲目跨越舒曼至梅西安的多元风格，并于2025年首演约翰·霍金斯声乐套曲《双重美丽》。

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本参与过多部录音作品，包括童声高音时期与谢利·卡茨合作的现场录音，以及尼古拉斯·史密斯以唐诗谱曲的《爱、友谊与思念》。

未来演出计划包括：马勒《旅行者之歌》管弦乐版、巴赫《圣约翰受难曲》中的福音传道者、海顿《四季》中的卢卡斯，以及与西莫诺娃交响乐团合作发掘遭禁作曲家遗珠作品的项目。

benhancoxlachman.co.uk

CHRISTOPHER FOSTER – BASS-BARITONE

Educated at Newcastle University and the Britten-Pears School, Christopher was a winner of the N.F.M.S. Young Concert Artists' Award, a finalist in the Richard Tauber Competition and one of the inaugural Samling Scholars with Thomas Allen.

An experienced concert performer throughout the UK and Europe with orchestras such as the BBC SO and Les Musiciens du Louvre, and conductors such as Pierre Boulez and Sir Andrew Davis, highlights have included: Paweł Łukaszewski's *Requiem* (world premiere, Presteigne Festival); Mendelssohn's *Elijah* (Durham Cathedral); Mozart's *Requiem* (Royal Festival Hall); Nicholas Michael Smith's *Love, Friendship & Longing* (world premiere, Cadogan Hall); Handel's *Messiah* (Forbidden City Concert Hall, Beijing) and Bach's *St Matthew Passion* as Pilate at the BBC Proms.

As a recitalist, he has been a particular champion of English song, appearing in diverse venues such as The Purcell Room, Banqueting House, Presteigne, Britannia in Bamberg festival in Germany and three appearances for the English Music Festival.

Operatic roles have included Mozart's Sarastro and Leporello, whilst other parts have included Kawabata, Philip Glass *Hotel of Dreams* (UK premiere); Arkel, Debussy *Impressions de Pelléas* (Opera on the Move); Traveller, Britten *Curlew River* (Opera Nova); Sacristan, Puccini *Tosca*, Arthur, Maxwell Davies *The Lighthouse* and appearances in five chamber operas by Edward Lambert, the latest in which - *The Masque of Vengeance* - he had to murder two of the cast: "...he arranged for Vacuo's death with great satisfaction and rich vocal resonance."

He studies with Gary Coward but when not singing, he enjoys photography, fine wine, the cinema and cycling, though not necessarily in that order.

christopher-foster.com



Christopher Foster

克里斯托弗毕业于纽卡斯尔大学与布里顿-皮尔斯学校，曾荣获英国全国音乐联合会青年音乐会艺术家奖、入围理查·陶伯声乐大赛总决赛，并成为首批萨姆林声乐学者（师从托马斯·艾伦）。

作为活跃于英国及欧洲各地的资深音乐会歌唱家，他曾与BBC交响乐团、卢浮宫音乐家古乐团等乐团合作，同台指挥大师包括皮埃尔·布列兹与安德鲁·戴维斯爵士。其代表性演出包括：帕维尔·卢卡谢夫斯基《安魂曲》（普雷斯泰尼音乐节世界首演）、门德尔松《以利亚》（达勒姆大教堂）、莫扎特《安魂曲》（皇家节日音乐厅）、尼古拉斯·史密斯《爱、友谊与思念》（卡多冈音乐厅世界首演）、亨德尔《弥赛亚》（北京中山公园音乐堂），以及在BBC逍遥音乐节上饰演巴赫《马太受难曲》中的彼拉多。

作为独唱家，他尤为推崇英国声乐作品，登台场所包括普塞尔音乐厅、国宴厅、普雷斯泰尼音乐节、德国班贝格不列颠尼亚音乐节，并三度献演英国音乐节。

克里斯托弗的歌剧角色包括莫扎特《魔笛》中的萨拉斯特罗与《唐璜》中的莱波雷洛。其他重要演绎：菲利普·格

拉斯《梦之酒店》英国首演中的川端、德彪西《佩利亚斯印象》巡演版中的阿凯尔、布里顿《麻鹬河》中的旅人、普契尼《托斯卡》中的教堂司事、马克斯韦尔·戴维斯《灯塔》中的阿瑟，以及爱德华·兰伯特五部室内歌剧的演出——其中在最新作品《复仇假面》中他饰演反派，剧评评价“他以饱满醇厚的嗓音淋漓尽致地演绎了对瓦库奥的处决”。

克里斯托弗师从加里·考沃德研习声乐。舞台之外，他热爱摄影、品鉴佳酿、观影与骑行。

christopher-foster.com

SHEN YUE - PIANO

Shen Yue completed her undergraduate studies at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. In 2003, she was admitted to the Royal Academy of Music (UK) with outstanding academic results and a scholarship, studying under the renowned pianist Michael Dussek. During her studies in the UK, she won numerous awards for her excellent performance, including the Wilfrid Parry Prize, Krein Scholarship, Douglas Lameron Prize, Flora Nielsen Prize, Benjamin Dale Award, the Best Accompanist Award at the year-end graduation, Christina Carpenter Piano Prize, as well as “The Vice-Principal Special Award” and a prize grant conferred by the Royal Academy of Music.

She was selected as the only pianist for the 2005 “Song Circle” concert series at the Royal Academy of Music, and recorded a CD with her collaborating vocalists for the Academy, which was released in 2007.

While living in the UK, Shen Yue performed at major international music festivals, including the Cheltenham Music Festival, the Leeds Festival and the Jersey Music Festival. She also gave live performances on BBC Radio 3, and concerts at London’s prestigious Purcell Room, receiving high acclaim from local music magazines and websites.

Since returning to China, in addition to her work at China’s Central Conservatory of Music, Shen Yue has been actively performing in major concert halls across the country. She has collaborated with the renowned French Percussions de Lyon and the Beijing International Festival Chorus in concerts in Beijing and Shanghai, and her tour in China with the Debussy String Quartet was a great success. In 2010, she was invited to participate in the cultural events arranged for the Year of Australia in China, and gave a highly successful recital at the National Centre for the Performing Arts with the celebrated Australian violinist Niki Vasilakis. In the same year, she collaborated with Dr. Brandon Christensen, an American violinist and educator, on several successful concert tours and masterclasses across

China, and subsequently completed a lecture and concert tour with him in the United States in 2011.

From 2009 to 2019 Shen Yue was the exclusive pianist for all chamber music concerts presented by Peking Sinfonietta and Time Arts at Peking University, a series of concerts that earned widespread praise and presented PRC premieres of diverse repertoire ranging from Chausson's Piano Quartet to Edward Dudley Hughes's Media Vita.

In 2016, Shen Yue formed a duo piano partnership with the distinguished pianist Li Meiyun. Their joint projects — including the “Between Black and White” concerts at the Beijing Concert Hall and other venues, duo piano concerts with the Jilin Symphony Orchestra, and performances with local choirs — have made the pair increasingly popular. In the same year, Shen Yue was invited by Percussions de Lyon to perform with them in France. In 2017, she performed the complete cycle of Beethoven's Sonatas for Piano and Violin with violinist Ye Lin at the Beijing Concert Hall and the Peking University Concert Hall.

In addition to her involvement in the premiere of *Love, Friendship & Longing* at Cadogan Hall in 2018, Shen Yue has performed and recorded a number of Nicholas Michael Smith's piano duets, notably *Memories of Childhood*, with Michael Tsalka.

In recognition of her distinguished contributions to the field of music, Shen Yue was awarded the title “Associate of the Royal Academy of Music” by the Royal Academy of Music.



Shen Yue

沈玥 - 钢琴

沈玥毕业于中国中央音乐学院钢琴系。现任中央音乐学院指挥系双钢琴艺术指导。2003年她以优异的成绩考入英国皇家音乐学院并获得奖学金，师从著名钢琴家 Michael Dussek。留英期间，她出色的表现使她多次在比赛中获奖：Wilfrid Parry Prize、Krein Scholarship、Douglas Lameron Prize、Flora Nielsen Prize、Benjamin Dale Award、年终最佳伴奏奖、Christina Carpenter Piano Prize，和英国皇家音乐学院授予她的“The Vice-Principal Special Award”(院长特别奖)及奖金。她被选为2005年皇家音乐学院“Song Circle”系列音乐会的唯一钢琴家，并与她合作的歌唱家共同为皇家音乐学院录制了CD，已于2007年出版发行。

旅居英国期间，沈玥受邀参加了各大音乐节，其中有 Cheltenham 音乐节、Leeds音乐节和Jersey音乐节。她亦曾在英国BBC电台3频道现场表演，并在伦敦著名音乐厅 Purcell Room举办音乐会，受到当地音乐杂志和网站的高度赞誉。

回国后，沈玥任职于中央音乐学院，同时活跃于国内各大音乐厅舞台。她应邀与著名的法国里昂打击乐团和北京国际节日合唱团合作，在北京和上海举办音乐会；与法国德彪西弦乐四重奏在中国的巡演取得了巨大成功。2010

年沈玥受邀参与中国澳大利亚文化年系列演出，与澳大利亚著名小提琴家Niki Vasilakis 在国家大剧院成功举办了专场音乐会。同年，她与美国小提琴家、教育家Brandon Christensen博士成功举办了数场中国巡演与大师班，并于2011年赴美巡演讲学。

自2009年至2019年，沈玥担任北京新雅空气乐团与时代佳艺 在北京大学举办的所有室内音乐会的专属钢琴家。该系列 音乐会口碑斐然，更完成了多部作品的中国首演，曲目包 括肖松《钢琴四重奏》、爱德华·达德利·修斯《尘世生命》等。

2016年，沈玥与著名钢琴家李美彦开始了双钢琴的组合，先后在北京音乐厅等场地推出《黑白之间》音乐会、与吉林省交响乐团合作双钢琴音乐会、与地方合唱团合作演出，深受观众喜爱。同年，沈玥应法国里昂打击乐团邀请赴法演出交流。2017年，她与小提琴家叶霖在北京音乐厅和北京大学音乐厅完成了贝多芬全套钢琴小提琴奏鸣曲的演出。

除2018年在卡多冈音乐厅参演《爱、友谊与思念》世界首演外，沈玥与Michael Tsalka联袂演出并录制了尼古拉斯·史密斯的一系列钢琴四手联弹套曲，包括《童年回忆》。

由于沈玥在音乐领域的杰出表现，她被英国皇家音乐学院授予“Associate of the Royal Academy of Music”荣誉。

WILLIAM HANCOX – PIANO

William was a Scholar at St. John's College Cambridge, then won a scholarship to Trinity College of Music to study with the Hungarian pianist Joseph Weingarten, himself a student of Dohnányi, Bartók and Kodály. He has performed in major venues for over 40 years as a soloist, chamber musician and accompanist throughout the UK and internationally, broadcast for Classic FM and the BBC and made a number of recordings. He has held staff pianist positions at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Trinity College of Music and the Britten-Pears School in Aldeburgh.

He has performed throughout Europe, with concerts in Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Iceland. He has also made several trips to China, performing in the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing under the baton of Nicholas Michael Smith and giving masterclasses, song recitals and a solo recital.

William has a lifelong interest in the repertoire for voice and piano and has performed hundreds of song recitals. His approach was greatly influenced by studying with the famous accompanist Martin Isepp, formerly Head of Music at Glyndebourne Opera House. He has also worked extensively as a vocal coach, both at home and abroad, with many students now pursuing successful singing careers.

Based in the UK, William has become increasingly involved in projects which contribute to live music making in his own community in East Sussex. For many years he was pianist and artistic director of the chamber music series Music at Lime. His most recent project is an innovative scheme called Music Box Wealden, which brings quality classical music into his local area.

Recent activities include recordings of English song with soprano Lorna Windsor and recitals with distinguished mezzo soprano Louise Winter. More musical projects with composer Nicholas Michael Smith are planned in the coming years.

willhancox.co.uk



威廉·汉考克斯 - 钢琴家

威廉曾获剑桥大学圣约翰学院奖学金，后考入伦敦圣三一音乐学院，师从匈牙利钢琴家约瑟夫·温加滕——这位导师本人曾是匈牙利音乐三杰（多赫南伊、巴托克、科达伊）的学生。四十余年来，他以独奏家、室内乐演奏家及艺术指导的多重身份活跃于英国与国际主流舞台，作品常驻Classic FM与BBC电台，并留下多张录音专辑。他曾任市政厅音乐与戏剧学院、圣三一音乐学院及奥尔德堡布里顿-皮尔斯学校的常驻钢琴家。

他的艺术足迹遍及欧洲：西班牙、法国、意大利、荷兰、德国、瑞士、冰岛都留下过他的琴声。多次造访中国期间，他曾在尼古拉斯·史密斯执棒下，于北京中山公园音乐堂演出，并举办大师班、艺术歌曲音乐会及钢琴独奏会。

威廉毕生深耕声乐与钢琴的对话艺术，演绎逾千场艺术歌曲音乐会。其艺术理念深受格林德伯恩歌剧院音乐部前掌门、著名艺术指导马丁·伊塞普的熏陶。作为声乐指导，他在海内外培养出众多活跃于国际舞台的歌唱家。

定居英国后，威廉倾力推动东萨塞克斯郡社区的音乐生态。他长期担任“莱姆音乐”室内乐系列的艺术总监兼钢琴家，最新创举“威尔登音乐盒”项目，正将高品质古典音乐引入本土社区。

近期动态包括：与女高音洛娜·温莎录制英国艺术歌曲，同著名次女高音路易丝·温特联袂举办音乐会。未来数年，他将与作曲家尼古拉斯·史密斯开启更多艺术计划。

willhancox.co.uk

NICHOLAS MICHAEL SMITH – COMPOSER

Nicholas Michael Smith has been living in China for many years, and his time there has influenced his music, as evidenced by his orchestral compositions *Tears in my Bowl* (2013) and *Changchun Impressions* (2014), as well as *Love, Friendship & Longing* (2018), a work for four voices and piano duet based on Tang dynasty poetry. *The Girl From the French Fort* (2015) is the result of a collaboration with Chinese writer Hong Ying to compose a narrated symphonic work for children based on her story of the same name. This narrated symphony receives regular performances in China and was described by Gramophone Magazine after its UK premiere as “genuinely moving”. Smith has appeared on numerous Chinese radio and television programs, and in 2011 was given Phoenix TV’s “You Bring Charm to China” award for his efforts to encourage and promote western classical music in China. In 2011, Smith was awarded an OBE in recognition of his services to music and to UK-China relations.

nicholasmichaelsmith.com



Nicholas Michael Smith

尼古拉斯·迈克尔·史密斯

尼古拉斯·迈克·史密斯毕业于英国剑桥大学，获得音乐学位。并师从于世界指挥大师赫伯特·冯·卡拉扬的弟子雷金纳德·汤普森，学习指挥和作曲。他在艺术和学术两方面都有很深的造诣。史密斯先生还是一位卓有成效的作曲家。他创作的两首具有中国风格的作品《长春印象》（由皇家芭蕾舞小交响乐团和指挥家加文·萨瑟兰录制）和《碗里的眼泪》（由RTÉ音乐会管弦乐团和指挥家加文·萨瑟兰录制）在全球范围内发行。史密斯先生根据中国唐诗新近创作的《爱、友谊与思念》于2018年在伦敦首演。史密斯的钢琴四手联弹《童年回忆》的录音唱片已于2024年8月发行。史密斯还与著名作家虹影合作，根据她的童话故事《奥当女孩》创作了一部交响童话音乐作品，并在中国定期演出。该作品在英国首演后获得英国《留声机》杂志“真正打动人心”的评价。史密斯先生在中国有广泛的影响，曾频繁出现在中国广播和电视节目中。2011年，为表彰他在中国促进和推广西方古典音乐，凤凰卫视向他颁发了年度项目“中国因你更美丽”音乐贡献大奖。由于其在音乐和中英两国关系方面的贡献，他荣获英女王嘉奖，被授予大英帝国官佐勋章。

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ANDREW ANDREASEN

Andrew Andreassen received a Ph.D. in Chinese Language and Literature from Stanford University in 1981. While pursuing a career in business in China, Dr. Andreassen has maintained close links with the arts, notably serving as Deputy Director of the U.S. - China Arts Exchange program based at Columbia University, in which capacity he accompanied the Boston Symphony Orchestra on their first tour of China in 1979 after the normalization of relations. In another notable artistic achievement, Dr. Andreassen served as the producer for the 2002 production of Kurt Weill's musical *Lady in the Dark*; the first fully staged musical to be performed in modern China.

Dr. Andreassen maintains strong contacts with many Chinese artists and poets, and has even appeared in a number of Chinese films.



Andrew Andreassen

安德鲁·安德烈亚森

安瑞生于1981年获得斯坦福大学中国语言与文学博士学位。在投身中国商业领域的同时，他始终与艺术界保持着密切联系，尤其曾担任哥伦比亚大学中美艺术交流项目的副主任。在此期间，他于1979年中美关系正常化后，陪同波士顿交响乐团完成了首次中国巡演。另一项显著的艺术成就是，安瑞生博士担任了2002年库尔特·魏尔音乐剧《黑暗中的女郎》的制作人——这是现代中国首次完整舞台呈现的音乐剧。

此外，安瑞生博士与众多中国艺术家和诗人保持着紧密联系，甚至还曾客串出演过多部中国电影。

Recorded on 4 and 5 August 2025 at St George's Headstone.

Sound engineer: Dave Hinit
Producer: Adrian Peacock
Artwork: James Cardell-Oliver

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FIRST
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