



Ming Ke

2007-08



College-Conservatory  
of Music

presents

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Ming Ke,  
pipa, zhong ruan, and gu zheng

Friday, November 16, 2007  
Robert J. Werner Recital Hall  
7:30 p.m.

World Music Series

# PROGRAM

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Dragon Boat Traditional

Ming Ke

Dance of the Yi People (c. 1950) Wang Huiran

The internationally renowned Pipa virtuoso, Ming Ke, has appeared as a soloist with principal orchestras in China, Japan, Spain, and the United States to critical acclaim since her formal debut in 1985. Described in the Cincinnati Enquirer as a performer whose “performances sparkle with grace and expression,” Ms. Ke is a master interpreter of traditional and contemporary music for the Pipa, a four-stringed Chinese chordophone whose history dates from ca. 200 BC.

Sunny Spring and White Snow Traditional

Two Little Sisters on the Pasture-Land  
Wu Zuqiang  
Wang Yanquian Liu Dehai

A native of Nanjing, China, Ms. Ke studied at the Fine Arts College in Nanjing, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in Pipa performance in 1982. Her professional studies on the Pipa were with the revered teachers Wang Fan-Di and Liu De-Hai. Additional studies were undertaken on the Zhong Ruan with Wang Zhong-Bing and the Qin with Cheng Gong-Liang. Following graduation from the Nanjing Fine Arts College, she taught aspiring Pipa students for ten years at the College while giving Pipa concerts on the Pipa and Ruan and orchestral performances with the principal orchestras in Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Hubei, China and Nagoya, Japan. Her achievements were further recognized with prizes in several Chinese music festivals and competitions.

Ming Ke, pipa

The Evening of the Torch Festival (c. 1980) arr. Wang Zhongbing

Ming Ke, zhong ruan

High Mountain and Running Water Traditional

The River of Liuyang Traditional

Singing from Fishing Boat from Sunset Traditional

Ming Ke, gu zheng

Following a brief period in Barcelona, Spain, Ms. Ke settled in the United States with her family in 1993. Solo and orchestral appearances soon followed with performances in this country from Arizona to New York in festivals, universities, performing arts centers, and Chinese gatherings. Her appearances in her adopted city of Cincinnati have included numerous solo concerts as well as performances with the Cincinnati Symphony, Pops, and Chamber Orchestras under the batons of Erich Kunzel and John Morris Russell, each with resounding success as she performed solo and concerto literature arranged from traditional Chinese music to the newly composed Pipa Dance (1996) by Ping Jin.

The Spring of Tain Mountain (c. 1960) Wang Fandi

King Zhu Drops His Armor Traditional

Ming Ke, pipa

Most recently Ms. Ke gave a highly successful solo tour of Kentucky in 1999 - 2006, several solo concerts at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and orchestral performances at the State University of New York in New Platz, the Pittsburgh Chinese/Community Orchestra, the East Meets West Orchestra in Chicago under the baton of Fengshi Yang, and the Wuhan Symphony Orchestra in China under the direction of Jindong Cai. Her recordings of traditional music for solo Pipa have gained much attention and preserve not only the literature but also her exquisite performances.