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# Chen Yi, composer. A Journey of Creativity and Building an East-West Cultural Bridge

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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# THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC and JEPSON SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Present

Chen Yi, composer

A Journey of Creativity and Building an East-West Cultural Bridge

> Monday, April 4, 2011 7:30 p.m. Booker Hall of Music Camp Concert Hall

A TUCKER-BOATWRIGHT 2010-2011 GLOBAL SOUNDS SERIES AND JEPSON FORUM EVENT







A new choral work by Chen Yi, EARLY SPRING, commissioned by the
Department of Music for Schola Cantorum and
ensemble-in-residence eighth blackbird,
will be premiered on Friday, April 8, 2011,
at 7:30 p.m. in Camp Concert Hall.
Participating in the performance will be Schola Cantorum,
Women's Chorale, and eighth blackbird.
Free: tickets required (804-289-8980)

## Chen Yi

Dr. Chen began violin and piano studies with Zheng Ri-hua and Li Su-xin at age three, but the Cultural Revolution interrupted her musical progress in 1966. She later studied composition with Wu Zu-qiang at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing from 1978-86, where she earned her M.A., as the first Chinese woman to receive this degree in music. She then studied composition with Chou Wen-chung and Mario Davidovsky at Columbia University from 1986-93 and there earned her D.M.A. with distinction. She was also awarded an honorary doctorate from Lawrence University in 2002.

Among her many honors in China are First Prize in a national competition in China (1985, for *Duo Ye*), First Prize in the composition competition of a children's piano competition in Beijing (1985, for *Yu Diao*) and First Prize in a traditional music competition of the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing (1986, for *Xie Zi*). Her honors in the USA include the Lili Boulanger Award from the Women's Philharmonic and the NEA Composer Fellowship (both 1994), as well as the Goddard Lieberson Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Sorel Medal for Excellence in Music from the Center for Women in Music at the University of New York (all 1996). She has also received the CalArts Alpert Award (1997), the Eddie Medora King Composition Prize from the University of Texas and the Adventurous Programming Award from ASCAP (for *Music from China*) (both 1999) and the Charles Ives Living Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2001-04). Her most recent honors include the ASCAP Concert Music Award (2001) and the Elise Stoeger Award from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (2002).

Numerous ensembles and orchestras in China, Germany, Singapore, and the USA have commissioned her and she has received many grants. Her chamber music was featured in *Sound and Silence*, a series of ten films on contemporary music co-produced by ISCM (1989), and she was profiled in the documentary film *Chen Yi in America* (*A Cantonese in New York*) (2002).

Dr. Chen is also active in other positions. She served as a composer to and concert-master with the Beijing Opera Troupe from 1970-78 and later served as composer-in-residence to the Women's Philharmonic, the male chorus Chanticleer and the Aptos Creative Arts Program in San Francisco from 1993-96. She has served on the advisory councils of the American Composers Orchestra since 1993, the International Alliance of Women in Music since 1995 and the Walden School since 2000 and on the boards of directors of Meet the Composer since 1997 and Chamber Music America since 2002. She founded the bilingual newsletter of Music from China in 1991 and has since served as its co-editor.

She taught composition, multicultural analysis and the orchestral works of Claude Debussy at the Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University from 1996-98 and has taught as the Lorena Searcey Cravens/Millsap/Missouri Distinguished Professor in Music Composition at the University of Missouri at Kansas City since 1998. She was the Karel Husa Visiting Professor at Ithaca College in 2002-03 and has guest-lectured throughout China and the USA. She is married to the composer Zhou Long.

-Presser Publishing

### SPRING 2011 DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

FREE— in Camp Concert Hall, unless otherwise noted \*designates tickets required (Modlin Box Office, 289-8980)

Wednesday, JAN. 26—7:30P \*
CHAMBER MUSIC OF ARNOLD SCHOENBERG
ensemble-in-residence eighth blackbird and
UofR Music faculty

Sunday, Feb. 6—3:00p RICHARD BECKER, piano

Wednesday, Feb. 23—7:30p THOMAS MASTROIANNI, piano

Saturday, Feb. 26—3:00p \*
THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY
NEUMANN LECTURE ON MUSIC—PANEL
Discussion with Lei Liang,
Shanghai Quartet, and Wu Man

Thursday, March 17—7:30p KANDINSKY TRIO Perkinson Recital Hall

Sunday, March 27—3:00p RICHARD BECKER, piano DORIS WYLEE-BECKER, piano Monday, April 4—7:30p \* JEPSON LEADERSHIP FORUM Chen ¥i, composer

Wednesday, April 6—7:30p UR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Friday, April 8—7:30p \*
SCHOLA CANTORUM, WOMEN'S CHORALE,
EIGHTH BLACKBIRD, with composer Chen Yi

Sunday, April 10—all day, across campus GLOBAL SOUNDS FESTIVAL

Monday, April 11—7:30p UR JAZZ ENSEMBLE & COMBO

Wednesday, April 13—7:30p UR WIND ENSEMBLE

Wednesday, April 20—7:30p UR CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

# JEPSON LEADERSHIP FORUM 2011 WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE GOING? GLOBAL LEADERSHIP & INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGES

Tuesday, February 22—7:00p
THE CHALLENGE OF THE CENTURY: LEADING CHANGE AND DIVERSE SOCIETIES
F. W. de Klerk, Nobel Laureate

Wednesday, March 30—7:30p
WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE GOING?
An astute observer shares insight on the news and new ideas
Ali Velshi, CNN chief business correspondent

Monday, April 4—7:30p
A JOURNEY OF CREATIVITY AND BUILDING AN EAST-WEST CULTURAL BRIDGE
Chen Yi, Grammy-winning composer

