

Yin & Yang

Chai Found Music Workshop 2010 Sizhu Music Composition Contest



General Information

Like 2009's contest 'Wu Xing', this event is jointly organized by Chai Found Music Workshop and the International Society for Contemporary Music Association of Taiwan (ISCM-Taiwan Section). The contest is divided into a Taiwanese and an international part.

The purpose is to motivate contemporary composers to write for Chinese instruments and to enhance communication between the composers and the performing ensemble.

The concert for Yin & Yang, with 10 selected compositions (5 from Taiwanese, 5 from international composers), will take place in October 2010 in Taipei. The music will be recorded and published as a CD.

Qualification

There is no age limit. Citizens of any countries can apply.

Theme

The compositions must be new creations, and / or never performed before. The compositions must be related to the theme 'Yin & Yang'. The formulation of this relationship is up to the composer.

Application Fees

No application fees apply.

Prizes

1st prize:	1000 USD
2nd prize:	600 USD
3rd prize:	300 USD
4th and 5th prize:	150 USD
Audience prize:	150 USD

Please note: Taiwan's Foreigner Taxes of 20% are applicable.

Instrumentation

The instrumentation of the composition has to include at least 3 and not more than 7 of the instruments of a classic Sizhu (Silk and Bamboo) ensemble: Erhu (Chinese Violin), Di (Chinese Bamboo Flutes), Pipa (Chinese lute), Gucheng (Chinese Zither), Yangqin (Chinese Dulcimer), Ruan (Chinese Guitar) / Liuqin (Chinese Ukulele), plus the Chinese mouth organ Sheng.

Duration

The completed pieces must have a duration of not less than 6 and not more than 8 minutes.

Procedure

- One person can hand in one piece.
- The following materials have to be submitted by e-mail to: music@cfmw.com.tw

1. **Your composition** as a printable pdf-files in A 4 size (with scores AND parts). Printouts on paper will not be accepted.
2. **A completed application form** with your personal data (only for internal use), bio, a piece description and your consent to the legal terms.
3. **A photo** (portrait) in good quality (300 dpi, .jpg or .tif), not less than 1 MB in size.

- Please submit all documents together. **The deadline is August 22, 2010, 24:00, Taiwan time.** Reception of the documents will be confirmed.
- Chai Found Music Workshop will play all submitted works to select the 5 winners.
- The winners will be **notified on September 20, 2010.** Their names will be published on Chai Found Music Workshop's website. [www.cfmw.com.tw].

Feel free to contact us by phone under +886-2-25024960, or write an email to music@cfmw.com.tw

Please also visit our website for more information: www.cfmw.com.tw

Yin & Yang

The theory of Yin and Yang is a holistic way of understanding the world: every thing is part of a big picture, and each individual is inter-related to the whole. Yin and Yang themselves do not take any material or energetic shape, they merely exist as ideas. This set of logic soon developed into an ideology, and has been widely used in many different fields.

The origins of Yin & Yang

Initially, the concept of Yin and Yang sprang from the observation of the natural environment. Yin originally referred to a place on the north slope, Yang to a place on the south slope of a mountain. From here comes the notion of Yin being dark and Yang being bright. Subsequently, this concept was applied to other natural phenomena with dualistic, contrary features. Heaven and earth, day and night, water and fire, movement and stillness, male and female, are just a few examples. In accordance with this line of thinking ancient people discovered that almost everything exists in two aspects: Yin and Yang.

Yin & Yang and Music

In Lü's Annals, a historical miscellany by Qing dynasty politician Buwei Lü, the chapter about music states: "The origins of music stem from measurement, and measurement originates from Tai Yi, the so-called void. As time went by, the concept of Yin and Yang appeared. With one being 'positive', and one 'negative', they complement each other and form an entity. Yin and Yang are represented in everything, and therefore also in music. It was then, when the first time the word 'music' appeared. Before that there was no such term."

Music resembles the waxing and waning of Yin and Yang, it has the momentum of life, and the sentiment of the universe. Even if musical parameters such as rhythm, tone, intensity, or speed are in contradiction to each other, they still complement each other. Clear or turbid, fast or slow, sad or happy, strong or soft... These are some of the manifestations of Yin and Yang in music.

More Information

On Traditional Chinese Musical Instruments

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traditional_Chinese_musical_instruments

On Yin and Yang

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yin_Yang

Chai Found Music Workshop

<http://www.cfmw.com.tw>