# 培育新生代的搖籃一

## 2022 臺北市民族器樂大賽評審團同台彈心

文/黃稟皓、傅明蔚 圖/臺北市立國樂團

第 29 屆臺北市民族器樂大賽,2022 年 4 月 26、28、30 日,於臺北市中山堂中正廳,分別舉辦「複賽」、「決賽」以及《彈心 — 琵琶名家之夜》音樂會。受到 COVID-19 疫情影響,分成現場演奏的「臺灣組」和線上審查的「大陸及海外組」。該賽事歷年以二胡、笛子和琵琶爲主要比賽樂器,過去也曾辦理指揮、作曲、揚琴、古筝、打擊等項目,是享譽國內外的重要國樂賽事。本屆特邀楊惟、俞嘉、鄭聞欣、潘靜等琵琶演奏家擔綱評審團,連同臺灣組脫穎而出的前 3 名獲獎者,將與臺北市立國樂團在名家之夜同台彈心!



2018 年 TCO 第 25 屆臺北市民族器樂大賽「彈指交鋒」大合照。









2022臺北市民族器樂大賽評審團。左上:楊惟,右上:俞嘉。/左下:潘靜,右下:鄭聞欣。

### 名家技巧 傳統與現代的碰撞

本屆琵琶民族器樂大賽的指定曲目共計 4 首,複賽爲《水調歌頭》、《煙雨含霜》,決賽爲《潯陽月夜》、《尋・耶婆瑟雞》。 複賽曲目《水調歌頭》,由臺灣琵琶名家王正平於 1979 年所作,是臺灣琵琶曲的代表作品。曾於王正平門下學習的鄭聞欣表示:「本次專爲比賽修訂的《水調歌頭》,不但根據手稿轉譯成五線譜,更參考了王正平實際演奏的歷史錄音,從中梳理差異及重新校訂。因此,當中有些王正平最擅長的技巧,譬如以『下出輪』均匀的演奏分解和弦,對參賽者而言,將是一大考驗。」

另一首複賽曲目《煙雨含霜》,則由臺灣青年作曲家鄭光智於 2018 年創作。循著旅足蘇州太湖時的聽覺記憶,鄭光智在曲中放入了許多「評彈」音樂素材,巧妙地營造出江南意象,讓聽眾彷彿身在煙雨中漫步。出身上海的俞嘉,家族長輩有多位評彈藝術家,她認為:「面對現代曲目中的傳統元素,參賽者不應該單純用現代的角度去彈,相反地,如何原汁原味地呈現評彈這門藝術,又能透過技巧演奏出傳統跟現代的碰撞,才是最重要的課題。」



2018年TCO第25屆臺北市民族器樂大賽第一名:楊靖,獲得與TCO於「彈指交鋒」同台演出之殊榮。

### 回歸本質 我們真的瞭解琵琶嗎?

決賽曲目難度更增,更需要參賽者思考關於琵琶的歷史和演奏本質的問題。《尋·耶婆瑟雞》試圖在歷史的斷簡殘片 中尋覓那失落的古聲,作曲家杜詠 2018 年用 3 個小標題「千佛窟」、「千淚泉」及「千載思」進行創作,寫下這首琵琶 協奏曲,勾勒出盛唐時期最著名的龜茲樂舞「耶婆瑟雞」。曾任職於中央民族歌舞團的潘靜認爲:「此曲帶有寫意的風格, 張弛有度、情感豐富,以水、風、沙之音,采綴其聲以爲曲調,匯歐亞之風采,展絲路之意象,是蠻具有挑戰性的樂曲。」

同樣作爲決賽曲,《潯陽月夜》由享譽國際的琵琶大師劉德海,根據平湖派楊大鈞、樊伯炎的演奏譜合編而成,除了平 湖派古曲的傳承,更匯集了劉德海的人生歷練。自 1981 年起便跟隨劉德海習藝一生的楊惟,感觸最深,那些關於琵琶 音準、節奏、聲音、基本功的最初級的問題,始終是大哉問。「我們真的瞭解琵琶嗎?」彷彿哲學問題般的叩問,是楊 惟期待與參賽者們共同探討的核心議題。延伸的討論包括:「我們把琵琶看成了什麼?琵琶正常開始動作要做什麼?除 了右手,那左手呢?……」一連串發人深省的問題,要引發原本也許迷失在追尋技巧的演奏者,透過集體反思,回歸彈 奏琵琶的本質。

### 同台彈心 琵琶名家之夜音樂會

在決賽之後登場的,是《彈心 — 琵琶名家之夜》音樂會,由4位評審與前3名得獎者同台匯演,一連串精彩的曲目, 盡展琵琶藝術精華。首先,楊惟將帶來王丹紅的《雲想・花想》,此曲創作於 2013 年,其靈感來自李白著名詩作【清平 調】:「雲想衣裳花想容,春風拂檻露華濃。」是頗受歡迎的琵琶曲,曾有多位演奏家詮釋過。對此,近年專注在自己想 做的事情上的楊惟,在聆聽、研究該曲時,仍然發覺好幾個值得練習精進的地方,非常值得玩味,而這份忠於本心、傾 力鑽研的精神,也是楊惟想與觀眾分享的初衷。

接下來, 俞嘉將演奏孫晶於 2014 年創作的《文武雙全》, 其特色在於兼容武曲的音高材料和文曲的推拉吟揉技法。俞嘉 表示:「這是一首傳統韻味結合現代技巧的優秀作品,希望這次可以跟首次合作的北市國擦出新火花。」另外,鄭聞欣與 潘靜將分別帶來古曲《塞上曲》和《春江花月夜》。對於《塞上曲》,鄭聞欣說明:「本次編配的版本只用弦樂隊,更彰 顯琵琶的特色及韻味。」相信將爲這場濃墨重彩的音樂會,帶來另一番古樸清新之感。而關於《春江花月夜》,潘靜則表 示:「這是一首經典的古曲,曲調優美如歌、典雅抒情。音樂如繪畫,其豐富的張力就像色彩斑孄的對比,期待觀眾靜 心去感受音樂中傳遞的詩情書意。」

### 培育搖籃 為新生代打造的舞台

器樂大賽對於北市國來說已行之有年,今年更是邁入第 29 屆,歷年來催生的樂壇新星,不乏投身回到樂團的。評審團 中,北市國的代表鄭聞欣,便是早年的參賽者,曾參與過 1987 及 1988 年的比賽,她認爲:「這個比賽彰顯出市國不僅 是一個職業樂團,更致力於培養未來的職業人才,擔負教育與傳承上的意義。」除了鄭聞欣,現任團員如:林克威(笛)、 吳孟珊 (胡琴)、林承鋒 (胡琴)等人,皆曾在器樂大賽中取得佳績。

無獨有偶,來自新加坡華樂團的評審俞嘉,1994、1999 年亦曾參與過器樂大賽,她笑稱:「我對臺北這個比賽,還是有 一些情感的!」足見其對昔日參賽舞台的懷念。本次代表新加坡華樂團出任評審並參與演出,除了加強雙邊的合作關係, 提高賽事的國際能見度,她也認爲,選手參加各地的比賽,有其實質意義:「不同地區舉辦的比賽,指定曲目通常具有 當地特點,參賽者應多參與,以瞭解不同風格的曲目。」如同俞嘉的期許,潘靜也對器樂大賽表示肯定:「對於苦練寒暑 十幾年的青年演奏家來說,能夠取得一個好的比賽成績,無疑是對他們最好的肯定和鼓勵。」因此,評審們都非常期待 聆聽來自各地的優秀青年們,對比賽曲目精彩的詮釋;而北市國也將延續這份使命,組織國際化的評審團、多元國籍的 參賽者,爲下一代打造了公平、公正、公開的舞台,成爲培育演奏人才的搖籃。

● 名家系列 彈心 ― 琵琶名家之夜

2022.04.30 (六) 19:30 地點:臺北市中山堂 中正廳

以下活動憑 4.30「彈心」音樂會票券入場

- 2022 臺北市民族器樂大賽 複賽 2022.04.26(二)14:00 / 19:00
- 絕世好彈 決賽音樂會 2022.04.28(四)19:00 地點:臺北市中山堂 中正廳



# The Nursery of Rising Talent —

2022 Taipei Chinese Instrumental Competition and Concert

Text / FU Ming-Wei and HUANG Ping-Hao Picture / Taipei Chinese Orchestra

The second round, the duel in the finals, and the following Tug at Your Heartstrings Soirée of Pipa Virtuosi of the 29<sup>th</sup> Taipei Chinese Instrumental Competition will be held at Zhongzheng auditorium, Taipei Zhongshan hall, on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in 2022. Due to COVID-19, the semi-final and the finale will be divided into the physical Taiwan section and the online mainland China and overseas section. In the past, the instrument of choice were mostly erhu, dizi and pipa. There were also competitions in conducting, composing, yangqin, guzheng, and percussion. It is a prominent Chinese music competition recognized and appreciated all over the world. This edition, the jury panel presents esteemed pipa virtuosi YANG Wei, YU Jia, CHENG Wen-Hsin, and PAN Jing. The jurors will perform at Tug at Your Heartstrings Soirée of Pipa Virtuosi together with TCO and the top three winners of the Taiwan section.



Taipei Chinese Instrumental Competition allows rising talents to shine. The photo shows the 2019 Erhu Final

### Transcending Excellence — Interpreting Classic Pieces with Contemporary Techniques

This Chinese instrumental competition of pipa has four compulsory works — *Shui Diao Ge Tou* and *Foggy and Rainy in Taihu* for the second round. *Moonlit Night in Xunyang* and *Looking for Yeposeji* for the finale. *Shui Diao Ge Tou* was written by Taiwan pipa virtuoso WANG Cheng-Ping in 1979. It is regarded as a Taiwan pipa master piece. CHENG Wen-Hsin, a student of WANG, tells us, "The sheet music used in this competition has been revised according to the recorded performances of my teacher and transformed into five-line staff. Since he is renowned for his reverse tremolo technique, the participants must also demonstrate a high level of expertise in the mastery of the skill set. To play a broken chord steadily with reverse tremolo will certainly pose considerable challenge to the rising talents."



TCO representative on the judging panel, ZHENG Wen-Xin, believes that the competition ensures the future of Chinese music by nurturing and cultivating rising talents.

Another repertoire on the compulsory list is *Foggy and Rainy in Taihu*, the creation of a young Taiwanese composer CHENG Kuang-Chih in 2018. The song speaks of his travel to Lake Tai in Jiangsu. CHENG incorporated many elements of pingtan into the composition of music to try and transport the audience to Jiangnan for a walk in the misty rain. YU Jia was born in Shanghai. Her family raised many pingtang maestros. She believes that "the traditional elements within these contemporary works should not be performed with modern techniques. It is of paramount importance to truthfully represent the essence traditional pingtang art and still manages to showcase the contrast between traditional and modern techniques."

## Back To Basics — Do We Really Understand How to Play Pipa?

The compulsory works chosen for the finale require even more skill and finesse. The participants need to explore the nature of instrumental performance and show considerable understanding in the development of pipa. Looking for Yeposeji is an attempt to find the notes and music lost in history. The pipa concerto composed by DU Yong consists of three sections: The Caves of a Thousand Buddhas, The Spring of a Thousand Drops, and the Thinking of a Thousand Years. All three sections together form a vivid picture of the most famous dance and music of Tang dynasty — Yeposeji of Kucha. PAN Jing, who was once a member of China National Ethnic Song and Dance Ensemble, points out, "The song has a sense of freedom to it and the emotions speak loudly to the audience. The sound of water, wind, and sand are woven into the notes. This is the best of both European and Asian culture and a successful portrayal of the magnificence of silk road. It is without a doubt an extremely inspiring and demanding piece."

Another repertoire for the finale, *Moonlit Night in Xungyang*, is arranged by LIU De-Hai based on the sheet music of YANG Da-Jun and FAN Bo-Yan of the Pinghu School. The music piece touches of the essence of Pinghu school and speaks of the life experiences of LIU Dehai. YANG Wei has been a student of LIU since 1981. He is greatly moved by the work. The tones, the rhythm, and the timbre of pipa are the most basic yet sophisticated lessons one must acquire when playing the instrument. Do we really understand how pipa works? This is the question YANG Wei hopes to explore with the participates. What do we see in pipa? What is the first thing we do when playing the instrument? Can we play not only with our right hand but also left? These are the questions musicians shall ask themselves over and over again. Hopefully this will prevent musicians from losing themselves in the pursuit of mere techniques. In the end, all should go back to the basics — the true nature of music and what it can bring.



HUANG Xiao-Qing, winner of the 26th Taipei Instrumental Competition of Erhu in 2019.

### Tug at Your Heartstrings Soirée of Pipa Virtuosi

After the finale, 4 of the judges and the top three winners of Taiwan section will perform together at Tug at Your Heartstrings Soirée of Pipa Virtuosi concert. The outstanding repertoire aims to exhaust the beauty of pipa. YANG Wei will perform *Clouds and Flowers* Fantasia, a concerto composed in 2013 by WANG Dan-Hong that took inspiration from The Tune of Qingping, a famous poem by poet LI Bai. The first two lines reads, "The clouds are as flowy as her dress and the flowers have her beauty. The spring breeze sweeps lightly pass the railings and the morning dew further accentuates the breath-taking charm of the flowers." This popular pipa concerto has been reinterpreted by many musicians. YANG Wei devoted his full attention to listening and studying the song. He realized that there is still much more to the music piece that meets the eye, and it is certainly something worth delving into. The unrelenting spirit is what YANG Wei wishes to convey with his music.

YU Jia will then perform *Adept at Both Pen and Sword*, composed by SUN Jing in 2014. The repertoire manages to incorporate a string of majestic high notes that is exhilarating and expressive music which requires the use of many complicated techniques. YU tells us, "This is an excellent creation that expresses the beauty of traditional Chinese music with modern techniques. Hopefully the collaboration with TCO will ignite sparkles for our audience." CHENG Wen-Hsin and PAN Jing will play *On the Frontier* and *Spring Night on A Moonlit River* respectively. CHENG explains, "This time, On the Frontier will only be accompanied by a string band to highlight the characters and timbre of pipa." This will add a rustic feel to the tone of the concert. As for *Spring Night on a Moonlit River*, PAN states, "This is a classic from the ancient times. The music is soothing, elegant, and filled with emotion. The tension in Music captures our attention, like the sharp contrast of colours in paintings. We hope the audience will be able to open up and immerse themselves in the feelings and emotions expressed through music."



2019 TCO Taipei Chinese Instrumental Competition — Erhu. Runner up : Tan Xin. (Presenter: ZHU Chang-Yao)

#### A Nursery for The Future of Chinese Music

The Chinese Instrumental Competition is celebrating its 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Many winners from the previous competitions become a member of TCO. CHENG Wen-Hsin, the TCO representative on the judging panel was a participant herself in the early years. She entered into the competition both in 1987 and 1988. She believes, "The competition shows that TCO is more than just a professional orchestra. It is a nursery for future talents and a place that preserves and passes on the beauty of Chinese music." Aside from ZHENG, other TCO members like LIN Ko-Wei (Dizi), WU Meng-Shan (Erhu), and LIN Chen-Feng (Erhu) have all stood out in the competition before.

YU Jia from Singapore Chinese Orchestra also participated in the competition in 1999. She said laughingly, "The competition does mean something to me!" This shows her fondness for the platform that gave her an opportunity to grow. This year, she sits on the panel and will participate in the subsequent concert. This will fortify bilateral relationship between the orchestras and increase exposure on the international level. She also believes that taking part in competitions held in other places can be extremely beneficial. The compulsory list of each competition reflects local culture and character. Musicians should enter into as many competitions as possible to broaden their scope." Just like YU Jia, PAN Jing has great hopes for the competition as well. "For musicians who practiced and trained for decades without stop, winning the competition certainly is the best way to validate their diligence and effort." The jurors are all looking forward to meeting these rising stars and dying to hear how they interpret the repertoire. TCO will continue the good work, inviting virtuosi from all over the world to sit on the judging panel and create an open, just, and fair platform for rising musicians regardless of their nationality.

 Virtuosi Series: Tug at Your Heartstrings Soiree of Pipa Virtuosi 2022.04.30 (Sat) 19:30

Venue : Zhongzheng Auditorium, Taipei Zhongshan Hall

Take part in the following events with the ticket stub of 4.30 Tug at Your Heartstrings Concert

- 2022 Taipei Chinese Instrument Competition: Second Round 2022.04.26 (Tue) 14:00 / 19:00
- Duel In the Finals 2022.04.28 (Thu) 19:00

Venue: Zhongzheng Auditorium, Taipei Zhongshan Hall