

Performer Biographies



Lingyan Zhou, a renowned and beloved soprano on today's Chinese lyric opera stage, is among the top performers in China and a soloist with the Kong Zheng Performing Arts Group. She won large audiences with her sparkling and charming voice. Her original songs *Hometown Beijing*, *Soldier Brother* and *My Beijing* are among the best hits of folk songs known to households in China. Ms. Zhou is an active member of the Chinese Musician Association, the Chinese Opera Association, and Chinese TV Artists Association. Graduated from the School of Music of the PLA Art Institute, Ms. Zhou benefited from the guidance and the teaching of famous vocal educator Professor Jin Tielin, Professor Peter Yang and Professor Zhou Xiaoyan. Ms. Zhou's achievements include: First Place winner from her singing at the PLA competition; National Youth Singer TV Competition outstanding award; First Place winner at "the Heaven & Earth Cup" Youth Vocalist Competition; First Place winner at "The Jiang Nan Cup" Singing Competition; Three Year (94, 96, 97) award winner of the National Broadcast New Song Competition;

Silver Medal winner of the China Central Television MTV competition. Ms. Zhou acted in the opera *Struggles at the Snowy Country*, *Marriage of Xiao Er Hei*, *White Haired Girl*, *The Female Pilot*, and others. She recorded theme songs for movies and TV series such as *Mountain Mums*, *Female Soldier*, *Soil from Homeland*, *Child POW*, and many more. She is a regular singer featured on the stage of China Central Television's annual special *Spring Festival Celebration*. It was there she had performed duet "Singing Match Across the Country" with male vocalist Tong, Tiexin. Ms. Zhou's published records include: *The Autumn Water*, *Love Episode*, *Hello Pal*, *Famous Songs from Famous Singers: Special Collectors' Edition*, *Chinese Folk Song Collection*, and more.



Xiaoqing He, baritone, was born in Chongqing, China. Mr. He was one of only ten professional singers who graduated from the "Talent Class" of the Chinese Central Conservatory of Music in 1983. The "Talent Class" was the only one of such in the history of the Conservatory. He played the leading role in the Grand Opera "Buddha Geda". Mr. He has performed across the United States and on October 15, 2002, he was invited by the Ellis Foundation and U.S. Department of Interior to sing the U.S. National Anthem at the celebration of 116th Anniversary of the establishment of the Statue of Liberty. In 2009, he was the only classical vocalist living overseas to be chosen to perform at the concert of celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China at the "Water Cube" in Beijing, China. Mr. He is president and one of the founding members of the New York Vocal Artists Research Center (NYVARC). Since 1997, he has been making great efforts in exploring the blend of classical singing with modern vocal techniques, which is well characterized in his own rendition of songs of the different styles.



Arthur Lai, tenor, was born in Shanghai, China. A member of the New York Vocal Artists Research Center (NYVARC), Mr. Lai has performed at Columbia University, New York University, Yale University, the Annual Italian Heritage Day of Columbia Association of U.S Customs, the "Opera Night" Concerts on Long Island, the Annual "Chinese American Night" on Long Island, the 2nd "Annual Marco Polo Day" in New York, the First Asian American Art Festival, the 60th Chinese National Day Celebration, and the NYVARC annual concerts. In February 2011, he made his Carnegie Hall debut at the Isaac Stern Auditorium in collaboration with the Yale Concert Band conducted by Dr. Thomas Duffy. Mr. Lai also performed at Clowes Memorial Hall of Butler University in Indianapolis with the Butler University Wind Ensemble conducted by Dr. Robert Grechesky. In October 2011, Mr. Lai debut at the Music Center at Strathmore, Maryland.