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Reminiscences of *Yuan Xiao* 忆·元宵

PROGRAMME NOTE 曲目介绍

Inspired by the famous traditional nanyin piece Yuan Xiao Shi Wu (Lantern Festival) which relates the tragic love story of Chen San and Wu Niang, Reminiscences of Yuan Xiao was envisioned as an abstract re-creation of the original piece. Reminiscences draws upon not only the pitch material, melodic, and gestural features of the original piece, but also the heterophonic texture and the pacing characteristic of nanyin vocal music in general, as well as certain structural features of the tune. This re-creation of the original tune also attempts to engage with the meaning of the text at various points within the piece. The work as a whole represents a contemporary reinterpretation of an ancient piece.

《忆·元宵》的音乐素材取自于著名南音曲《元宵十五》。其曲陈述着民间传说陈三与五娘的爱情悲剧。《忆·元宵》在我的创作概念中,属于在原曲基础上抽象化的再创作品。除了采用原曲的音高元素、旋律等音乐特征,也采取了一般南音曲中常见的支声复音、速度变化、及原曲中的一些结构上的特性。此曲也保留及抒发了原曲中歌词的意境。《忆·元宵》象征着对一首南音古曲的一种现代演绎。

INSTRUMENTATION 配器

Xiao in G G调洞箫

Gaoyinsheng 高音笙

Yangqin 扬琴

Liuqin 柳琴

Pipa 琵琶

Zhongruan 中阮

Sanxian 三弦

Guzheng 古筝

Percussion 1: Vibraphone 打击乐1: 颤音琴

Percussion 2: Glockenspiel, Suspended Cymbal, Dadiluo 打击乐2: 钟琴, 吊镲, 大低锣

Gaohu 高胡

Erhu 1 二胡1

Erhu 2 二胡2

Zhonghu 中胡

Cello 大提琴

Contrabass 倍大提琴

Guzheng tuning 古筝调音



GLOSSARY OF CHINESE PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES

For Xiao in G:

• 八孔姆指指颤 - A fingering for executing a specific type of trill, produced by covering all eight holes, then doing a thumb trill

For Gaoyinsheng:

• 呼舌 - A specific type of fluttertonguing, where the tremolo effect is produced from the back of the tongue

For Yangqin:

- 反竹 Playing with the reverse side of the mallets, that is, the bare bamboo side, to create a thinner and brighter sound
- + Using the end of the mallet to pluck the string, to produce a softer and thin sound

For Pipa:

- X A type of tremolo executed by all five fingers
- A type of tremolo executed by the forefinger, middle finger, ring finger and last finger
- A type of tremolo executed by the forefinger, middle finger, and thumb
- 4 A quick outward forefinger flick over all four strings, typically to achieve a sweeping and loud sound

Slides:

- A slur with an arrowhead at the end indicates that the slide is to be executed from the first note under the slur to the next note within the same articulation (i.e. plucking stroke or bow). Unless indicated by the direction "slow slide," the slide is to be executed with a slight angularity familiar to most Chinese folk genres, and assumes knowledge of performance practice on the part of the musician. Where indicated with "slow slide," the performer is to gradually slide from the first note under the slur to the next evenly over the entire written duration. Slides are to be executed in a manner that is idiomatic to each individual instrument.
- \mathcal{I} Similar to the above, except that the slide is to be executed on a separate articulation (i.e. on a separate plucking stroke or bow).
- Specific to the huqin family, this slide typically occurs from a higher note to a lower note, executed not with a single finger sliding, but from the sliding motion passing smoothly through multiple fingers.

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