



# ANCIENT PATHS MODERN VOICES

CELEBRATING  
CHINESE CULTURE

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CARNEGIE HALL PRESENTS  
**ANCIENT PATHS, MODERN VOICES**  
A CITYWIDE FESTIVAL CELEBRATING CHINESE CULTURE  
October 21–November 10, 2009

More Than 30 Events Presented Across New York City at Carnegie Hall and Partner Venues  
Exploring China's Diverse and Vibrant Culture and Its Influence Worldwide Through  
Music, Dance, Marionette Theater, Art, Film, Calligraphy, Exhibitions, and More

Festival Features Performances by Wu Man, Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Tan Dun, Yundi Li,  
Long Yu and the China Philharmonic, Shen Wei Dance Arts, Cho-Liang Lin,  
Han Tang Yuefu Music and Dance Ensemble, and Many Other Leading Artists  
Plus Premieres of New Works by Chen Qigang, Angel Lam, and Tan Dun

New Alliance with Segerstrom Center for the Arts,  
Presented by the Philharmonic Society of Orange County,  
Brings *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* Festival to West Coast

(January 21, 2009, NEW YORK, NY)—Carnegie Hall today announced ***Ancient Paths, Modern Voices: Celebrating Chinese Culture***, a citywide festival paying tribute to China's diverse and vibrant culture and its influence around the world with 21 days of events at Carnegie Hall and New York partner institutions, presented from October 21 to November 10, 2009.

With 30 events presented across New York City, *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* features performances by leading international musicians, including some artists and ensembles traveling outside China for the first time. Festival performances will feature many genres of music encompassing Western symphonic and chamber music influenced by Chinese culture, traditional folk music, and contemporary music, including premieres by internationally recognized Chinese composers. The festival exploration also includes traditional marionette theater, dance, film screenings, calligraphy, art exhibitions, and much more, offering insights into a world that mixes the ancient and the modern, the traditional and the cutting-edge.

The reach of *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* is extended throughout New York City through partnerships with prestigious cultural institutions: Asia Society, China Institute, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, The Joyce Theater, The Juilliard School, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The Paley Center for Media, as well as through a series of free Carnegie Hall Neighborhood Concerts presented by The Weill Music Institute in community venues.

An exciting new alliance between Carnegie Hall and Segerstrom Center for the Arts will bring select *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* programming to Costa Mesa, California in fall 2009. The California line-up for *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices*, presented by the Philharmonic Society of Orange County from October 15 through November 24 with underwriting support from South Coast Plaza, will include performances by major artists and ensembles appearing at Carnegie Hall as well as new programming made possible through partnerships with Southern Californian cultural institutions. This relationship between Carnegie Hall and Segerstrom Center for the Arts marks the first time that Carnegie Hall live festival programming will be offered to audiences outside New York City.

"Perhaps more than ever before, the incredibly diverse aspects of China—its history, timeless traditions, and lively contemporary arts scene—have captured the imagination of the world," said Clive Gillinson, Executive and Artistic Director of Carnegie Hall. "With *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices*, we invite audiences on a cross-disciplinary exploration of this world, examining China's traditional and contemporary culture, and how it has influenced artists around the globe. This exploration is enhanced by our many wonderful partnerships with institutions across New York City. We're especially grateful to Henry Kravis for his generous support in helping us to bring this festival to life.

"We're also thrilled to announce our new West Coast partnership, which will bring programming from *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* to Segerstrom Center for the Arts in California," said Mr. Gillinson. "How exciting to be launching this new collaboration that is sure to result in even more compelling and stimulating programs in years to come for audiences on both US coasts to enjoy."

Carnegie Hall and the Philharmonic Society of Orange County were brought together through the leadership of Henry Segerstrom. "By partnering with Carnegie Hall, Segerstrom Center for the Arts achieves a new level of excellence in serving Southern California, and reaching out as never before on the international stage," stated Mr. Segerstrom, Managing Partner of South Coast Plaza, presenting sponsor. "I am delighted that this vibrant celebration of Chinese culture presented by Carnegie Hall and the Philharmonic Society of Orange County will be able to enrich and enliven the experience of audiences on both coasts."

*Ancient Paths, Modern Voices: Celebrating Chinese Culture* is made possible by a leadership gift from Henry R. Kravis in honor of his wife Marie-Josée.

### ***Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* Programming in New York City:**

*Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* launches at Carnegie Hall on October 21 with a performance in Zankel Hall by the **Quanzhou Marionette Theater**. With song, musical accompaniment, and sophisticated storytelling from the Fujian Province in Southern China, the Marionette Theater is known as a regional form of traditional Chinese opera.

Over the following three weeks, the festival's musical offerings will include programs created in collaboration with leading Chinese musicians—pipa player **Wu Man**, pianist **Lang Lang**, composer/conductor **Tan Dun**, and conductor **Long Yu**—highlighting different musical aspects of Chinese culture as well as premieres of new works by internationally acclaimed composers **Chen Qigang**, **Angel Lam**, and **Tan Dun**.

Carnegie Hall festival presentations include two concerts of traditional Chinese music curated and hosted by renowned pipa player **Wu Man**; a chamber music program by **Ensemble ACJW** featuring works by composers from the *Class of 1978*, the first class admitted to Beijing's Central Conservatory after the Cultural Revolution; a solo piano recital by **Yundi Li**; a concert by **Robert Spano** and the **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra** featuring the New York premiere of **Angel Lam's** *Awakening from a Disappearing Garden* for Cello and Orchestra with soloist **Yo-Yo Ma**; and a performance by **David Robertson** and the **Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra** featuring Western works influenced by Chinese culture as well as **Bright Sheng's** *Colors of Crimson* and **Tan Dun's** *Water Concerto* with percussionist **Colin Currie**.

Pianist **Lang Lang** will make three appearances at Carnegie Hall as part of the *Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* festival, performing chamber music with young emerging classical musicians from China, appearing as soloist in the world premiere of a new work by **Chen Qigang** with conductor **Michael Tilson Thomas** and the **Juilliard Orchestra**, and closing the festival in a concert with conductor **Long Yu** and the **China Philharmonic**, performing **Tan Dun's** Piano Concerto, "The Fire."

The Juilliard School will present an all-**Tan Dun** program, conducted by the composer, at Alice Tully Hall, featuring the world premiere of his Violin Concerto with soloist **Cho-Liang Lin** and the **Juilliard Orchestra**. Chamber works by the composer will complete the program. Also at Juilliard, a November

### **Yundi Li**

November 1 at 2:00 p.m., Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage

Pianist Yundi Li returns to Carnegie Hall to perform a solo recital in Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage. Program is to be announced.

### **Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra with David Robertson and Colin Currie**

November 4 at 8:00 p.m., Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage

Music Director David Robertson leads the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra in a program to include Stravinsky's *Chant du rossignol* and Bartók's *The Miraculous Mandarin* Suite, both works by Western composers influenced by Chinese culture. The program also includes music by living Chinese composers, including Bright Sheng's *Colors of Crimson* and Tan Dun's *Water Concerto* with percussionist Colin Currie as soloist.

### **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with Robert Spano, Yo-Yo Ma, and Vocal Soloists**

November 7 at 8:00 p.m., Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage

Music Director Robert Spano conducts the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and soloist Yo-Yo Ma in the New York premiere of Angel Lam's *Awakening from a Disappearing Garden* for Cello and Orchestra, a new work commissioned by Carnegie Hall through the generosity of Henry R. Kravis in honor of his wife, Marie-Josée. The program also includes a concert version of Stravinsky's *Le Rossignol (The Nightingale)* featuring the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Chorus and vocal soloists. Stravinsky's opera, set in ancient China, was inspired by a folk tale by Hans Christian Andersen about a Chinese emperor who is completely enraptured by the singing of his beloved nightingale.

### **New Juilliard Ensemble**

November 9 at 8:00 p.m., Alice Tully Hall

This program by the New Juilliard Ensemble, led by Founding Director and Conductor Joel Sachs, includes works written during the past 10 years by composers living and working in China today, including Jia Daqun, Liu Sola, Ye Xiaogang, and Guo Wenjing. Presented by The Juilliard School.

### **China Philharmonic with Long Yu and Lang Lang**

November 10 at 8:00 p.m., Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage

*Ancient Paths, Modern Voices* closes at Carnegie Hall with a performance by the China Philharmonic under the baton of Music Director Long Yu. The program by the Beijing-based orchestra includes Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben* as well as Tan Dun's Piano Concerto, "The Fire." Piano soloist Lang Lang makes his third and final festival appearance with this concert.

## **DANCE**

### **Works & Process at the Guggenheim: Shen Wei Dance Arts**

October 24 and October 25 at 7:30 p.m., Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Last year, the world watched as Shen Wei's modern dance took center stage at the Opening Ceremonies of the Summer Olympics in Beijing. This fall, the New York-based company Shen Wei Dance Arts launches its 10th anniversary season with a program that explores Shen Wei's creative process through performance and discussion with the artist. A reception with the artists follows in the rotunda of the Guggenheim Museum. Presented by Works & Process at the Guggenheim.