



Applied Intercultural
Arts Research



Arizona Arts



Embracing our Roots *to build solidarity*

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Concert

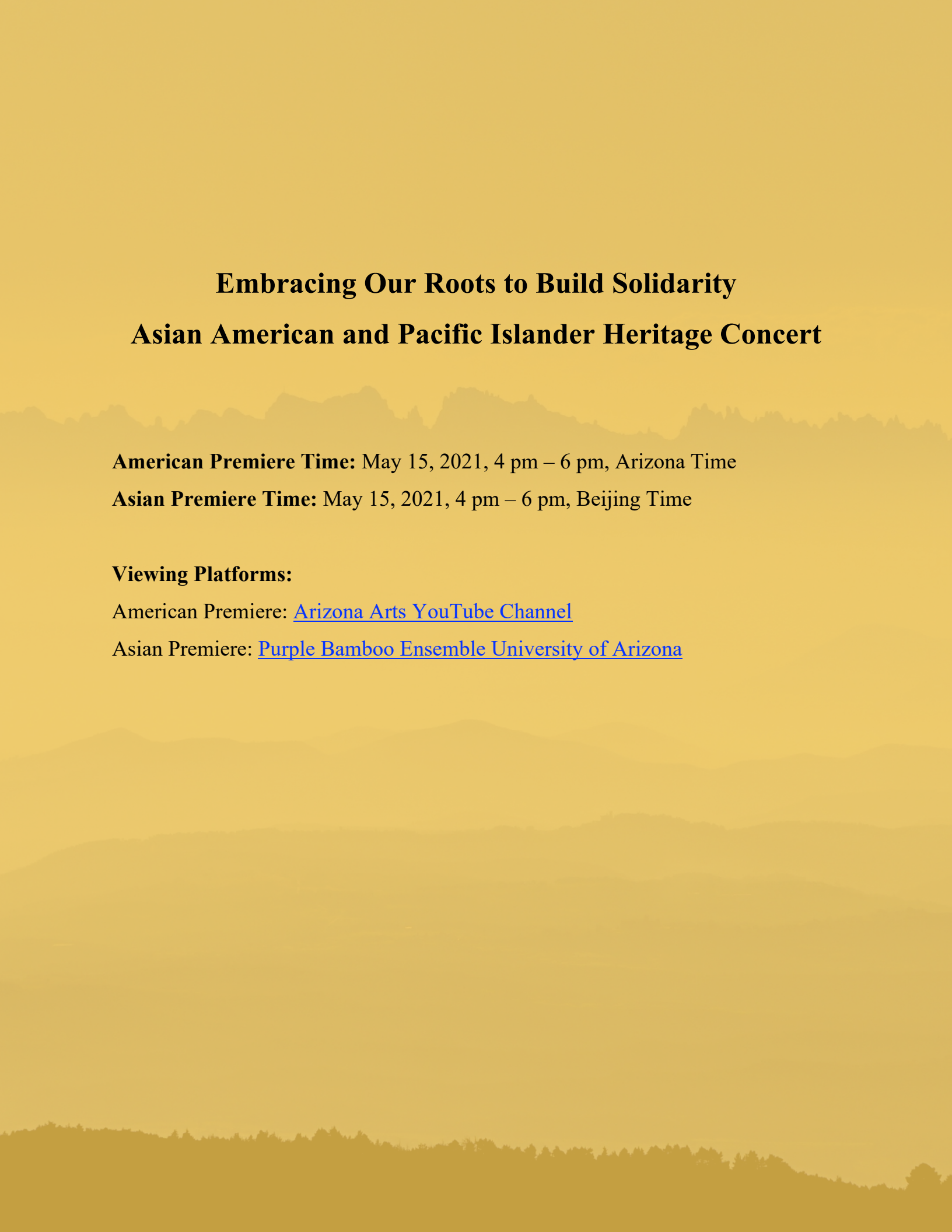
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Arizona Arts YouTube Channel



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
East Asian Studies





Embracing Our Roots to Build Solidarity
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Concert

American Premiere Time: May 15, 2021, 4 pm – 6 pm, Arizona Time

Asian Premiere Time: May 15, 2021, 4 pm – 6 pm, Beijing Time

Viewing Platforms:

American Premiere: [Arizona Arts YouTube Channel](#)

Asian Premiere: [Purple Bamboo Ensemble University of Arizona](#)

Program

Part I. Embracing Our Roots

1. **Guqin and Xiao:** *Pale Yellow Willow* Music & Lyrics by Jiang Kui (1155–1211)
Peiyong Zhang, guqin
Renjie Song, xiao
Yves Seban, lyrics recitation
2. **Gayageum:** *Gayageum Sanjo*
Eun Sun Jung, 12-string gayageum
3. **Speech:** *We Celebrate Your Success*
East Asian Studies at the University of Arizona
Albert Welter
Professor and Head in the Department of East Asian Studies
4. **Shakuhachi:** *Murasaki Reibo* Ikkyu Zenji (1394–1491)
Paul Amiel, shakuhachi
5. **Indian Dance:** *The Lotus*
Nita Mally, choreography/dance
6. **Tabla:** *Peshkaar*
Shreyas Iyer, tabla
7. **Speech:** *APIDA UArizona Students*
Asian Pacific American Student Affairs (APASA)
Kenny Importante, Dianne Saez, Harley-Quinn Alonzo, Noah Huang
8. **Vibraphone & Piano:** Ho Zhanhao (b. 1933) & Chen Gang (b. 1935)
Butterfly Lovers' Concerto (Adagio cantabile) arr. Guan Shengyou
Kevin Cross, vibraphone
Joshua Tan, piano

9. **Hawaii Dance:** *He Inoa No Kalakaua*

Halau Hula O Ualani

Part II. Building Solidarity

10. **Harp Ensemble:** *Ceili*

Traditional Celtic Tune
arr. Chiara Coombs

Harp Fusion Ensemble
Michelle Gott, Yvonne Cox, Xiaodi Xu
Victoria Gonzalez, Hunter Ackerley, Sarah Carruth

11. **Speech:** *People are Born Good*

Pima County Public Library
Xuan Zhou
Assistant Manager at Eckstrom-Columbus Library

12. **Voice & Guitar:** *Poema*

Mario Melfi (1905–1970)
arr. Maxi Larrea
Lyrics by Eduardo Bianco

Duo Telar
Teresa Tam, voice
Maxi Larrea, guitar

13. **Piano and Dance:** *Thalassaki mou (My Little Sea)* Yannis Constantinidis (1903–1984)

Eleni-Persefoni Stavrianou, piano
Jared Baker, choreography/dance

14. **Speech:** *We Have More in Common than Differences*

National REACH Coalition
Charmaine Ruddock
Project Director of Bronx Health REACH at the Institute for Family Health

15. **Voice & Guitar:** *Alma mía*

María Grever (1885-1951)
arr. Zapién, Guevara, Barraza

Carlos Zapién, voice
Edwin Guevara-Gutiérrez/Misael Barraza-Díaz, guitar

16. **Guzheng and Guitar:** *Tahhiyya li Ossoulina (Ancestor's Song)*

Sérgio Assad (b. 1952)
arr. Bin Hu and Jing Xia

Duo Chinoiserie
Bin Hu, guitar
Jing Xia, guzheng

Program Notes

Pale Yellow Willow

Pale Yellow Willows was one of the 17 Ci Songs composed by the Southern Song dynasty poet, Jiang Kui (1155-1221). Jiang Kui wrote a preface to this song:

"I stayed at Ho-fei in the south of the city, west of Red Magnolia Bridge. The streets were mournful - different from Left of the River (South of Yanzi River in Kiangsu and Anhui Provinces). Only the colour of the willows lining the streets, fresh and green, moved one to pity. Accordingly, I composed this piece to relieve my feelings while a guest." — translated by Laurence Picken (1910-2007)

Gayageum Sanjo

Sanjo is perhaps the most representative Korean instrumental genre. The word sanjo (in Sino-Korean) means "scattered (san) melody (jo)". This piece is an improvised multi-movement solo genre. Eun Sun presents the gayageum sanjo of the lineage of the late Master Kim Byôg-ho (1910-1968).

Murasaki Reibo

"Murasaki Reibo" is traditionally attributed to the eccentric Zen Buddhist monk Ikkyu Zenji. The simplicity of the piece, a characteristic of the oldest honkyoku, allows the player a very wide range of emotional expression allowing insight into her own character.

The Lotus

Lotus represents a survivor, inspiring us to have the power to overcome difficulties in life as it makes us learn lessons on the way towards "the surface." The perfectly formed leaves of it symbolize our potential. As the lotus begins to emerge, it symbolizes never giving up, and never quitting even when things seem difficult.

Peshkaar

This is a traditional, slow moving, improvisational piece that has a meditative element to it which makes us focus on the sounds of the instrument as a means of centering our attention and delving deeper within.

Butterfly Lovers' Concerto

This work is based upon an ancient Chinese legend telling of two lovers, Zhu Yingtai and Liang Shanbo. It is a love tragedy since they were unable to get married. In the end, they became a pair

of butterflies that means their two souls would never be separated again. The music reflects the different chapters of this story and also contains themes derived from Chinese folk tunes.

He Inoa No Kalakaua

He Inoa No Kalakaua is derived in large part from “Mele Inoa no Kalakaua” (Name Song for Kalakaua), a traditional Hawaiian chant.

Ceili

Ceili is a traditional Celtic tune arranged by Chiara Coombs, a former member of the Harpfusion ensemble.

Poema

Poema is an old traditional tango from Argentina. It is a romantic tango with a beautiful melody that musicians interpret in their own style, respecting the traditional melody but adding some modern harmonies and new textures. This song is a very popular tango dance song, a favorite in the San Francisco tango community where their duo was formed.

Thalassaki mou

“Thalassaki mou” (My Little Sea) is a Greek popular folk tune in Greece. The dancer explores the connection, or a lack thereof, between an individual and their roots (their homeland).

Alma mía

María Grever was the first female Mexican composer to achieve international acclaim. This beautiful song represents the longing for another soul like itself, and what would happen if that came true.

Tahhiyya li ossoulina

As one of the Assad Brothers’ Grammy Award-winning pieces, this piece is about the impression of their ancestor’s song. The whole piece is filled with Middle Eastern and Arabic flavors.

About the Artists

Peiyu Zhang has been playing the guqin for more than 20 years. She has participated in numerous guqin performances and activities, and given lectures about the guqin at many renowned universities. As the president of the New York Qin Society, Peiyu is devoted to Guqin music reconstruction, composition, promotion, and performance both solo and ensemble.
www.peiyuqin.com

Renjie Song was born in Xi’an, China. He graduated from Nanjing Southeast University School of Medicine and its graduate school, then immigrated to the U.S. in the mid-1980s, and now lives in New York State. He has loved Chinese traditional culture and art since young, so he taught himself the Xiao flute and Qin and practiced Tai Chi for many years.

Yves Seban lives in New York and is a semi-retired dilettante with a taste for music from all over the world. He has also performed major literary book public readings, such as James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. His Podcast (in progress): <https://soundcloud.com/yves-seban>

Eun Sun Jung is a gayageum player and a multi award-winning performer. She actively engages in performing across countries and has performed at the J. F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She also has held a solo recital in New York City and performed at various venues in Manhattan.

Paul Amiel, a native of Los Angeles, is a composer and performer on a variety of instruments in several musical traditions. While living in Japan in 2008 he studied shakuhachi, the Japanese bamboo flute, under Iida Katsutoshi. In 2014 he started the Empty Bamboo Shakuhachi Practice Circle in Tucson, Arizona, to encourage meditative musical practice.

Shreyas Iyer has been learning the tabla since he was 7 years old. His innate passion and dedication to learning this complex art form have been furthered by the gurus he met. He has accompanied several local and international artists at venues that span Arizona and decided to spread his knowledge and passion for this instrument through classes and workshops.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PhoenixTabla>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/shreyasiyerphxtabla/>

Nita Mallya is the Founder and Director of Sampradaya Dance of India. She is a Bharatanatyam dancer, choreographer and a teacher. She has been teaching in Phoenix, AZ for over sixteen years and has performed widely in the United States, Australia, Canada, the Middle East and India.

Joshua Tan lives in Los Angeles, CA, and holds a DMA in piano performance from the University of Southern California; **Kevin Cross** lives in Tucson, AZ, and holds a DMA in percussion performance from the University of Arizona. The duo seeks to create music that resonates with listeners, composers, and performers alike: as a pleasing sound, emotionally, intellectually, socially, and historically.

Halau Hula O Ualani is a Polynesian group that has been studying and performing in Tucson since 1993. This diverse group of hula dancers, both wahine (women) and kane (men) have dedicated their lives to learning the hula. Some have been with the group since 1993, others join new every year.

Harpfusion Ensemble has become one of the most creative and exciting ensembles on the international concert stage. The group is known for its performances of arrangements and original compositions by members who are all University of Arizona students. Named for its unique blend of many different styles and cultures, this highly innovative harp ensemble has earned international respect for its inspiring performances.

Maxi Larrea is a guitarist, arranger, composer, and music educator from Rosario, Argentina. He is a specialist in Argentine popular music. He has performed multiple times at the World Tango

Championships in Buenos Aires. In 2015 he moved to the United States and recently relocated to Tucson, Arizona. www.maxilarrea.com

As an avid Argentine Tango dancer, **Teresa Tam** is beyond excited about her new voice and guitar duo with accomplished Argentine tango guitarist, arranger, and musical director Maxi Larrea. They are blending some of the most beautiful jazz and tango melodies with the harmonic complexity of these two rich genres to breathe new life into familiar songs.

Carlos Zapién is a Tucson-based musician, singer, pianist, cultural manager, and composer. He was born in Ciudad Obregón, Sonora. He studied piano and organ at the Conservatorio de Las Rosas in Morelia, Michoacán. In 2004 he obtained a degree in music from the University of Oregon, where he later obtained a master's degree in 2006. He recently proposed a new interpretation of the Gregorian chant in an album titled [*The Beauty of Gregorian Chant*](#).

Edwin Guevara-Gutierrez is a guitarist, composer, arranger, and director. He started at age three with his father at the National Conservatory of Colombia on guitar, composition, and direction. He won 67 awards and graduated from the Higher Conservatory of Music of the Liceo de Barcelona (Spain) with Guillem Pérez-Quer and magister in the symphonic direction from the National University of Colombia.

Misael Barraza-Diaz is one of the most outstanding Mexican guitarists of his generation. He graduated with a Master's in Music degree from the University of Arizona in 2014 and has received some of the highest awards such as the Music Advisory Board Graduate Distinguished Student Award. He is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Arizona.

Founded in 2016, **Duo Chinoiserie** is a world-culture-inspired ensemble composed of a traditional Chinese instrument and a western instrument. Its repertoire embraces traditions from cultures across Eurasia and displays the interactions and similarities as well as the uniqueness and exoticism of different musical cultures. The communication between east and west promotes an intercultural artistic exchange for a more inclusive world. **Jing Xia** is an award-winning guzheng performer. Her captivating performing style has gained international acclaim. **Bin Hu** received an award from the Northern Trust Bank to record his all-Bach album with Eudora Records in Spain. <https://www.duochinoiserie.com/>

Concert Manager/Director: Jing Xia

Video Editor: Dafeng Zhuang, Jingwen Shi

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Volunteers: Sohail Rajesh Daulat, La Riah Glasper

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Thank you for your contribution!