

**CHENGJIN KOH 高程錦**

350 West 51<sup>st</sup> St. Apt. 14G, NY, NY 10019

[chengjin.koh@gmail.com](mailto:chengjin.koh@gmail.com)

[www.kohchengjin.com](http://www.kohchengjin.com)

Youtube: @beetocheng

+1(929)-364-5907

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Music (Composition), **New York University (GSAS)**, New York (2021-2026)
- M.M. in Composition, **The Juilliard School** (2019-2021)
- B.M. in Composition (Academic Honors), **The Juilliard School** (2015 - 2019)
- International Baccalaureate Diploma (Yangqin), **School of the Arts Singapore** (2009-2014)

## PRINCIPAL TEACHERS

### Composition:

- **New York University:** Louis Karchin (2021-), Jaime Oliver La Rosa (2022-)
- **The Juilliard School:** Melinda Wagner (2021), Robert Beaser (2015-2020)
- **School of the Arts Singapore:** Kelly Tang (2011-2012)

### Additional Composition lessons:

- **Amy Beth Kirsten**, New York (February 2020)
- **Derek Bermel**, Maine (June-August 2019)
- **Philip Lasser**, France (June-July 2017)
- **Martin Bresnick**, Connecticut (June 2017)

### Yangqin:

- **School of the Arts Singapore:** **Qu Jianqing** (2009-2014)
- **Seah Pohchun** (2003-2008)

## Selected Honors and Awards:

- **2022 BMI 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Composer Award (William Schuman Prize)**, *Luciola singapura* for Sinfonietta and Yangqin (USA)
- **2022 The ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Award**, *Luciola singapura* for Sinfonietta and Yangqin (USA)
- **Commissioned Work for the 2022 Singapore International Violin Competition**, *Before Daybreak* for Solo Violin (Singapore)
- **2021 Mirror Visions Ensemble's Young Composers Competition/Commission**, 2 Art Songs for Soprano and Tenor (USA)
- **Society of New Music 2020 New York Federation of Music Clubs' Brian Israel Prize**, *Going Home* (USA)
- **2020 The Juilliard School Palmer Dixon Prize**, *YAMA (God of Hell)* for Mixed Ensemble and Dance (USA)
- **2019 New York Composers Circle John Eaton Memorial Competition**, *Ecstasy* for Piano Quartet (USA)
- **2019 The Juilliard School Gena Raps Piano Chamber Music Prize**, *Elephants in the Sky* and *Kuda Kepang* (USA)
- **2019 Margaret Blackburn Composition Competition**, *Kuda Kepang* for Pierrot Ensemble and Percussion (USA)
- **2018 Boston New Music Initiative (BNMI) 4th Annual Young Composers' Competition**, *Kuda Kepang* for Pierrot Ensemble and Percussion (USA)

## Selected Professional Commissions and Performances (International)

- **NYU FAS Department of Music Graduate Composers Concert with the Bergamot Quartet:** *Mountain of Echoing Halls* for Yangqin, String Quartet and Dance, Greenwich Music School, New York, USA
- **Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art with the Verona Quartet:** *Mountain of Echoing Halls* for Yangqin, String Quartet and Dance, Freer Gallery of Art (centennial celebrations), Washington, D.C, USA (2023)
- **Mirror Visions Ensemble:** *Impressions IV* for Mezzo-soprano and Piano, Merkin Hall, New York, USA (2023)
- **New Thread Quartet:** *Dark Humor* for Saxophone Quartet, The Drake, Amherst, MA, USA (2022)
- **New York Composers Circle:** *Ecstasy* for Piano Quartet, The Church of the Transfiguration, New York, USA (2022)
- **K.J McDonald, Philip Sheegog and Tengku Irfan:** *The Flower Mantis* for Piano Trio, Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York, USA (2022)
- **Ensemble InterContemporain (Fr.) and Metropolis Ensemble:** *Twilight Hues* for Solo Viola (Jack Stulz), New York, USA (2021)
- **National Sawdust Blueprint Fellowship:** *YAMA (God of Hell)* for Mixed Ensemble and Dancer, Brooklyn, New York, USA (2019)
- **Society for New Music and Bowdoin International Music Festival:** *Going Home* for Clarinet Quartet, Syracuse, New York (2020) and Maine, USA (2019)
- **China Conservatory of Music:** *The Entertainers* 《独角戏》 for Chinese Ensemble conducted by Mike Chiang, Beijing, China (2019)
- **Yale Norfolk New Music Workshop and Boston New Music Initiative:** *Kuda Kepang* for Pierrot Ensemble and Percussion (2017), Somerville, MA, USA (2018)
- **National Flute Association 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention:** *Rasa Sayang Fantasy* for Flute trio at San Diego, CA, USA (2016)

## Selected Professional Commissions and Performances (Singapore)

- **Commissioned work for Singapore International Violin Competition:** *Before Daybreak* 《孤灯挑尽》 for solo violin, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (2022)
- **Dicapella Dizi Ensemble:** *Spring Cadenza* 《华彩回春》 for Dizi Quartet, Esplanade Recital Studio (2022)
- **Singapore Chinese Orchestra:** *Song of the Night Wind* 《夜風吟》, led by Tsung Yeh as part of MEPAAN, a collaboration with the Tuyang Initiative based in Miri, Sarawak (Borneo, Malaysia) for 2022 Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) opening concert at Pasir Panjang Power Station (2022)
- **Ding Yi Music Company:** *Tang—Moonlit Fragrance* 《唐·夜旋香》 for Piano (Li Churen) and Chinese Quintet (Dizi, Pipa, Erhu, Erhu/Zhonghu, Percussion), led by Joshua Tan, for 《心·音乐·汇》 opening concert, Esplanade Singtel Waterfront Theatre (2023); *Legend of Badang* 《巴当传奇》 for Large Chinese Ensemble, led by Quek Lingking, for 《Tune In 2020》 digital production, Esplanade Recital Studio (2020)
- **Guzheng player Yvonne Tay and Friends:** *Flavorful Delights* 《琴琴有味》 for Flute, Violin, Guzheng, Zhongruan and Percussion for 《笋材食疗 音与食通》 *Music Kneads*, Esplanade Annexe Studio (2022)
- **Saxophonist Samuel Phua and Yangqin player Tan Jieqing:** *Under the Casuarina Tree* and *A Fleeting Perennity* 《刹那的永恒》 for *Stories from Singapore* project, digital production (2022)
- **The TENG Company:** *A.I. Funk* for Pipa, Guzheng, Erhu, Cello, Electric Guitar in collaboration with turntablist DJ KoFlow (2022)
- **Purple Symphony Orchestra (Singapore's first and only inclusive orchestra):** *X-rays from Outerspace*, The National Gallery (2022)
- **Mike Chiang's Ipseity project:** *Drunken Sway* 《醉荡步》 for Suona, Erhu, Zhongruan and Guzheng, digital production (2022)
- **Modulah Collective's:** *Common Iora* and *Episode 5* for wind quintet and organ for *The Senate of Birds* project, digital production, Victoria Concert Hall (2022)
- **Singapore Symphony Orchestra:** *Luciola singapura* for Sinfonietta and Yangqin for Singapore 56<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration Concert, digital production, Esplanade Concert Hall (2021)
- **Morse Percussion:** *Feast for Five* for Percussion Quintet in conjunction with Georgette Chen's Exhibition at The National Gallery (2021)
- **K 口 U Musik:** *3 Pieces on Chinese, Malay and Indian Cultures* for Wind Quartet, digital production (2020)
- **Ensemble Æquilibrium:** *YAMA (God of Hell)* for Mixed Ensemble and Dance, led by Boonhwa Lien at Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) (2020)
- **Anglo Chinese School Barker Chinese Plucked Strings:** *Snowdance* 《雪纷飞》 for Chinese Plucked Strings Ensemble for Singapore Youth Festival Judging Competition, group awarded Distinction (2018)
- **Singapore Symphony Orchestra:** *Horizons* for Orchestra, led by Darrell Ang for Singapore Symphony's 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Esplanade Concert Hall (2016)
- **Violinist Yang Shuxiang and Pianist Li Churen:** *Ti, Improvisation* for Violin and Piano, Victoria Concert Hall (2016)

## SELECTED FILM AND TV COMMISSIONS

- *Real Live Girl*, psychological thriller pilot episode directed by David Corenswet, USA (2023)
- *Ho Lan* 《荷兰》, mini documentary on Chinese opera singer Gwee Xiaojuan directed by Nicholas Goh, Singapore (2020)

## SELECTED MUSIC ARRANGEMENTS

- **Bard College Conservatory of Music US-China Music Institute—Suona soloist Yazhi Guo and Bard East/West Ensemble:** *Five Colored Winds* 《五彩风声》 of notable classics for Wind Soloist, Chinese Quintet and Western Quintet, Coal + Ice Festival, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. (2022)
- **Clarinetist Ning Zhang and friends at Tianjin Juilliard School:** Li Zili's Fisherman's Harvest Song 《丰收渔歌》 for Dizi/Clarinet, Violin, Viola, Cello and Piano with Tengku Irfan (2021)
- **Clarinetist Ning Zhang and friends at the Juilliard School:** Chen Gang and He Zhanhao's Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto 《梁祝》 for Dizi/Clarinet, Violin, Yangqin and Piano with Tengku Irfan (2019)

## SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY (COMPOSITIONS)

- **Ding Yi Music Company 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publications:** *Legend of Badang* 《巴当传奇》 for Large Chinese Ensemble (2022)
- **Adoration (violinist Fanny Theodoroff and pianist Camille Lemonnier's debut album):** *Dancing Marionettes* for Violin and Piano, Vienna, Austria (2022)

## INVITED LECTURES AND SEMINARS

- **Chinese Music Ensemble of New York and Hamilton Madison House City Hall Older Adult Center:** Yangqin Workshop and Performance (2023)
- **2022 Singapore International Violin Competition — *Before Daybreak*:** In Dialogue with Composer Koh Cheng Jin presented by Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Singapore (2022)
- **City University of New York and Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library:** Deep Listening: Contemporary Composers of the New York Scene, New York City (2022)

## Teaching Experience/Qualifications

- **Private Composition Tutor** (Ongoing)
- **Teaching Assistant for Music Theory II**, New York University (GSAS) (Spring 2023)
  - Assisting Dr. Gordon Beeferman in weekly sessions
  - Independent conduct two recitation sessions per week focusing on ear training and musicianship
- **Teaching Assistant for Music Theory I**, New York University (GSAS) (Fall 2022)
  - Assisting Prof. Elizabeth Hoffman in weekly sessions
  - Independently conduct two recitation sessions per week focusing on theoretical concepts
- **Teaching Assistant for Music Theory I**, The Juilliard School Extension Division (Fall 2020)
  - Assisting Ruka Shironishi in weekly sessions
  - Private Composition Tutoring
  - Private Music Theory Tutoring
- **Composition Fellow**, The Juilliard School Music Advancement Program (MAP) (2019 - 2021)
  - Assisting Huang Ruo in weekly sessions
  - Relief Composition teacher for Daniel Felsenfeld
  - Relief Ear Training, Theory teacher for Trevor Weston
  - Private Ear Training and Music Theory Tutoring

## Arts Administration

- **Treasurer, First Performance (2023-)**  
First Performance is a composer collective at New York University funded by the Office of Student Activities. Responsibilities include managing budget of \$12k, programming and producing student concerts, handling contracts, PR/Advertising, liaison between club officers, composers and musicians
- **Assistant to Washington Square Contemporary Music Society (2023-)**  
Now in its 40<sup>th</sup> season, the Washington Square Contemporary Music Society seeks to further the cause of new music by presenting the most recent works of our time in ideal performances. Responsibilities include general concert management, liaison between composers and visiting ensembles, and PR/Advertising

## Relevant Work Experience (Others)

- **Admissions Student Blogger, The Juilliard School (2019 – 2020)**
- **Librarian Assistant, Singapore Symphony Orchestra (2018)**
- **Research Assistant, The TENG Company's TENG's Guide to Chinese Orchestra (2017)**
- **Yangqin performer, The Juilliard School Gluck Fellowship (2017 - 2018)**

## Music Practical Qualifications (from most recent)

- **Central Conservatory of Music Diploma in Yang Qin Performance (2010)**
- **ABRSM Diploma in Violin Performance (2010)**
- **ABRSM Grade 8 in Piano Performance (2007)**
- **ABRSM Grade 5 in Music Theory (2004)**

## Selected Yangqin Honors and Awards

- Champion (Yangqin Open Category) of the Singapore National Chinese Music Competition (2014), selected as soloist to play with Singapore Chinese Orchestra (Singapore)
- Champion (Yangqin Youth Category) of the Singapore National Chinese Music Competition (2012) (Singapore)
- Gold Award at the Taipei International Music Festival for Chinese Chamber (2014) with SOTA Chinese Ensemble (Taiwan)

## Selected Yangqin Performances

- Chamber player in my own *Mountain for Echoing Halls* (2023) for its world commissioned premiere at Freer Gallery, Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art for their centennial celebrations (Washington, DC)
- Featured orchestral musician in Anthony Paul De Ritis' *Chang'E and the Elixir of Immortality* with Boston Modern Orchestra Project and conductor Gil Rose (discography)
- Chamber player in Hao Weiya's *Painted Skin* 《画皮》 with Bard College Conservatory of Music Chinese Ensemble and China Now Music Festival 《纽约中国当代音乐节》 at Hudson Opera House, Hudson, NY and Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall, NY (USA) (2022)
- Chamber player in my own *YAMA (God of Hell)* (2019) for its world premiere at National Sawdust (USA)
- Orchestral player in Chinese Music Ensemble of New York's Spring Concert (2019) at Merkin Concert Hall, Lincoln Center (USA)
- Solo player in the 16th Choral Festival (2015) (Johor Bahru, Malaysia)
- Chamber player in Ding Yi Music Company (Singapore)
- Chamber player in Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize Ceremony (2014) with SOTA Chinese Ensemble (Singapore)
- Chamber player in the Botanic Gardens Singapore-Indie Strategic Dinner (2009) with ex-President Nathan of Singapore in attendance (Singapore)
- Solo/Chamber player in Siong Leng Musical Association: International Nanyin Youth Concert and Symposium (2015) at Resorts World Sentosa (Singapore)
- Soloist with Singapore Chinese Orchestra (2014) for Singapore National Chinese Music Competition Prize Winners' Ceremony and Concert with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong as Guest-of-Honor (Singapore)