About the Music (continued)

"Nottumo in the Fishing Boat" is unique music like the beautiful splash-ink Chinese landscape-painting style, now painting from the music. The graceful Adagio tells you of a beautiful sunset. The Allegro traces out the dynamic picture of fishing and padding. The music’s end attracts people with its profound and lasting artistic conception. As a Guzheng solo previously arranged for harp and violin, today we enlarge it to three performers.

The VCUMusic Department hosts hundreds of concerts each year, most of them free of charge! Get on the VCU Music mailing list by e-mailing music@vcu.edu or calling (804) 828-1169. Get the inside story and advance word on VCU Jazz events by subscribing to the VCU Jazz E-Newsletter (free!) E-mail Prof. García at ajgarcia@vcu.edu.

TH 10/13, 8p—Fall Jazz Festival: VCU Jazz Orchestra I & II, & VCU Jazz Faculty, Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center. Admission is $7 advance, $10 at the door; free with VCU student ID.

M 10/17—“Jazz Journeys,” a VCU Commonwealth Society short course, begins with Prof. Antonio Garcia, VCU Director of Jazz Studies, Mondays, Session Two (Oct 17-Nov 14), 8:30-10:30a. Online registration will begin late August. For more information, contact CS Director Angela Allen <amdallen@vcu.edu>, 804/827-7301; or visit <www.arts.vcu.edu/commonwealthsociety>.

T 10/18, 8p—VCU Music Faculty Showcase, Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center. Admission free.

Contact number for general concert/ticket information: (804) 828-6776, MWF 9 a.m.-Noon. Photography is not permitted during performances; all cellphones/pagers should be off.
Program

Moon River Henry Mancini & Johnny Mercer
with Mikiyas Negussie, guitar

Autumn Leaves Joseph Kosma & Jacques Prévert
with Mikiyas Negussie, guitar; Ben Kelly, bass

Eternal Love 长相思
Jianmin Wang

Straight, No Chaser Thelonious Monk
with Mikiyas Negussie, guitar; Ben Kelly, bass; Bryan Connolly, drums

Liuyang River 浏阳河
traditional, arr. Zhang Yan
with Antonio García, trombone

Deep Night 夜深沉
traditional Chinese opera, arr. Zhongshan Wang
with Justin Alexander, percussion

Notturno in the Fishing Boat 漁舟唱晚
Shuhua Lou
with Darryl Harper, clarinet; Yin Zheng, piano

Group Improvisation
all
with Macon Mann, piano; Ben Kelly, bass; Bryan Connolly, drums

Summertime George Gershwin & DuBose Heyward
with Macon Mann, piano; Ben Kelly, bass; Bryan Connolly, drums

About the Music

“Eternal Love” is inspired by the poem of the same name by Li Bai of the Tang dynasty. It describes his complex emotions when leaving his hometown. The music is a fusion of his feelings with the natural setting; no wonder it is considered as the classic work of modern Guzheng.

“Liuyang River” is a Chinese classic folk song with a smooth and beautiful melody, arranged in the 1970s by acclaimed Guzheng-player Zhang Yan with variations in the form, melody, and development. Quick hands of downward arpeggios resemble water. The rhythms and changing tempos of the music depict the beautiful scenery of Hunan and express the people's home, love of life, and love of the people's leaders.

“Deep Night” is from a traditional Chinese Kunqu opera, arranged by Zhongshan Wang. Sometimes a Guzheng solo, it now dialogues with the drum in the expression of the “Farewell My Concubine,” scene from Beijing Opera, sentimental and incisive. The Guzheng’s glissando and rapid passages demonstrate the unique charm of the instrument.

Our Guest Artist

Prof. Jue Chen, a Guzheng and Guqin performer, is a lecturer at Tongji University’s music and arts department, permanent Artistic Director of the Tongji student orchestra, a Director of the Professional Guzheng Committee in the Shanghai Musicians Association, and a Director of the Shanghai Guqin Research Institute. A graduate of Shanghai Conservatory of Music, she was awarded a Chinese national government scholarship for one year’s research in improvisation at VCU as a visiting scholar, mentored by Prof. Antonio García, VCU’s Director of Jazz Studies.

Prof. Chen has been visiting the United States since last October and wishes to extend her sincere gratitude to the China Scholarship Council; Virginia Commonwealth University; the VCU Music Department; Prof. Justin Alexander, Taylor Barnett, Tabatha Easley, Antonio García, Darryl Harper, and Yin Zheng; Music Administrative Director Linda Johnston; Facilities Manager Curt Blankenship; to alumnus Macon Mann and students Mikiyas Negussie, Ben Kelly, and Bryan Connolly; and to all the students, faculty, and staff at VCU for welcoming her this past year. She welcomes your arrival and invites you to listen in to the world of her Guzheng’s music.