

*About the Performer:*

“朱彥晏、字紫陽、號龍吟琴館主人、江蘇南京人氏也。”

Zhu Yanyan, courtesy name Ziyang, alias Master of the Longyin Qin Studio, originated from Nanjing, Jiangsu Province.

She developed a deep passion for Chinese poetry and arts since a young age, and started learning the qin from Jinling School Master Liu Zhengchun. She later travelled across China to study from the Zhucheng, Guangling, Yushan, and Zhejiang Schools, all of which contributed to her unique personal style.

Zhu moved to Toronto in 2002, and began passing down the art locally. She co-founded the University of Toronto Guqin Association (UTQA) in 2005, which became the Toronto Guqin Society (TQS) today.

To Yanyan, appreciating the qin, visual arts, and calligraphy is all about the vibrant flow of Qi energy, profound as the slight murmurs of a dragon wandering among the void, filling space with an impressionistic level of meaning.



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Calligraphy: Yanyan Zhu

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Yanyan Zhu 朱彥晏- Guqin Player

In 1990's, Yanyan Zhu learned Guqin (ancient Literati Arts) from top Masters in China, who were recognized as national Guqin Music descendents. And at the moment only few people in the world still could play the music from ancient time back to Zhou Dynasty (1047 BC-221BC), and only less than 10 teachers in China could instruct students privately.

Her repertoire includes Jinling School, Zhucheng School, Guangling School, Wumen (Yushan) School, and Chuan School since she learned from several schools' masters. She is devoted to the

in-depth study of the Zhucheng School, writing scores for the Zhucheng School's ancestry notation book [Long Yin Guan Qinpu].

In the 1990s, she began to study Kunqu (Ming Dynasty poetry songs) under Shi Runlan and Zhu Jiyun, masters of Kunqu from The Kunju Opera Institute of Jiangsu Province. She excavated and arranged traditional Chinese poetry song repertoires and created and played music with a unique literati culture style.

Yanyan loves Literati music culture heritage which had been almost lost in the past century, when few people know about the Guqin instrument, literati Guqin music ( some company with Xiao-flute) poetry songs ( company with Guqin and Xiao). Kunqu songs (company with Di-flute).

In 2002, Yanyan immigrated to Canada, started to teach Guqin music privately. She has been a professional Qin-Music master performing in concerts with Toronto Chinese Symphony Orchestra since 2005.

In 2008, she was invited to present Guqin music and poetry songs in Taiwan in several cities by **Fo Guang Shan Monastery**

In 2009, She recorded her Guqin solo and distributed first Guqin Music CD online.

In 2011, she was invited to New York Qin Society to demonstrate Qin music and Poetry songs (<http://newyorkqin.com/events/2011/2011event4.html>).

In 2016, she was the Toronto Chinese Media Award Recipient for her outstanding contribution to the community arts and culture heritage programs which benefited all ages of Canadians.

In 2017, she published a bilingual book, "Literati," (ISBN 978-0-9959481 )to introduce “ten thousand years of wisdom, living freedom for today” for young readers, and edited several Tang Dynasty Poets’ selected poem collections for Professor John Warden (UoT) and Daqi Dai (YRSDB), who also contributed in Poetry Songs English version lyrics for Yanyan presented Poetry Songs concerts in the past 8 years. (Li Shangying Selected ISBN 978-0-9949309-0-3, Li He Selected, Du Fu Selected In The War ISBN978-0-0783612-0-4, Wang Wei Selected)

Yanyan's works:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKjMEwYdrA0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxS7TN5rgEQ>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PL5nmRLA\\_PI&t=6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PL5nmRLA_PI&t=6s)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCQ\\_0dRckFQ&t=24s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCQ_0dRckFQ&t=24s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XdXOhHcAXqQ>

## **Weiping Zou 鄒衛平- Poetry Song Singer**

Weiping Zou, a multi-talented artist, a photographer with WuHan University, B.A. a vision artist with The Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts MA, a film director with Beijing Film Academy MA. He learned vocal from a young age, and spent 40 years practicing literati landscaping painting 文人山水畫 and he followed ancient literati arts tradition with Guqin music, poetry, calligraphy, painting, seals etc. and developed literati poetry songs performing style with his soul and emotion.

Mr. Zou's works:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FyY76Vy82Q&t=13s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U7SIAV9onK0>

On 10/17 NYQS on-line yaji, Yanyan will share a video of Tao Yuanming Gui Qu Lai Ci 歸去來兮辭, which is a literati poetry song that she played Guqin and Mr. Weiping Zou sang the song. And she will also demonstrate a short piece about poetry song with Mr. Weiping Zou, who is a talent artist of literati landscape painting (文人山水畫).

And she will briefly introduce

- 1, Herself.
- 2, The relationship between Guqin and literati arts and cultural heritage.
- 3, The poetry song Gui Qu Lai Ci's picture of literati lifestyle with pictures from Mr. Zou's paintings.