

Introduction to Chinese and Greek Musicians

Chang Jing



Guzheng virtuoso performer, independent musician, National Class-A performer, and Royal Instructor of Music for the Princess of Thailand. In the Beijing Olympic Games Opening Ceremony in 2008, Chang played solo in the work "A Moonlit Flowery Night on the Spring River", leaving a deep impression to people all over the world. Chang's beautiful flowing music reminds one of the dreamlike Chinese Shanshui paintings. Chang has created her own style, which breaks down the boundaries between Chinese and Western

music. Through her unique performance style of combining singing and playing, Chang has successfully introduced ancient Chinese culture and Guzheng music to the world in a brand new way.

In 2013, Chang performed with the famous musician Yiannis Chryssomallis in the CCTV Spring Festival Gala.

Chang focuses on Guzheng performance and creation, cooperated with record companies such as American Real Music Record, PBC music, EDEL, Hugo Productions, Rhymoi music, etc. to launch several albums and singles, including Chang Jing, Spirit of the Sword, Over the Rainbow, Guzheng Beauty, Apricot Blossoms against a Sky, The Flying Crane, Aegean etc. Chang is also a versatile artist, which she acted as composer, arranger, singer, performer and producer in the production of her albums.

Chang has worked with world-class musicians including Conductor Lorin Maazel for Guzheng concert A Moonlit Flowery Night on the Spring River, and has also worked with Composer Chen Qigang and Conductor Tang Muhai for Qigang Chen's Iris dévoilée which was premiered by Orchestre National de France and was invited to perform again in 2015 BBC Proms together with Welsh Symphony Orchestra.

Chang also cooperated with Yanni, Richard Clayderman, Zhu Zheqin and other well-known musicians worldwide. Chang always seeks crossover opportunities to bring out the beauty of Guzheng in a modern way together with Blues, Jazz, Rock and Fusion bands and also starts to experiment composing contemporary zither music.

Chang seeks cooperation with different art forms varying from movies to dance dramas. Chang performed solo in the director Zhang Yimou's film Under the Hawthorn Tree and Wong Kar-wai's film Ashes of Time Redux.

In 2002, Chang was invited as the Royal Instructor of Music for the Princess of Thailand. Together with Princess of Thailand, Chang has successfully hold six "China and Thailand are kith and kin" Guzheng galas. Chang's significant contribution to the culture exchange between China and Thailand has been well recognized.

In 2015, Chang Jing together with Chinese flute musician Zhang Di was invited for the Meet Culture Music Travel in Greece and recorded the first ever Chinese-Greek crossover album Aegean with the Greek musicians. Chang also held two crossover concerts with Greek musicians in Athens and Santorini, which have enjoyed great popularity.

Zhang Di



Chinese flute performer, director, photographer, freelance musician.

Zhang studied Chinese flute from his father since he was young, and later learned from several Chinese flute masters like Zhang Weiliang, Yu Xunfa and Kong Qingshan. With thirty years' study of Chinese flute and fifteen years of teaching, Zhang was invited by CCTV to perform in music channel and large-scale concerts for several times, and also

cooperated with the top musicians from different styles. By 2012, Zhang has initiated several experimental concerts in Beijing, Shanghai, etc. In 2013 CCTV Spring Festival Gala, Zhang performed together with Chang Jing and Yiannis Chryssomallis. In 2014, together with top Chinese folk musicians, Zhang participated in the Jazz performance of The best of Blue Note.

In 2015 Zhang recorded Xiao albums Anapana and Classical Xiao Music, and in the October of the same year, Zhang together with Chang Jing was invited for the music travel in Greece and recorded the first ever Chinese-Greek crossover album Aegean with Greek musicians. In 2016 Zhang directed the instruments improvisation MV Not Yet a Dream, and recorded the experimental album Sravasti featuring Wulou Xiao, Hang and vocal.

Aliki Markantonatou



Aliki is an artist and music teacher who lives in Athens. She accomplished her musical studies on the Piano, Counterpoint and Opera at the National Music Academy. She came across the Ancient Greek Lyre at 2004, while she was exploring the string instruments. Lyre doesn't exist anymore, and is a product that was created, after many years of research from a handful of brave luthiers. One of them is Nikolaos Bras, who created Aliki's Lyre.

Aliki studied the ancient musical fragments, and she developed a personal way of playing. Techniques borrowed from the Harp, the Krar or the Kanun are woven into her style. She combines the Lyre with many different instruments such as the wooden flutes, the Sitar, the Lyre from Black Sea, Cretan Lyre, Dub Music etc.

Aliki summons the lyrical Sapphic spirit with her melodies, and she also takes inspiration from the Asia Minor, Byzantine music, Indian music etc. She performed with the group Ghi & Thalassa all around Greece (2007-2012)

In 2013 she composed and recorded the album *Awakening the Muse* with the Lyre 'n' Rhapsody band. In 2014 the same band recorded the album *Kirke*, with compositions from all members of the group. In 2015 Lyre 'n' Rhapsody recorded the album *Aegean*, with world awarded, ancient Chinese music, musicians, Chang Jing and Chang Di. The album will be released both in China and in Greece in August 2016. Since February 2016 she started recording a solo album, based on Lyre techniques and voice.

Areti Miggou



Areti Miggou is a percussionist, singer, composer and is particularly dealing with the Greek traditional percussions and rhythms from around the world. The recent years she plays more the daouli, a Greek double drum as she pumps out an inner and profound sound, taking advantage of the different music colors that this instrument offer.

Interested in pentatonic scale of Greek polyphonic music she is doing a research,

teaching and performing polyphonic singing of Greece. She has been educated on music and dance Orff pedagogic and organizes experiential seminars built around percussions and rhythm with voice, body and dance. Also cooperates with dance, drama and music performers and bands. As a composer she loves to mix rhythms and sounds of different music cultures as she believes that music has no borders and connect people through common feelings.

Athena Chioti



Athena Chioti is a singer and excellent in vocal of ancient Greek songs. She was member of the ancient Greek lyre band Lyre 'n' Rhapsody and recorded the albums *Awakening the Muse* and *Kirke*. In 2015 Meet Culture's Music Travel in Greece, she created together with the Chinese and other Greek musicians the first ever Greek-Chinese collaborated album *Aegean*. She regularly performs with other musicians in Athens, and recognized on her charming voice.

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