

香港科技大學 人文社會科學學院

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



An Observer's Musical Reaction:

The Nanking Massacre

Speaker : Prof. Bright Sheng 盛宗亮教授

Date : 2 December 2009 (Wed)

Time : 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Venue : Exposition Hall, HKUST

Language : English

"Sheng's is an exquisite blend of the musical East and West ... the orchestra writing is brilliant"

— The New York Times

"Extraordinary music and a riveting evening in the theater."

— Michael Kennedy,
The Telegraph

"An innovative composer who merges diverse musical customs in works that transcend conventional aesthetic boundaries."

— The MacArthur Foundation

"Sheng's piano skills came to the fore with playing that absolutely sparkled. The strange hymn-like passage toward the end of the piece was heavenly and made the final rush to the end that much more effective."

— Tim Lindeman,
Classical Voice of North Carolina

All are welcome



Prof. Bright Sheng is respected as one of the foremost composers of our time, and his stage, orchestral, chamber and vocal works are performed regularly throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Sheng's music is noted for its lyrical and clear melodies, a sense of breath in music phrases, a rhythmic propulsion, and use of dramatic and theatrical gestures.

Many of Sheng's works have strong Chinese and Asian influences, a result of his diligent study of Asian musical cultures for more than three decades. Sheng's works are well known for their dramatic style and historical signification. Two of his major orchestral works, *H'un: In Memoriam 1966-76* (1988) and *Nanking! Nanking! A Threnody for Pipa and Orchestra* (2000), as well as his opera *Madam Mao* (2003), were inspired by events in recent Chinese history. In 1999, at the invitation of President Bill Clinton, Sheng received a special commission from the White House to create a new work honoring the visiting Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji. The resulting *Three Songs for Pipa and Cello* was premiered by Wu Man and Yo Yo Ma during a state dinner hosted by the Clintons.



和平
Peace