

"Silk and Bamboo" orchestra of the Chinese Music Society of North America, to perform at UCSD March 9

February 27, 1990

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"SILK AND BAMBOO," ORCHESTRA OF THE CHINESE MUSIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, TO PLAY AT UCSD MARCH 9

"Silk and Bamboo," the orchestra of the Chinese Music Society of North America, will perform at the University of California, San Diego, at 8 p.m. Friday, March 9, in the UCSD Price Center Theatre.

Chinese music boasts an unbroken line of continuity which is more than 7,000 years old. The Chinese Music Society was formed in the United States in 1976 to present the Chinese music form to U.S. audiences.

The program will include an orchestral work called "Bumper Harvest," based on a work by the composer Xian Xinghai, and written in the 1930s. The round lute, the wooden fish slit-drum and the reeded bamboo flute are some of the instruments used in this work.

The "Dance of the Golden Snake" is a popular work for the Chinese orchestra, based on traditional compositions. "The Moon Mirrored in Erquan" is the best known composition of the composer A Bing. Only six of A Bing's composition have survived. The piece was recorded in 1950, the year of the composer's death.

"Songs of Joy" is a classic example of the silk and bamboo school of Jiang-nan (a well-known style of orchestra popular in the southern Jiang-su and western Zhejiang provinces, which are south of the Yang-zi River). "Jiang" is for "Chang Jiang" or the Yang-zi River, and "nan" means "south." The principal instrumentation of this orchestral style is based on silk strings (the erhu, pipa, sanzian) and bamboo winds (di, xiao and sheng).

The Liuban is a class of composition based on "Lao Liuban," or "Old Liuban" style. The composition "Moderately Embellished Liuban" is for orchestra, using the highly lyrical and colorful Liuban style of composition.

The orchestral work "New Life" is a classic piece for the erhu ensemble. Of Tibetan origin, the music is derived from a class of dance music called Tod Zhai.

The Silk and Bamboo orchestra was founded by Dr. Shen Sin-yan. It is made up of four groups of instruments, the reeded winds, percussion, plucked strings and bowed strings. Dr. Shen Sin-yan was born in Singapore and earned a doctorate in physics from Ohio State University. He is a Fulbright Scholar, has written more than 200 papers on acoustics and music, and is a virtuoso on the erhu.

This performance is brought to San Diego by UCSD University Events. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$6 for students, and may be purchased at the UCSD Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets.

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