

# The Princeton University Peking Opera Immersion Program Workshop Presentation

## “The Fountain” 飲水思源

*The Drunken Consort*: Icey Ai, Edelyn Lau, and Chao-Hui Jenny Liu

*The Cosmic Blade*: Wendy Heller, Bonnie Ko

*The Story of the Jade Bracelet* (Kunqu): Joyce Chen

*The Legend of the White Snake*: Joyce Chen

*The Red-Maned Horse*: Shuwen Cao

*The Golden Stage*: Todd Reichart

The Program in East Asian Studies and the Music Department is delighted to present “The Fountain,” a workshop Presentation showcasing the accomplishments of Princeton students, faculty, and staff participating in the 2022 Peking Opera Immersion Program on Thursday September 22, 2022, in Taplin Auditorium. After a brief introduction to Princeton’s Peking Opera Immersion Program, we will present selected scenes that the students learned during an intensive two-week remote study period, in which Princeton faculty, students, and staff had the rare opportunity to study the art of Peking Opera remotely with some of the leading performers from the Shanghai Peking Opera Company. Please learn more about this extraordinary art and applaud the accomplishments of our students!

**A Musical Note**--For fans of Peking Opera, the sounds of recitation (shǔbǎn 數版) accompanying the clapper is a standard for the clown role. Here it is used to great effect by Todd Reichart in *The Golden Stage*. *Xipi* 西平 is one of the most popular tunes for Peking operas and is used across many different operas. Percussionists, wielding both clapper and drum, is the director of Peking Opera’s musical bands. The bands are divided into two groups, the military *wuchang* 武場 and the domestic *wenchang* 文場. The military band is dominated by percussions whereas strings dominate the domestic band. Leading musicians from each group, in effect, lead the performance. The drummer sets the pace for the opera and the two-string *jinghu* closely accompanies the singer’s mood, tone, and key.

\*All excerpts below were translated by students of the Peking Opera Program, edited by Edelyn Lau and Xin Zou. Vocabulary: *Xipi* 西平, *shǔbǎn* 數版, *Siping* 四平

### *The Drunken Consort* (Excerpt) 《貴妃醉酒》選段

Translated by Sheryl Chow

[In *Siping* air]  
The icy Moon begins to rise and glimmer above this island.  
I see the Jade Rabbit.  
The Jade Rabbit rises early in the east again.  
As the icy Moon departs from the island,  
The earth and sky become exceptionally bright.  
The silvery Moon is floating in the sky  
As if Chang’e has left the Moon Palace.  
I am like Chang’e leaving the Moon Palace.

【四平調】  
海島冰輪初轉騰

見玉兔啊  
玉兔又早東升  
那冰輪離海島  
乾坤分外明  
皓月當空  
恰便似嫦娥離月宮  
奴似嫦娥離月宮

### *The Cosmic Blade* (Excerpt) 《宇宙鋒》選段

Translated by Chao-Hui Jenny Liu

[In *Xipi* air, standard tempo]  
My venerable father shows mercy and will write a memorial to the throne.  
During tomorrow’s morning audience he will present it to our Emperor in the Golden Halls.  
If the Emperor is enlightened and the imperial beneficence vast and mighty,  
this memorial may save his child’s entire in-law family from calamity.

【西皮原板】  
老爹爹發恩德將本修上  
明早朝上金殿面奏吾皇  
倘若是有道君「皇恩浩蕩」  
觀此本免了幾一門禍殃

### “Reunion at Wujia Slope” from *The Red-Maned Horse* (Excerpt) 《紅鬃烈馬·武家坡》選段

Translation from 武家坡 [Reunion at Wujia Slope], 國家圖書館出版社, 2016, 9-10, 138-143 with further edits.

[In *Xipi* air, leading beats]  
Xue Pinggui:  
Once I begin to recount the hardships of the past, my tears cannot be stopped.  
[Standard tempo]  
As husband and wife, we suffered a lot living in the cold dwelling.  
After I tamed the red-maned war horse,  
I asked for an official position from the Emperor.  
I was given the position of military officer,  
But your father criticized me in front of the Emperor.  
Ever since Pangu created the world, [“Flowing water” tempo]  
Has there ever been a father-in-law who criticize his son-in-law in front of the emperor!  
The Xiliang Kingdom rose in rebellion,  
Therefore, I was sent to the frontline as a military officer.  
While the two armies were fighting, I encountered Daizhan, the Princess of Xiliang.  
She captured me off my horse.  
Yet the old King, her father, who kindly treated me,  
Ordered the Princess to marry me.  
Later, after the old King died,  
The official ensured that I would be the new King.  
One day, when I was sitting in the palace,  
A migrating great wild goose spoke to me in human language.  
I shot at it with a golden bow and a silver arrow,

But what fell down was a torn swath of silk on which were written words in blood.

Only when I unfolded the cloth and read the words on it,  
Did I learn that you were still suffering in our lowly dwelling.  
So, rushing night and day, I came back as soon as possible  
So that we as husband and wife could reunite.  
If you don't believe me, please count the years,  
It has already been 18 years since I left.

#### 【西皮导板】

薛平贵：  
提起了当年泪不干。

#### 【原板】

夫妻们在寒窑受尽熬煎。  
自从降了红鬃战，  
唐王爷驾前去讨官。  
官封我后军都督府，  
你的父上殿把本参。  
自从盘古立地天，【接流水】  
哪有岳父把婿参？  
西凉国造了反，  
为丈夫倒做了先行官。  
两军阵前遇代战，  
她将我擒下了马雕鞍。  
多蒙那老王示恩典，  
反将公主配良缘。  
西凉的老王把驾晏，  
众文武保我坐银安。  
那一日驾坐在银安殿，  
宾鸿大雁口吐人言。  
手持金弓银弹打，  
打下了半幅血罗衫。  
展开罗衫从头看，  
才知道寒窑受苦的王宝钏。  
不分昼夜往回赶，  
为的是夫妻们两团圆。  
三姐不信屈指算，  
连来带去十八年。

#### The Story of the Jade Hairpin 《玉簪记》选段

*Translated by Joyce Chen*

The Moonlight cloud lightly reveals beauty  
Sorrowfully listening to the cricket sounds in the empty room  
The melancholy of Autumn is greeted by the west wind,  
The fallen leaf shocked the dream.

月明雲淡露華濃。  
欹枕愁聽四壁蛩。  
傷秋宋玉賦西風，  
落葉驚殘夢。

#### The Legend of the White Snake 白蛇傳

I would like to worship the buddha and turn around early  
The powder wall of Wenshu Yuan Monastery is high as the sky  
I think of my lady upon hearing the sounding bells and drums  
How many nights did I sleep peacefully?  
My lady will search for me in Jinshan  
We had no luck of reuniting; so near (and) yet so far  
Fahai (monk) will be fighting with you  
I am hurt as if arrows are shooting through my heart  
Little novice (monk) did me a favor  
He let me leave the mountain to visit you  
Since I can see you one more time  
My heart is full (of sweetness) and I can die without regrets

先只想拜佛早回轉  
文殊院粉牆高似天  
聽魚罄只把賢妻念  
那幾夜何曾得安眠  
賢妻金山將我探  
咫尺天涯見無緣  
法海與你來交戰

卑人心中似箭穿  
小沙彌行方便  
他放我下山訪嬋娟  
得與賢妻見一面  
縱死黃泉我心也甜

#### The Golden Stage (Excerpt) 《黄金台》選段

*Translated by C. Todd Reichart*

[Recited in the *shūbǎn* recitation style, with clapper accompaniment]  
Being an official is great, being an official is brilliant.  
On the official's head sits a black gauze hat.  
He brings honor to his ancestors.  
At the cemetery stands a flagpole,  
At home, attached to the door is an award ribbon.  
One day I will be appointed as an official,  
And I will ride in a coolie-carried sedan chair.  
The sedan comes with a front curtain and a backrest,  
Lifting me two to three feet off the ground.  
This good fortune is no small thing,  
I happily clap my hands and laugh.  
I kick my legs and the bottom of the sedan chair falls out,  
The loud crash makes me jump.  
The coolies run outside the sedan, I run inside the sedan.  
Running to and fro, my feet are blistered,  
Then I wake up from this dream,  
Ridiculous! Ridiculous!

#### 【念“数板”】

做官好，做官妙。  
做官头戴乌纱帽。  
与祖增光耀。  
坟地立着旗杆刁斗，  
家里贴着门封告条。  
有朝一日出任为官好，  
我也坐着人抬的轿。  
前头帘儿后头有靠，  
离地也有个二三尺高。  
这个造化可真不小，  
乐得我拍手哈哈笑。  
一蹬腿儿轿底儿掉，  
扑腾腾吓了我一大跳。  
他们在外头跑，我在里头跑。  
跑来跑去我的两脚燎浆泡，  
这个梦我才惊醒了，  
可笑！可笑！

#### PLAYERS:

**Icey Ai ‘25: Math major**

**Shuwen Cao: Bibliographer, East Asian Library**

**Joyce Chen: Ph.D. candidate in Music and the  
Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Humanities**

**Wendy Heller: Scheide Professor of Music History**

**Paize Keulemans: Professor of Chinese Literature**

**Bonnie Ko: Ph.D. student in Music**

**Edelyn Lau ‘22: East Asian Studies major**

**Chao-Hui Jenny Liu, Ph.D.: Coordinator of the East  
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**Todd Reichart: Visual designer and webmaster in the  
Department of Chemistry.**

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