

Tan Dun Biography and Works



The conceptual and multifaceted composer/conductor Tan Dun has made an indelible mark on the world's music scene with a creative repertoire that spans the boundaries of classical music. multimedia performance, and Eastern and Western traditions. A winner of today's most prestigious honors including the Grammy Award, Oscar/Academy Award, Grawemeyer Award for classical composition and Musical America's Composer of The Year, Tan Dun's music has been played throughout the world by leading orchestras, opera houses, international festivals, and on the radio and television. As a composer/conductor. Tan Dun has led the world's most renowned orchestras, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic. Berliner Philharmoniker. Philadelphia Orchestra, Orchestre National de France, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Filharmonica della Scala, Münchner Philharmoniker and the Santa Cecilia Orchestra, among others. Most recently, Tan Dun served as "Cultural Ambassador to the World" for World EXPO 2010 Shanghai.

Tan Dun's individual voice has been heard by wide audiences. His first Internet Symphony, which was commissioned by Google/YouTube, has reached over 15 million people online. His Organic Music Trilogy of Water, Paper and Ceramic Concerti has frequented major concert halls and festivals. Paper Concerto was premiered with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the opening of the Walt Disney Hall. His multimedia work, The Map, premiered by Yo Yo Ma and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, has toured more than 30 countries worldwide. Its manuscript has been included in the Carnegie Hall Composers Gallery. His *Orchestral Theatre: The Gate* was premiered by Japan's NHK Symphony Orchestra and crosses the cultural boundaries of Peking Opera, Western Opera and puppet theatre traditions. Other important recent premieres include Four Secret Roads of Marco Polo for the Berlin Philharmonic and Piano Concerto "The Fire" for Lang Lang and the New York Philharmonic. Tan Dun was commissioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to write the Logo Music and Award Ceremony Music for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Current projects include a new percussion concerto for soloist Martin Grubinger and a

harp concerto inspired by the secret Nushu calligraphy of Tan Dun's home province of Hunan, China.

For Tan Dun the marriage of composition and inspiration has always culminated in his operatic creations, Marco Polo was commissioned by the Edinburgh Festival and has had four different productions including, most prominently, with De Nederlandse Opera directed by Pierre Audi; *The* First Emperor with Placido Domingo in the title role, commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera of New York: Tea: A Mirror of Soul, premiered at Japan's Suntory Hall, has since had new productions with Opera de Lyon, a co-production by Santa Fe Opera and The Opera Company of Philadelphia: and *Peonv Pavilion*, directed by Peter Sellars which has had over 50 performances at major festivals in Vienna, Paris, London and Rome.

Tan Dun records for, Sony Classical, Deutsche Grammophon, Naxos, EMI and Opus Arte. His recordings have garnered many accolades, including a Grammy Award (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon) and nomination (The First Emperor; Marco Polo), Japan's Recording Academy Awards for Best Contemporary Music CD (Water Passion after St. Matthew) and the BBC's Best Orchestral Album (Death and Fire).

Tan Dun's music is published exclusively by G. Schirmer. Inc.

— November 2011

Biography



Opera and Music Theatre

The First Emperor (2006)

2h 35'

Text: (English) Ha Jin and Tan Dun Performance restrictions apply. Please of

Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for additional information.

Cast: S, 2Mz, 2T, Bar, B, Peking Opera Singer; chorus; dancers;

Orch: 2(amp bfl).2.2.2/3.3Ctpt.2.1/timp.4perc.Tibetan singing bowl/2hp/str; ancient music instruments (min 7 players): large Chinese drums, pairs of stones, 15-string Zheng[=Chinese lute or Japanese koto], pitched ceramic chimes[=pitched ceramic flower pots], waterphones, giant bell onstage

Performance materials on rental Libretto 50486387 for sale.

Marco Polo (1995-96)

2h 0'

Text: (English) Paul Griffiths

Solo: dramatic Tenor, 2 Mezzo sopranos, Bass, 2 Tenors,

Baritone, Soprano, boy treble

Chorus: chorus of at least 20; dancers 1(pic)1(ca)1(bcl)1(cbn)/2220/3perc/prpf.hp/

str(min 10.8.6.6.4); world instruments: rec*.medieval hp*.rebec*.sitar.tabla*.2 Tibetan hn*.Tibetan bowls and bells(chorus).pipa.sheng; (* Musicians may double on world and western instruments). For information on Chinese instruments and performers, please contact Parnassus Productions. Inc.

Performance materials on rental Libretto 50483499 for sale.

Nine Songs (1989)

1h 30'

Text: the composer, after Qu Yan (340-277 B.C.).

Solo: 20 singer-performers

3perc.2cbn.3 Chinese instrumentalists

Performance materials on rental

Peony Pavilion (1998)

1h 50'

Text: (English) Tang Xianzu (1598).

Translation by Cyril Birch

Solo: Soprano, Tenor, Chinese Opera actress 6 players, audio CD. 1) Midi hn, Xun, Dizi. 2) Midi hn, Sona[=Kiri or Taeponso]. 3) Pipa. 4) Sampler[=computer]. 5) bangu dm (Chinese Opera dm), Chinese cym, sm gong, Ig bdm, water gong, ratchet. 6) dmkit, udo dm (ceram dm w/2 sound holes), maraca, guiro, Chinese cym, brush, bow, flexitone, 4 sm Chinese bells[=finger bells], 2 cowbells (Ig, sm). Chinese inst & perf info: Parnassus Productions. Inc

Performance materials on rental

Tea: A Mirror of Soul (2002)

Text: Tan Dun and Xu Ying

Solo: Soprano. Contralto. Tenor. Baritone. Bass.

3 Percussion

Chorus: Bass baritone chorus

amp bfl(pic), bcl(Ebcl), 2 Ctpt, 2 tbn, [3 ripieno perc],

2 hp, str (8.8.6.6.4)

Performance materials on rental

Orchestra

2000 Today: A World

Symphony for the Millenium (1999)

1h 0'

1h 48'

Text collage created by the composer from Lao-Tzu, Lord Tennyson, William Wordsworth, the Bible, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Dante Alighieri, and Li Po 1+pic.1+ca.2Ebcl(cl,bcl).1+cbn/4330/perc/hp/str

Performance materials on rental

Concerto for Orchestra: Yi° (2002)

23'

2(pic).2.1+bcl.1+cbn/2220/4perc/pf.hp/

str (min 8.6.6.6.3)

Performance materials on rental

Crossings (from 2000 Today) (1999)

5'

1+pic.1+ca.2Ebcl(cl:bcl).1+cbn/4330/perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental

Death and Fire:

Dialogue with Paul Klee (1992)

27'

2(2pic)+pic(afl).2.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental

Score 50482384 for sale.

Internet Symphony No. 1: Eroica (2008) 4' 5"

2+pic..2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4.2.btbn.1/timp.5perc/hp/str *Performance materials on rental*

Jubilation

(from Heaven Earth Mankind) (1997)

4'

19'

Chorus: opt children's chorus

2(2pic).2.1+bcl.1+cbn/4331/4perc/hp.pf/

str (min 10.8.8.8.4); opt Bianzhang bells

Performance materials on rental

Orchestra Theatre I: 0 (1990, rev. 2002)

2+pic.2.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/4perc/hp/str/

orchestra members' voices

Performance materials on rental

Overture: Dragon and Phoenix (from Heaven Earth Mankind) (1997)

10'

Chorus: opt children's chorus 2(2pic).2.1+bcl.1+cbn/4331/4perc/hp.pf/

str (min 10.8.8.8.4); opt Bianzhang bells

Performance materials on rental

Work List

Self Portrait (from Death and Fire) (1983/92) str Performance materials on rental Symphony for Strings (1986-2009) arr./ed./orch. (2009) str Performance materials on rental	4' 16'	Earth Concerto for stone and ceramic percussion with orchestra (2009) Performance restrictions apply Solo: 4perc 2+pic.2.2+bcl.2+cbn/4.3.3.1/timp(perc)/hp/ str (16.14.12.10.8) Alt: 4perc; 2222/2221/timp/hp/str (10.8.6.6.3) Performance materials on rental	
Symphony in Two Movements (1985) 3222/4331/4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Soloist(s) and	25'	Eternal Vow (from Crouching Tiger Concerto) (2000) Solo: Cello afl(pic)[=bawu(dizi)].000/0000/5perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Four Secret Roads of Marco Polo (2004)	5' 30'
Orchestra		Solo: 12 Cellos	00
The Banquet Concerto (2010) Performance restrictions apply	35'	2+pic.2+ca.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental	
Solo: pf Chorus: SATB chorus [opt] 2(pic).2.2(bcl).2(cbn)/4.3.3.1/timp.4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental		Performance restrictions apply Solo: Violin 2+pic.2.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.4perc/hp.gu qin/	42'
Concerto for Guitar and Orchestra (Yi2) (1996)	28'	str (8.7.6.5.4) Performance materials on rental	
Solo: Guitar 2(pic).21+bcl.1+cbn/2220/4perc/hp.pf/ str (min 8.6.6.6.3) Performance materials on rental		Intercourse of Fire and Water (Yi1) (1994-95) 2 Solo: Cello 2(pic)21+bcl.1+cbn/2220/4perc/hp.pf/str (min 86663) Alt: solo cello Performance materials on rental	
Concerto for Pizzicato Piano and Ten Instruments (1995)	15'	The Map: Concerto for Cello,	
Solo: Piano 110+bcl.0/0000/perc/gtr.hp/str(1.1.1.1) Performance materials on rental		Video and Orchestra (2002) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information.	55'
Concerto for String Orchestra and Pipa (1999) Solo: Pipa str (max. 14.12.10.10.8; min. 6.6.4.4.2) Performance materials on rental	20'	Solo: Cello 2(2pic).2(ca).1+Ebcl(bcl).1+cbn/2221/4perc/hp/ str and video Performance materials on rental	
Crouching Tiger Concerto (2000) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Cello afl(pic)[=bawu(dizi)].000/0000/5perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental	30'	Martial Arts Trilogy (2002) 1h a Solo: Violin, Cello, Piano 2+pic(afl).2.2+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp(perc)+4perc/hp.gu qin/str (8.7.6.5.4) The Martial Arts Trilogy comprises the following works: Crouching Tiger Concerto, Hero Concerto, Banquet Concerto. Please see individual entries for additional information.	46'
Crouching Tiger Concerto for Erhu and Chamber Orchestra (2000) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Erhu	30'	On Taoism (1985) Solo: Voice, Bass Clarinet, Contrabassoon 3(pic).111/2120/6perc/hp.pf/str(14.12.10.8.6) Performance materials on rental	15'

afl(pic)[=bawu(dizi)].000/0000/5perc/hp/str

Performance materials on rental

Tan Dun

Orchestra Theatre II: Re (1992) Solo: Bass Chorus: audience 0+3pic.2+ca.2+bcl.2/4.3Dtpt.3.1/4perc/pf.hp/ str (two conductors) Performance materials on rental	18'	Water Concerto for Water Percussion and Orchestra (1998) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Percussion 2(2pic).2.1+bcl.1+cbn/2220/4perc/hp.pf/str (min 86) Performance materials on rental	27' 663)
Orchestra Theatre III: Red Forecast (1996) Solo: Soprano 1(pic)11(bcl).tsx.1(cbn)/2220/3perc/hp.pf/ str(22221+22221); video and audio tape Performance materials on rental	40'	Zheng Concerto (1999) arr./ed./orch. (2007) Solo: zheng str (max. 14.12.10.10.8; min. 6.6.4.4.2) Performance materials on rental	20'
Orchestra Theatre IV: The Gate (1999) Performance restrictions apply Solo: female Peking Opera singer, Western operatic soprano, Japanese Puppeteer 1(pic).1.1(bcl).1(cbn)/2221/timp.2perc/hp/ str (8.8.8.8.4); video Performance materials on rental	55'	Large Ensemble (7 or more players Circle with Four Trios,	
Out of Peking Opera (1987, rev. 1994) Solo: Violin 3222/4331/4perc/hp/str	16'	Conductor and Audience (1992) Solo: pf, perc, db; man, gtr, hp pf.perc.db; man.gtr.hp; vn.va.vc; pic.ob.bcl Performance materials on rental	14'
Paper Concerto for Paper Percussion and Orchestra (2003) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Percussion 2(bfl).2.1+bcl(Ebcl).1+cbn/2221/timp.2perc/hp/ str (16.10.8.8.6)	30'	Secret Land (2006) Cello orchestra Performance materials on rental Works for 2-6 Players	14'
Performance materials on rental Piano Concerto: The Fire (2008) Solo: Piano	30'	Concerto for Six (1997) bcl, egtr, prep pf, perc, vc, db Performance materials on rental	12'
2+pic.2.2.2/4.3.3.1/timp.4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental Requiem and Lullaby (from Heaven Earth Mankind) (1997)	12'	Concerto for String Quartet and Pipa (1999) Solo: Pipa 2vn, va, vc Performance materials sold by Rental Library	20'
Solo: Soprano (or Low Bass or children's chorus), string instrument (vc, vn, or Erhu) Chorus: Soprano (or Low Bass or children's chorus);string instrument (vc, vn, or Erhu) 222+bcl.2+cbn/4331/timp.2perc/hp/str		Eight Colors for String Quartet (1986-88) 2vn, va, vc Score and Part(s) 50482008 for sale. Elegy: Snow in June (1991)	16' 18'
Performance materials on rental Violin Concerto: The Love (2009) Solo: Violin	35'	Solo: Cello 4 perc Score and Part(s) 50485894 for sale.	
2+pic.2.2.2/4.3.3.1/timp(2cowbells).4perc/hp/str Performance materials on rental		Ghost Opera (1994) Performance restrictions apply. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Pipa 2 vn, va, vc Performance materials sold by Rental Library	41'



In Distance (1987) Water Passion After St. Matthew (2000) 1h 30' pic, hp, bass dm Performance restrictions apply. Score and Part(s) 50482259 for sale. Please contact us for further information. Solo: Soprano (doubling Xun), Bass baritone Water Music (2004) (doubling Xun) Performance restrictions apply. Chorus: SATB chorus doubling Tibetan percussion Please contact us for further information vn, vc, 3 perc, Yamaha A-3000 sampler, sound engineer(electronics) Performance materials on rental Solo Works (exclud-Solo Voice(s) and ing keyboard) up to 6 players Intercourse of Fire and Water Lament: Autumn Wind (1993) 15' for solo cello (1996) 18' Text: (Chinese) Traditional love song from the late Ming Dynasty arr./ed./orch. (1996) Performance materials sold by Rental Library Solo: any voice any six instruments Seven Desires for Guitar (2002) 10' Performance materials on rental Performance materials sold by Rental Library **Silk Road** (1989) 10' Text: Arthur Sze Solo Keyboard(s) Solo: Soprano Performance materials sold by Rental Library **CAGE** (1993) 10' A Sinking Love (1995) 6' Performance materials sold by Rental Library Text: (Chinese) Li Po Solo: Soprano **Eight Memories in Watercolor** (1978-79) 15' 4 viols

Alt: 2vn, va, vc

10'

1h 8'

10'

Performance materials sold by Rental Library

Score 50485502 for sale.

Chorus and

Heaven Earth Mankind (Symphony 1997) (1997)

Solo: Cello, Bianzhong Bells Chorus: Children's Chorus

str (min 10.8.8.8.4); tape

Performance materials on rental

Solo: Bianzhong Bells [opt] Chorus: children's chorus

Performance materials on rental

Song of Peace

str (min 10.8.8.8.4)

2(2pic).22(bcl).2(cbn)/4331/4perc/hp.pf/

(from Heaven Earth Mankind) (1997)

2(2pic).21+bcl.1+cbn/4331/4perc/hp.pf/

Performance materials sold by Rental Library

Orchestra/Ensemble

Traces (1989/92)

Tan Dur

Work List

AVAILABILITY

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UNAVAILABLE

Due to composer revisions, performer exclusivity, or other reasons, a work may not be available.

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