

MARCO
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CHINESE MUSIC SERIES

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Chinese and other Asian Evergreens

The Maidens of Alisan • The Nightingale
Midnight Fragrance • When Will You Be Back
Peach Blossom Crosses the River
and many others

Singapore Symphony Orchestra
Choo Hoey, Conductor



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Chinese Services National Cultural Centre, Singapore

1 The Nightingale arranged by Y. Suzuki

The Nightingale is a popular Shanghai song, in a version that allows the bird of the title to be represented by the flute.

2 Dreaming by the River in Spring arranged by T. Suzuki

Dreaming by the River in Spring is a characteristic Chinese popular song, its attraction depending on the simplicity of the melodic material, as it re-appears in different orchestral guise.

3 Song of the Fishermen arranged by A. Yasuraoka

Song of the Fishermen is taken from a famous film that describes the life of fishermen in China in the 1930s. The song was composed by Ren Guang and depicts both the sea itself and the sadness of the fishermen.

4 Midnight Fragrance arranged by K. Ogikubo

The Serenade *Midnight Fragrance* sings of life at night in Shanghai in the 1930s, celebrated here in remarkably occidental terms.

5 The Maidens of Alisan arranged by Y. Suzuki

The Maidens of Alisan, a song in origin, comes from a Taiwanese film of the 1950s. The Alisan of the title is a famous mountain in Taiwan.

6 Bengawan Solo arranged by A. Yasuraoka

Bengawan Solo is of Indonesian origin, but has enjoyed considerable popularity in China.

7 Happiness arranged by Y. Suzuki

Happiness is a popular song originating in Shanghai, in characteristically lively mood.

8 Dahil Saiyo arranged by A. Yasuraoka
Dahil Saiyo is a popular melody from the Philippines.

9 Dark Clouds in the Sky arranged by T. Suzuki
Dark Clouds in the Sky is a well known children's song from Northern Taiwan and Southern Fujian: It will rain, and grandfather wants the fish he has caught cooked with salt, while grandmother wants it without salt. The couple quarrel, and the pot is broken.

10 I wish I were a Swallow arranged by A. Yasuraoka
I wish I were a Swallow speaks for itself, again in popular Chinese terms, a romantic melody making use of the traditional scale.

11 Mending an Old Net
Mending an Old Net is a fisherman's song, expressing joy at the thought of the sea.

12 Flower in the Rainy Night arranged by T. Suzuki
Flower in the Rainy Night enjoys wide popularity in Asia, its melody as typical as its title.

13 Peach Blossom Crosses the River arranged by T. Suzuki
A maid, Peach Blossom, carrying a message from her young mistress to her lover, is forced to sing a song as a fee to the ferryman for crossing the river.

14 When Will You Be Back? arranged by Y. Suzuki
When Will You Be Back? was written in the 1930s by Liu Xie-ang, a sentimental song of lovers' parting.

15 Without You arranged by K. Ogikubo
Without You is a popular Chinese song, its significance proclaimed in its title.

Choo Hoey

Choo Hoey is a native of Singapore and was invited to establish the Singapore Orchestra after a career in Europe, where he had most recently served as Resident Conductor of the Athens State Orchestra, the Greek National Opera Orchestra and the Hellenic Radio and Television Orchestra.

Choo Hoey's début was in 1958, with the Belgian National Orchestra. He has appeared with many famous European orchestras, including the London Symphony Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestre de la Société du Conservatoire and the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

Since 1979 Choo Hoey has been Resident Conductor and Music Director of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and has continued to appear in Europe as a guest conductor, as well as accepting invitations to conduct other orchestras in Asia, including the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the China Philharmonic in Beijing.

Singapore Symphony Orchestra

The Singapore Symphony Orchestra was set up, with the encouragement of the Singapore Government, in 1979. Under the direction of its Resident Conductor Choo Hoey it has grown in size, and now has a complement of some ninety musicians. While partly dependent on foreign players, a realistic long-term scheme sees to the training, in Singapore and abroad, of local players of the future.

CHINESE MUSIC SERIES

Chinese and other Asian Evergreens

Singapore Symphony Orchestra
Choo Hoey, Conductor

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COMPACT
disc
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GEMA

- 1 The Nightingale 2 Dreaming by the River in Spring 3 Song of the Fishermen
4 Midnight Fragrance 5 The Maidens of Alisan 6 Bengawan Solo
7 Happiness 8 Dahil Saiyo 9 Dark Clouds in the Sky
10 I Wish I Were a Swallow 11 Mending an Old Net
12 Flower in the Rainy Night
13 Peach Blossom Crosses the River
14 When Will You Be Back 15 Without You

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STEREO

Chinese and other Asian Evergreens

Playing
Time:
52'54"

Singapore Symphony Orchestra
Choo Hoey, Conductor

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------|----|--|--------|
| 1 | The Nightingale | (2:37) | 9 | Dark Clouds in the Sky | (2:33) |
| 2 | Dreaming by the River in Spring | (4:19) | 10 | I Wish I Were a Swallow | (4:34) |
| 3 | Song of the Fishermen | (3:54) | 11 | Mending an Old Net | (4:01) |
| 4 | Midnight Fragrance | (3:14) | 12 | Flower in the Rainy Night | (3:07) |
| 5 | The Maidens of Alisan | (2:51) | 13 | Peach Blossom Crosses the River | (2:07) |
| 6 | Bengawan Solo | (4:36) | 14 | When Will You Be Back | (4:25) |
| 7 | Happiness | (2:13) | 15 | Without You | (4:38) |
| 8 | Dahil Saiyo | (3:39) | | | |

DDD

Recorded at the Victoria Concert Hall
in Singapore in 1984.
Producer: Teije van Geest
Music Notes: Keith Anderson

MADE IN GERMANY



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