

1. Spring Festival Overture

"Spring Festival Overture" is a bright, rough and warm music, the beginning of the primer by the band played the grand sound opened a prelude to the folk festival dance, first was simple, beautiful dance music. The middle part is a comparison of passages of lyrical and musical material from the northern Shaanxi Yangko. The third part starts with the reproduction of beginning paragraph, but the music is more compact and warm. It ends in the jubilant atmosphere of the people. According to statistics, this piece is one of most played orchestral works on stage.

2. Pipa Concerto: Little Sisters of the Grassland

Pipa Concerto: Little Sisters of the Grassland is composed by Zuqiang Wu, Yanqiao Wang, Dehai Liu in the spring of 1972, trying to combine the Chinese traditional instrument Pipa as solo instrument with the western orchestra. The story tells of two young Mongolian sisters, Longmei and Yurong, who brave a terrible rainstorm to protect the community's sheep. The result is a dramatic musical eulogy of the courageous and noble spirit of Chinese children, working for the greater good. It has been premiered in the spring of 1977 and later has performed in United States in 1978 and 1979 which appreciated by the audiences from local and abroad. This pipa concerto uniquely and structurally combines multi-sectional forms found in Chinese music with the sonata form of Western Music. The piece comprises five sections: Herding at the Grassland, Fighting the Thunderstorm, Advancing through the Freezing Night, The Party's Care in Our Hearts and Red Blossoms Everywhere. This piece displayed the special possibilities of pipa techniques, is the first successful attempt to feature the solo pipa with an orchestra of this scale.

3. Dance of the Yao Tribe

"Dance of the Yao Tribe" depicts a traditional Yao tribe celebration. It begins with lower notes setting the beat of a slow dance, and then the pace picks up with lively strings, representing young girls waltzing. In the middle of the piece, wind instruments join, and more melodic touch and harmony are added. The music changes into a full celebration with the whole ensemble playing at the end. A light dance rhythm is introduced by the bass instruments. The girls, with their favorite Long Drum, are ready for the festival of music. Slowly, the violins bring out a soft theme, just like a girl starting to lead the dance. Soon, other people join the dance, girls and boys. Now the music enters the second part which is derived from the first theme. In passionate allegro, this theme is played repeatedly, to picture the dancing atmosphere. The middle section has a stylish, beautiful tune, refreshing and smooth-flowing, representing lovers dancing together. The third section is a reoccurrence of the first theme, tension gradually

build up. As the ending approaches, the emotions run wild, the whole piece ends in vigorous orchestration.

4. The Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto

The Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto is one of the most well-known Chinese music. It was adapted from an ancient legend similar to that of Romeo and Juliet. The concerto was written in 1959 by He Zhanhao and Chen Gang while they were students at the Shanghai Conservatory and was premiered in May the following year. This concerto explores many virtues of its protagonist: Zhu Yingtai. Her intelligence, her staunch and unyielding loyalty to love and her independence are much more complex and significant when compared to the descriptions of main characters in western literature. It is a one-movement programmatic concerto, with three sections that correspond to the three phases of the story—Falling in Love, Refusing to Marry and Metamorphosis.

5. Good news from Beijing to the Borderland

Good news from Beijing is an orchestral piece composed by Lu Zheng and Hongye Ma in the autumn of year 1976. This piece successfully pictures the happiness and excitement of people at the borderland on hearing the good news. The composers visited southern China several times, and from their experiences of living with the minority nationalities, they had a good grasp of the local music. Folk tunes from the borderland villages were used in composing this piece. The audience can surely feel the joy of the people from these places.

6. Girls of Ali Mountain

“Mountain green”, also known as ‘Girls of AliMountain’, was written in 1949 by the Shao minority group in Taiwan. It describes the beautiful scenery of Ali Mountain. Girls are likened to the beautiful river and young men to the tall mountain. The song ends on a high note that this blissful relationship will last forever.