

# YIHAN CHEN

## Pipa (Chinese lute)

*Lu Pei's Scenes Through a Window] is an extremely smart, colorful and kinetic piece that builds on traditional Chinese music without ever descending into sentimentality. Utterly graceful playing on the pipa by Yihan Chen made it even more delectable."*

—WASHINGTON POST

*Chen Yi's The Points, for pipa solo, is an unequivocal success. Blending virtuosity and soul, the work was inspired by the brush strokes of Chinese calligraphy (the title refers to the contact points between brush and paper). It was given a magnificent performance by Chen Yihan, who seemed to bring some of the energy of flamenco and even modern rock guitar playing to her intricate plucked figurations."*

—KANSAS CITY STAR



*"One of the world's reigning virtuosos of the pipa . . . transfixed her listeners."*

—CHARLESTON (SC)  
CITY PAPER

**“Chen displayed an incredible array of power, delicacy, rhythms, and harmonies on her exquisite looking—and sounding—pipa.”**  
**—CHARLESTON TODAY (SC)**



Yihan Chen was born in Wenzhou, China, and graduated in 1995 from the China Conservatory of Music, Beijing, where she was asked to teach after graduation.

Now residing in Connecticut, Yihan has performed at leading venues in Asia, North America and Europe, including the Lincoln Center Festival, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Library of Congress, Spoleto Festival USA, Middlebury College, Duke University, University of Connecticut, DePauw University, Indiana State University, Wesleyan University, Yale University, Univ. Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the World Stage Series at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, Festival de création musicale (Radio France), La Cité de la Musique, Le Festival Avignon, Le Festival Musique en Scène, Encontros Acarte Portugal, and Winnipeg Symphony's New Music Festival.

Ms. Chen has been pipa soloist with Huaxia Chamber Ensemble and Music From China, and has collaborated with such renowned composers such as Chen Yi, Zhou Long, Chen Qigang and Bright Sheng.

Her recordings include *The Brahmin* (HUGO), *Three Images of Laughter* (HUGO), *Time to Listen* (Ellipsis Arts), *Zhou Long—Tales From the Cave* (Delos), and *Hua Xia* (Delos). ■

