

Huang Ruo is a multi-talented and award-winning Chinese-American composer, conductor, and conceptual artist. He is renowned for his inventive and seamless combination of Chinese and Western influences, creating a compositional technique he calls ‘dimensionalism’. In the opera *Book of Mountains and Seas*, Huang Ruo has taken the awe-inspiring imagery of four traditional Chinese creation myths and transformed their truly remarkable landscapes and creatures into vibrant music and drama. The work ultimately expresses the creation of the universe and the power of nature over destruction, including a warning of mankind’s responsibility to care for the environment.

# HUANG RUO

(b. 1976)

## Book of Mountains and Seas 山海經

Opera in four scenes (2021)

Text: Huang Ruo (based on *Shanhai jing*)

1	Scene I. The Legend of Pangu	13:14
2	Scene II. The Spirit Bird	12:20
3	Scene III. The Legend of Ten Suns	27:20
4	Scene IV. Kua Fu Chasing the Sun	21:20

ARS NOVA Copenhagen  
Gert Mortensen, Percussion 1-4  
Hsiao-Tung Yuan, Percussion 1 2  
Michael Murphy, Percussion 3 4  
Paul Hillier, Conductor

Recorded: 27 June–29 July 2022 at Stavnsholtkirken, Farum, Denmark

Executive producer: Beth Morrison • Producer and engineer: Preben Iwan

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