



A Chinese Musical Journey



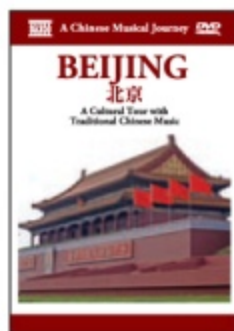
The Places

The city of Shanghai, China's most important port, owes some of its prosperity to the so-called unequal treaties forced on China during the 19th century. The place had its origin as a settlement during the Tang dynasty (618-906 A.D.), but the Treaty of Nanking in 1842 ceded Hong Kong to the British and made possible the development of foreign trade through the five 'treaty ports', of which Shanghai became the most important. The growth of Shanghai into an international trading centre and the concessions made to various foreign countries explain the interesting mixture of architectural styles, continued today with the high-rise buildings of recent years.

The Music

The music chosen for this tour of Shanghai is played on traditional Chinese instruments. Performing the music are the wind and string ensembles known as 'silk and bamboo', from their silk strings and bamboo pipes, and ensembles that also include percussion. Instruments given prominence include the dizi, heard first in *Moonlight Autumn Night by the Lake*, a transverse bamboo flute, and the yangqin, a Chinese dulcimer whose strings are struck with two bamboo sticks. Traditional Chinese music, like Chinese painting, is largely representational, its character indicated in its titles, although these may sometimes be drawn from opera or from poems.

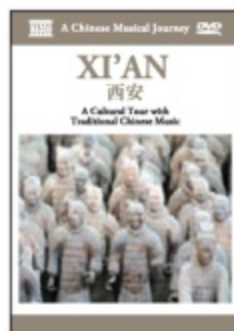
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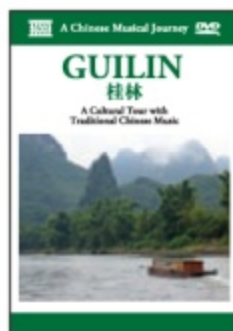
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Running Time 66:19 • Aspect Ratio 16:9

NTSC – No Region Coding

Audio: Dolby Digital 2.0 / Dolby Digital 5.1 / DTS 5.1

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