

Acclaimed Chinese/American composer Bright Sheng has been fascinated by folk music for his entire career and *Northern Lights* is his first work to use Scandinavian folk music, exploring its kinship with American sources such as Appalachian and Bluegrass music. Inspired by ancient Chinese poetry, *Melodies of a Flute* captures deep and sensuous moods of love and longing, while *Hot Pepper* refers to the spicy cuisine of Si Chuan province. Bright Sheng combines Chinese and Western musical ideas to create luminous, deeply expressive and rhythmic scores, giving new meaning to the idea of music as a universal language.

Bright SHENG

(b. 1955)

Northern Lights (2009)* 22:17

Julian Schwarz (Cello), Marika Bournaki (Piano)

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|---|-----------------|------|
| 1 | I. ♪ = 88 | 6:43 |
| 2 | II. ♭ = 69 | 4:03 |
| 3 | III. ♭ = 63-66 | 7:37 |
| 4 | IV. ♭ = 144-152 | 3:54 |

Melodies of a Flute (2011)* 16:52

Yoobin Son (Flute/Alto flute), Dan Zhu (Violin),
Julian Schwarz (Cello), Pius Cheung (Marimba
and suspended cymbals)

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|---|----------------------|-------|
| 5 | I. Flute and Phoenix | 12:12 |
| 6 | II. Lotus Flowers | 4:40 |

Four Movements for Piano Trio (1990) 13:33

Dan Zhu (Violin), Trey Lee (Cello), Bright Sheng (Piano)

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|----|------------------------|------|
| 7 | I. ♪ = 54 | 4:04 |
| 8 | II. ♭ = 72 | 2:26 |
| 9 | III. ♭ = 112 | 2:55 |
| 10 | IV. ♪ = 66 (Nostalgia) | 4:08 |

11 Sweet May Again (2007)* 9:25

Robert Black (String bass), David Friend (Piano)

Hot Pepper (2010)* 9:17

Dan Zhu (Violin), Pius Cheung (Marimba)

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|------|
| 12 | I. ♪ = 50-52 | 5:13 |
| 13 | II. ♭ = 126-144 | 4:04 |

*World Première Recordings

Recorded at the CMA Lecture Theatre, Cheng Yu Tung Building, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, on 5th November, 2016 (7-10); LaFrak Concert Hall, Queen College, City University of New York, from 6th-7th August, 2016 (1-6, 11-13)

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Playing Time

1:11:24



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