

# DMA Recital of Xingyu Huo

“声乐套曲.四季诗谣”

Song cycle—Seasons

(24 solar terms)

composed by Cong liu poem by Yajuan Li

Piano: Ming Hu

Professor: Stephen Swanson





声乐套曲.四季诗谣  
Song cycle—Seasons

live stream

(24 solar terms)

recording

Composed by Cong Liu and poem by Yajuan Li

1. 立春 Spring begins
2. 雨水 Spring rain
3. 惊蛰 Insects waken
4. 春分 Vernal Equinox
5. 清明 QingMing Festival
6. 谷雨 Grain rain
7. 立夏 Summer begins
8. 小满 Ears form
9. 芒种 Wheat harvest
10. 夏至 Summer solstice
11. 小暑 Slight heat
12. 大暑 Great heat

13. 立秋 Autumn begins
14. 处暑 Heat withdraws
15. 白露 White dews
16. 秋分 Autumn Equinox
17. 寒露 Cold dews
18. 霜降 Frost falls
19. 立冬 Winter begins
20. 小雪 Light snow
21. 大雪 Heavy snow
22. 冬至 Winter Solstice
23. 小寒 Slight cold
24. 大寒 Severe cold

This is the first premiere of song cycle seasons. Because of the aerosol-producing rule, we will just premiere the first 12 songs in this live stream recital.



# Program notes

## Cong Liu 刘聰

Cong Liu graduated from the music department in Liaoning Institute of Education with his BA, and then studied graduate level composition at the Central Conservatory of Music. He is currently a professor in the composition department of Shenyang Conservatory of Music.

His vocal, instrumental, choral and stage works have won major competitions in China. His songs are popular nation-wide, and his art songs are frequently performed in recitals and on television. His composition style combines western compositional techniques with Chinese folk song elements.

## Yajuan Li 李亚娟

Yajuan Li is an established poet who also writes lyrics for songs. She is a member of the Chinese Poetry Society, Chinese Music and Literature Society, Chinese Music Copyright Association and Shandong Musicians Association. She is the director of the Ji Ning Popular Music Professional Committee and has written over one thousand pieces in various styles. Her works have been published and performed in nearly 200 different mediums or institutions at the national level. She has won over a hundred national awards. The song cycle Seasons (twenty-four solar term) is one of her major works.



# poem translation



第一乐章《春之梦》The first movement "Dream of Spring"

## 1. 立春 Spring begins

万物喜春风, All creatures love the spring breeze,

梅香伴雪融。Plum flowers blossom as snow melts.

一元青草绿, Grass starts to turn green first,  
垂柳复相同。Weeping willows return to the same, as usual.

## 2. 雨水 Spring rain

飞花送梦轻, Flying flowers gently carry away my dreams,

好雨意盈盈。Pretty rain is full of feelings.

天地新如洗, Sky and land are fresh as if washed,

忽闻雁叫声。Suddenly, the cries of the wild geese are heard.

## 3. 惊蛰 Insects waken

大地春雷鸣, The spring thunder rumbles over lands,

蛰虫梦里惊。The insects are awakened from their dreams.

燕归识旧友, Swallows return to meet their old friends,

桃李总关情。Students always miss their former teachers.

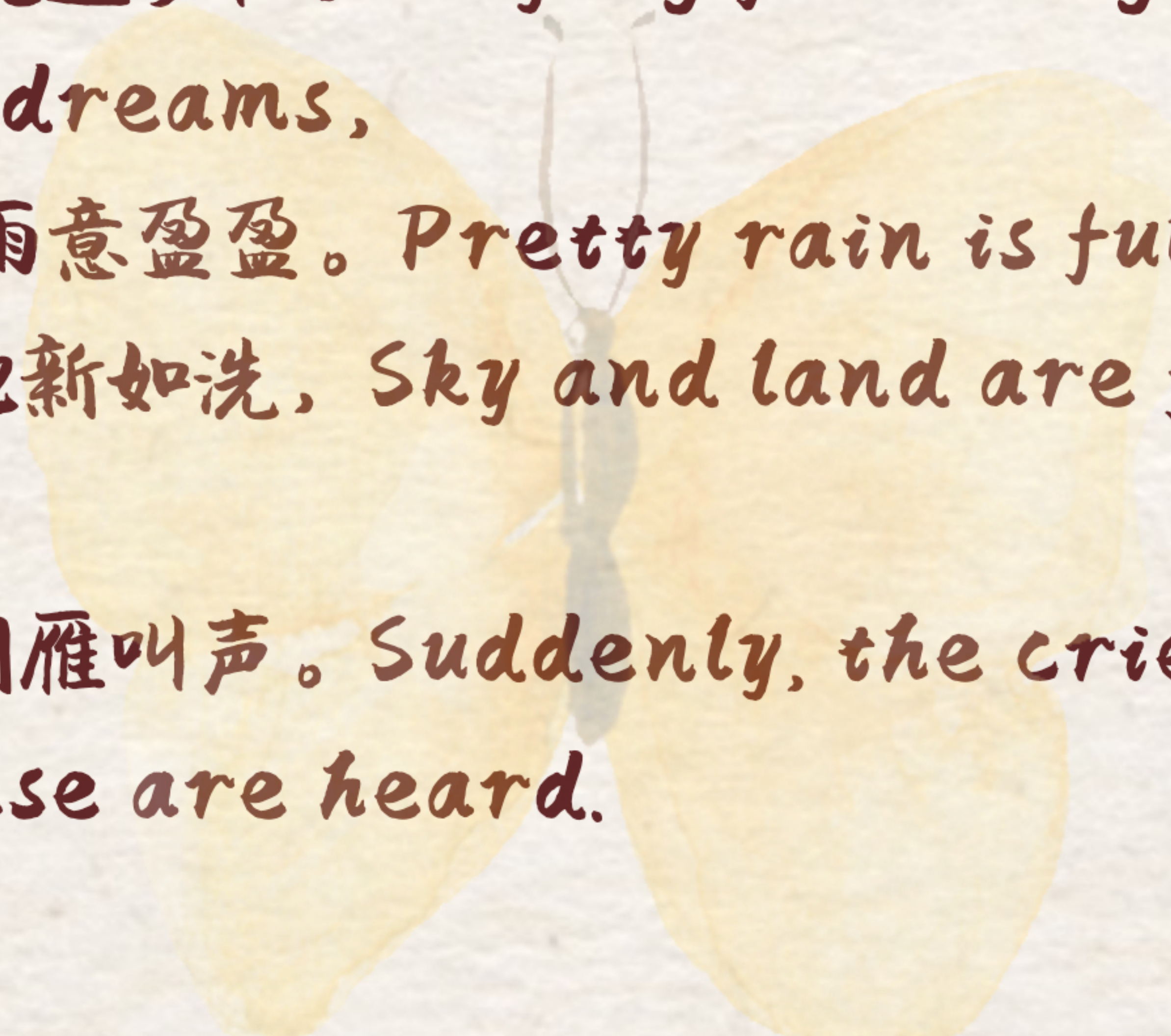
## 4. 春分 Vernal Equinox

春半暖融融, It feels warm halfway through spring,

踏青旷野中。Let's take a hike into the wilderness.

农家忙播种, The farmers are busy with sowing,

蝶舞逗顽童。The dancing butterflies are playing with children.





## 5. 清明QingMing Festival

来往路人行, Many pedestrians wander back and forth,

风轻絮满城。Wind driven catkins are flying all over the town.

一壶老酒醉, A pot of old wine is enough for getting tipsy,

独饮到三更。I will drink alone till midnight.



## 6. 谷雨 Grain rain

雨丰催谷生, The plenty of rain urges the grain to grow,

花锦绣香屏。Brocade is used to weave a gorgeous screen.

种豆种瓜乐, It's happy thing to plant beans and melons,

茶山翡翠青。Tea hills are the color of emeralds.





## 第二乐章《夏之趣》The second movement "Fun of Summer"

### 7. 立夏 Summer begins

蛙鸣蚯蚓忙, Frogs are roaring while earthworms are busy,  
庭院漫槐香。 The yard is full of the scent of sophora flowers.  
信步霞光里, Take a walk in the colorful rays of the sun,  
悠闲日月长。 The leisurely days seem endless.

### 8. 小满 Ears form

麦穗换新装, Wheat ears change into their new looks,  
晨风拂海棠。 The morning wind gently touches the begonia.  
蜻蜓荷叶立, A dragonfly stands on the lotus leaf,  
笑语满池塘。 Laughter fills the whole pond.

### 9. 芒种 Wheat harvest

枝上杏儿黄, The apricots on the branches turn into yellow,  
麦收插稻秧。 The wheat is harvested and rice is planted.  
暖风千顷过, The warm wind blows across the vast fields,  
又见小螳螂。 The little praying mantis appears again.





## 10. 夏至 Summer solstice

蝉声入小窗, The noise of a cicada comes in through the window,  
阡陌采蚕桑。 Mulberry leaves are picked through footpaths in the field.  
木槿花繁盛, Hibiscus flowers are blooming,  
田园似画廊。 The rural area looks like in a gallery.

## 11. 小暑 Slight heat

蟋蟀闹书房, Cricket's chirping echoes in the study room,  
流萤点点光。 Fireflies glow dimly in the night.  
高翔鹰展翅, Eagles fly high in the sky,  
绿树好乘凉。 It's easy to cool down under the green trees.

## 12. 大暑 Great heat

时雨时晴朗, Now it's sunny and then it's rainy,  
蝶飞茉莉芳。 Butterflies are fluttering over the fragrance of jasmine.  
闲门诗趣远, The great poem can be written in a quiet home,  
霞彩舞霓裳。 The rosy clouds look like a waving fairy skirt.





## 第三乐章《秋之歌》The third movement "Song of Autumn"

### 13. 立秋 Autumn begins

天高云见远, The sky is clear and the clouds are far away,  
叶落水潺潺。 The leaves fall and the water flows slowly.  
入夜初凉至, The initial cool air comes when getting dark,  
清风晓月闲。 The moon is lonely in the dawn sky with the cool wind blowing.

### 14. 处暑 Heat withdraws

葵花绽笑颜, Sunflowers bloom with smiling faces,  
金色遍山川。 Mountains and rivers are painted golden.  
轻放河灯去, Let's launch river lanterns gently,  
西楼听晚蝉。 And listen to the late cicadas from a girl's room.

### 15. 白露 White dews

白露玉珠连, White dews are connected like jade beads,  
桂香送雁还。 Wild geese return when the sweet scent of Osmanthus is smelled.  
村童乐打枣, The village boys happily harvest jujubes with sticks,  
农院绕炊烟。 Cooking smoke rises all over the farmers houses.

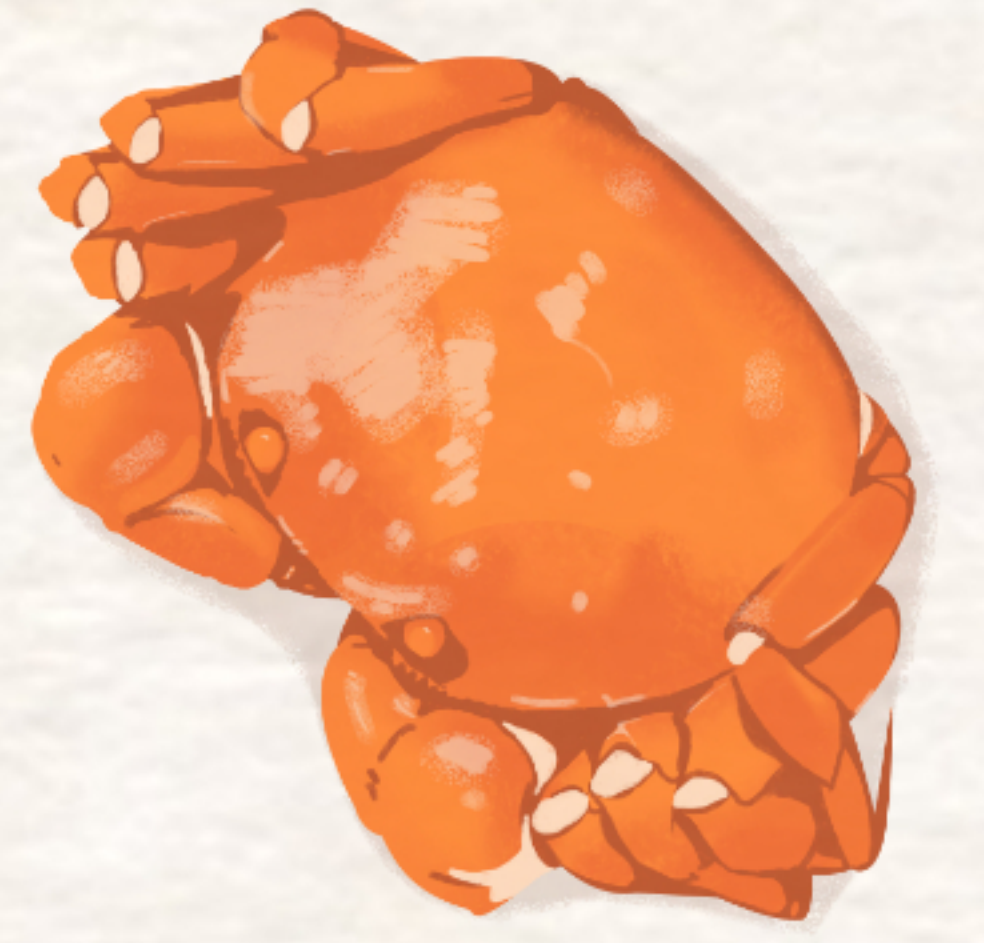




## 16. 秋分 Autumn Equinox

秋雨降秋寒, The rains bring chilly weather in autumn,  
菊黄品蟹鲜。 The chrysanthemum turns yellow, and it's time to taste  
fresh crabs.

雷公静息鼓, Drum sound of thunder is at rest,  
虫碌待蛰眠。 Insects are busy preparing for their hibernation.



## 17. 寒露 Cold dews

气寒凝露重, The dew is heavily condensed as the weather gets chilly,  
草木已凋残。 Trees and grass have withered.

九九登高处, Let's climb into high mountains on September 9th,  
谁人独倚阑? Who is the person leaning on the railing alone?

## 18. 霜降 Frost falls

霜染芙蓉天, The frost dyes the landscape into the color of hibiscus,  
丰收万户欢。 Everyone is happy with the good harvest.

举杯邀畅饮, Let's toast for a wonderful drink,  
心醉是何年。 And forget about the time when getting tipsy.





## 第四乐章《冬之韵》The fourth movement "Rhythm of Winter"

### 19. 立冬 Winter begins

镜凌耀水滨, The ice shines in the water near the shore like a mirror,

群鸟已南巡。The flocks of birds have turned south.

窗外北风近, Outside the window, the north wind is approaching,

菊香一缕存。Only a single fragrance of chrysanthemum remains.

### 20. 小雪 Light snow

千里雪纷纷, It's snowing over thousands of miles,

银装掩小村。The small village is covered with a silver sheet.

孩童拍手跳, Children clap and jump happily,

过客路留痕。Passing guests leave footprints on the road.

### 21. 大雪 Heavy snow

红梅傲雪笑, Plum flowers blossom joyfully in the snow,

清韵舞香魂。The elegant melody is dancing to the soul of beauty.

居室茶炉暖, The tea stove is warm in the room,

琴声最识君。The music can judge a good appreciator.





## 22. 冬至 Winter Solstice

寒气卷冬云, The chilly air rolls up the winter clouds,  
夜长待晓晨。The night is waiting long for the morning sun.  
朔风雕玉树, Winter winds carve the snow-covered trees,  
冰雪锁昆仑。Snow and ice cover Kunlun Mountain.

## 23. 小寒 Slight cold

喜鹊筑巢勤, Magpies are working hard on nesting,  
盼归故土亲。And hope to return to their homeland to reunite with the family.  
夜深静望月, Look quietly at the moon in the late night,  
游子伴星辰。While people away from home are accompanied by the stars.

## 24. 大寒 Severe cold

岁末迎新春, New Year is welcomed at the end of the old year,  
朱红映彩门。All gates are decorated with bright red color.  
阖家共团聚, The whole family gets together,  
祥瑞满乾坤。The whole world is blessed.

Translated by Xingyu Huo and Zhan Chen

edited by Wenqi Zeng, Wayne Wyman and Stephen Swanson





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