



上海音乐学院
SHANGHAI CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

2025第十四届【百川奖】国际作曲比赛

The 14th Rivers Awards International Composition Competition (RACC) 2025

章程 Regulation

主办：上海音乐学院

Host: Shanghai Conservatory of Music (SHCM)

承办：上海音乐学院作曲指挥系

Organizer: The Composition and Conducting Department of SHCM

I. General Provisions

The *Rivers Awards Composition Competition* (RACC) aims to promote extensive exchange between Chinese and Western music, encouraging innovative and explorative composition for Chinese and Western musical instruments, and build a high-end platform to introduce outstanding original musical works to the public.

II. Organization

Host: Shanghai Conservatory of Music (SHCM)

Organizer: The Composition and Conducting Department at Shanghai Conservatory of Music

Jury: The jury panel will consist of experts and professors from prestigious Chinese and international music institutions.

III. Competition Requirements

1. A positive theme that embodies the spirit of the contemporary era is a basic requirement for the entries of this competition, which should be created with novel methods and rich in artistic appeal.

2. This competition is open to participants under the age of 40 (born after January 1, 1985) regardless of their nationality, location and profession. Professional composers, teachers or students specializing in composition are all welcomed. There is no participation fee required for the application.

3. The submission must be composed for a mixture of listed Chinese and Western musical instruments (targeting a number of three to nine performers in total). The ensemble set must imperatively include at least one Chinese instrument with one Western instrument from below: One Dizi-bamboo flute (doubling Xiao), one Pipa, one Erhu, one piano (excluding prepared piano), two violins, one viola, one cello, one double bass (four-strings)

***It is important to note that pre-recorded music or electronic music compositions will not be accepted**

4. The duration of the music should be 5-8 minutes and be marked clearly on the first page of the score.

5. The compositions submitted for this competition should be of original music work composed by each participant him/herself that has not been officially published or awarded. Each participant should provide a clean and clear score of his/her composition anonymously. Explanations are necessary for special requirements on performing techniques or forms. If any sign or mark made on the score that has no relation to the work itself, the participant would be disqualified immediately.

6. Required application materials (must be in the electronic form and sent by e-mail) include:

- i) One clean and clear score by the participant (PDF only)
- ii) One filled-out participation form that is signed by the participant him/herself
- iii) One front-facing 2-inch photo of the participant taken recently (33mm*49mm)
- iv) One piece of valid ID copy (could be the National Identification Card or Passport) that contains a photo and the exact date of birth of participant

Please email all these electronic documents mentioned above to the Organizing Committee at racc@shcmusic.edu.cn before the deadline.

7. All the required materials must be submitted by e-mail before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 29th, 2025. Participants may contact the Organizing Committee if they have any questions or enquiries.

8. Participant who doesn't meet the above requirements will be disqualified (Members of the jury panel and the organizing committee are not allowed to take part in the competition). All materials submitted will be kept on file by the host and will not be returned.

Contact Information:

The Organizing Committee of the 14th Rivers Awards Composition Competition,
The Composition and Conducting Department, Shanghai Conservatory of Music
Address: Room 212, HongFeng Building A, No. 20 Fenyang Rd., Shanghai, China
Office of the 14th Rivers Awards Composition Competition

Email: racc@shcmusic.edu.cn

Post Code: 200031

Website: <https://www.riversawards.cn>

Contact person: WANG Chen

IV. Procedure of Selection

1. To ensure fairness of the competition, all the composition works will be numbered and sealed up before selection.
2. The competition will be divided into two stages. The preliminary round will be based on the submitted scores and eight finalists will be selected. The finals will take place in the form of a final live performance, where the award-winning compositions will be selected and announced. Due to the seriousness and authoritativeness of the competition, certain awards will be left vacant if no composition meets the grading criteria.
3. The awards for competition are categorized as follows:

Award (Awarded a commission fee by the organizing committee)	Quota	Amount of the prize (Tax included)
First Prize	1	\$ 10,000 USD
Second Prize	2	\$ 5,000 USD
Third Prize	3	\$ 1,500 USD
Finalist Prize	2	\$ 1,000 USD

4. The organizing committee will sign a composition commission contract with the winners.

V. Final Live Concert and Awards Ceremony

1. The finalists must ensure their attendance at the final live concert and the summit forum of Rivers Awards-Winning works. The travel expenses of finalists and their accommodation costs in Shanghai during the competition period shall be borne by the host organization.
2. The RACC Final Live Concert
Date: Thursday, November 20, 2025 | 19:30 Venue: He Lyting Concert Hall, Shanghai Conservatory of Music
3. The final concert concluded with the immediate announcement of the judging results and the subsequent award ceremony.

VI. The Composer Forum of Rivers Awards – Winning Works

1. Basic Information:
 - i) Time: Friday, November 21, 2025, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
 - ii) Venue: Room 2-1, Hongfeng Building A
 - iii) Participants: competition finalists, jury members, performers, teachers and students at the Department of Composition and Conducting, and other conferees
2. Summit Agenda:
 - i) Speeches by the representative of the organizer and the chairman of the jury panel
 - ii) Brief introduction of their works by prize winners (five minutes for each)
 - iii) Comments and discussions on prize-winning works by jury members
 - iv) Comments and discussions on prize-winning works by conductors and performers
 - v) Communication and idea-exchange among conferees, including the competition finalists, jury members, conductors, performers, teachers and students of the Composition and Conducting Department
 - vi) Closing speech by the representative from organizer, and the release of competition information for the 15th RACC in the following year

VII. Other Terms

1. Relevant Rights:
 - i) The award winner holds the copyright of the winning composition.
 - ii) The award winner must agree to grant the following rights to the Host free of charge:
 - a) The organizer has the right to use the award-winning composition or any other forms of audio-visual products for non-commercial purpose.
 - b) The organizer has the right to premiere the award-winning composition and the priority to publish and perform the winning composition.
 - iii) Each award-winning composition, regardless of when and wherever it is performed, should be noted as “a *** prize-winning composition of the 14th Rivers Awards Composition Competition (2025)” on the score cover or the program list of a concert.
For example: This work has won the 3rd Prize at the 14th Rivers Award International Composition Competition, 2025
2. The decision on the result of the competition made by the jury panel should be hold as final and definitive.
3. There are two appendixes attached to this document, including a registration form (Annex I, **which needs to be filled out and submitted**) and an introduction of Chinese instruments and pitch range table (Annex II, **for reference only**).
4. The right of interpretation of the above provisions is vested in the Organizing Committee.

2025 上海音乐学院
第十四届 [百川奖] 国际作曲比赛
The 14th *Rivers Awards* International Composition Competition (RACC) 2025

报 名 表

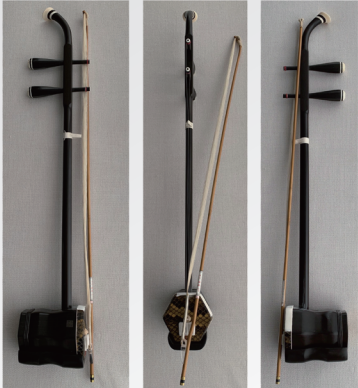

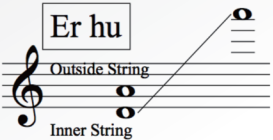


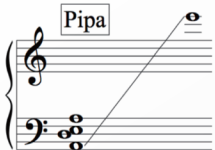
REGISTRATION FORM

姓名 Name	中文/Chinese:			贴二寸照片 Passport Size Photograph (33mm*49mm)
	英文/English:			
出生年月日 Date of Birth		年龄 Age		
国籍 Nationality		职业 Profession		
工作/学习单位 Place of Work/School				
通讯方式 Communication	地址/Address:			
	电话/Tel:			
	电邮/E-mail:			
作品名 Title of the Work				
作品编制 Instrumentation		作品时长 Duration		
创作年份/Year of Composition				
比赛章程“三”之“6”款内容 在“□”中用“√”确认 Check the following items associated with the “Competition Requirements, no.6” on the registration regulation	1. 有 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2. 有 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3. 有 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 4. 有 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
我同意并愿意遵守本比赛章程规则。 I agree to abide by the Regulation of this Competition.				
签名/Signature:	日期/Date:			

(表格复印有效 A copied form is valid)

The Rivers Awards Composition Competition (RACC)

Designated Traditional Chinese Instruments Introduction

Erhu	
	
<p>Erhu</p>	<p>Erhu Performance Demonstration (by LU Yiwen)</p>
	<p>The Erhu generally has two strings, namely the inner string and the outside string, with a bow between them. It is almost always tuned to the interval of a fifth and the treble clef is applied in Erhu music notation based on the actual pitch.</p>
Pipa	
	
<p>Pipa and the artificial fingernails (right hand)</p>	<p>Pipa Performance Demonstration (by SHU Yin)</p>
	<p>The strings of the Pipa are conventionally tuned to A-D-E-A. Players always wear the artificial fingernails for Pipa performance. The grand staff is applied in Pipa music notation based on the actual pitch.</p>

Dizi - Bamboo Flute (including Xiao)



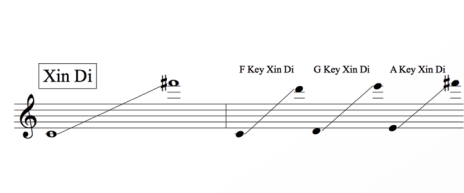
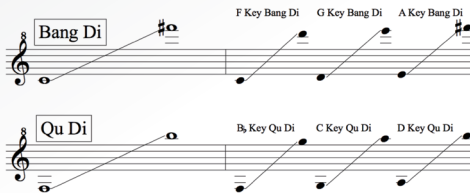
From top to bottom: Bangdi in G key, Qudi in D key, Xindi in G key and Xiao in G key



Dizi Performance Demonstration (By WANG Junkan)

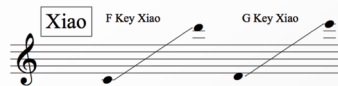


Xiao Performance Demonstration (By WANG Junkan)



The **Dizi** is a traditional Chinese transverse flute usually made of bamboo. It has six finger-holes, one blowing hole and one membrane hole. The membrane has a great influence on the sound produced by the flute. Qudi and Bangdi are the most predominant among the many varieties of Chinese flute. To satisfy the needs of different music, professional players usually have a set of dizi, each in a different key and size, where the Bangdi in G key and the Qudi in D key are most commonly used. A low octave approach in treble staff is applied to Dizi music notation.

Xindi, that is, a flute without the membrane hole, features a lower sound, which, though similar to Dizi, is heavier and louder. The most typical of this kind is a Xindi in G key, pitched in the same range as the Xiao. The treble clef is applied in Xindi music notation based on the actual pitch. In practice, the Xindi is sometimes replaced by other instruments of similar range such as the Dadi.



The **Xiao** is a Chinese vertical end-blown flute. It is generally made of bamboo. More traditional xiao have six finger holes without the membrane hole, and features relatively low volume. Xiao are today most often pitched in the key of G, and the treble clef is applied in Xiao music notation based on the actual pitch.