



Li Fan:

An Accomplished Guzheng Musician

By Xiao Meng

Guzheng (Chinese stringed zither) has brought you from an ancient town of Shanxi Province to the capital city of China. It bears your expectation for your career and your ambitious pursuit of arts.

Guzheng expresses your passions when you are happy and soothes your sorrow when you are frustrated. Even if you have nothing to say, *guzheng* is your best friend.

The 21 strings voice your dedicated love for arts. The sophisticated skills demonstrate your steadfast pursuit of music.

Li Fan's artistic profile:

Li Fan, born in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, graduated from China Music Conservatory and learned *guzheng* (Chinese stringed zither) under the mentorship of Prof. Lin Ling. In her artistic career, Li received guidance from such music masters such as Shi Lingling, Wang Zhongshan and Qiu Dacheng. She also learned *zhongruan* (guitar-like Chinese string instrument) from Prof. Zhao Chenwei as well as the piano. Li is currently professional *guzheng* musician at China Opera and Dance Drama Theatre and academic director of "Li Fan *Qin & Zheng* School".

Li has held many solo concerts, appeared in many TV programs and productions and presented many performances abroad, thus enjoying extensive popularity among *zheng* patrons and classical Chinese music fans.

Li is dedicated to the spread and popularization of *zheng* and has compiled training materials fit for children. She has successfully run "Li Fan *Qin & Zheng* School" in several cities in Shanxi and trained many talents for professional art colleges. Many of her students have won prizes at provincial and national competitions and she herself was awarded honors for her outstanding teaching performance. In 2004, she published VCD and CD versions of "*Guzheng ABC*", receiving good feedbacks

from beginners.

Li has been invited to perform for many significant occasions, such as concerts in the Great Hall of People, Ethnic Hall of People and the music hall of National Library in honor of distinguished guests from Canada, Luxemburg, Spain, Russia and Hungary. On those occasions, Li was applauded for her marvelous performance and received by state leaders. In August 2005, Li was invited to be the only judge for *zheng* at the National Children Arts Talents Competition organized by the Ministry of Culture. She then visited Macao to stage performances. In October 2005, she joined the delegation organized by the State Information Office to play in the grand musical "Imperial Concubine Yang", a production in collaboration with Japan Symphony Orchestra. Her performance won high praises of the musical's composer Jin Xiang as well as the Japanese audience. In May 2006, Li held a successful solo concert in Hong Kong.

Over years, media has showed constant interests in Li Fan and many newspapers, radios and TV stations reported her such as CCTV, Shanxi TV, Beijing Youth Daily and Voice of Yellow River. Li is reputed as "musician with both skills and virtues".

