



FSCC

FOSHAN
COMPOSERS
CONTEST

Information about the use of Chinese instruments

All Chinese instruments in this list are traditional and in use more than 1000 years. The ensemble will use instruments in traditional style. The sheng and the suona can be reformed.

Notice that you only can use the division of Chinese- and Western instruments in the mixed ensemble as written in the Rules.

Be aware that the ensemble has only one player per instrument. There will be three percussionists.

Notes about fingerings you don't need to add in the score, the musicians will figure it out themselves.

Dizi (or Bangdi)

Is a Chinese bamboo flute. Four different dizis can be used in the ensemble, which can play all 12 chromatic pitches for all major and minor keys.

Dizi in D can play in D, G and A key

Dizi in A can play in A, D and E key

Dizi in C can play in C, F and G key

Dizi in E can play in E, A and B key

So each Dizi can change to 3 keys.

Ranges:

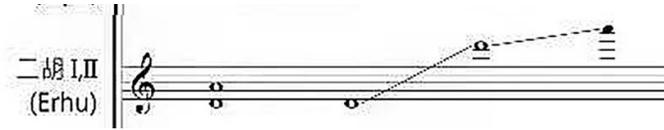


Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dizi_\(instrument\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dizi_(instrument))

Erhu

Also called Chinese violin.

Range:

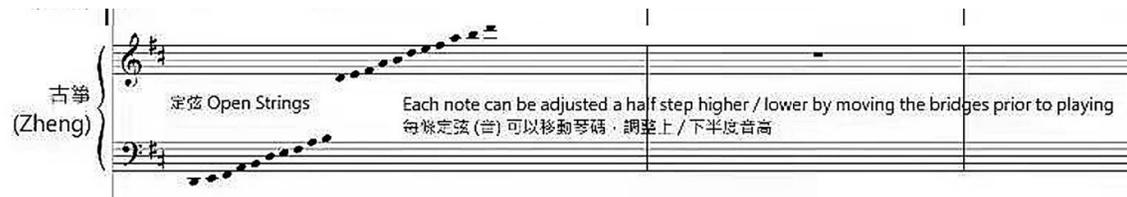


Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erhu>

Guzheng (or Zheng)

This Chinese plucked zither will have 21 strings (only white keys of the piano).

Range:



Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guzheng>

Percussion

The Chinese percussion will be in traditional settings as Foshan Shifan (see PDF and video on our website) and Ba Yin Luo Gu (see video on our website). Percussion instruments you can use:

Cymbals (Bo). You can use the following 2 types:

- Small Cymbals
- Large Cymbals

Drums (Gu). You can use the following 5 types:

- Shagu (Handdrum)
- Small Drum
- Flowerpot (Medium Drum)
- Bangu (Large Drum)
- Shifan Gu (Big drum with 2 small ones attached)

Gongs (Lao or Luo). You can use the following 5 types:

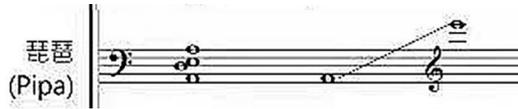
- Small Knobbed Gong
- Su Gong
- Small (Peking Opera) Gong
- Large (Peking Opera) Gong
- Chaozhou Bass Gong

Woodblock (Muyu)

Pipa

Also called Chinese lute.

Range:



Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pipa>

Sheng

Not to be confused with Zheng (Guzheng), the Sheng is a Chinese mouth-blown free reed instrument consisting of vertical pipes (Wikipedia). You can use:

- Soprano Sheng
- Tenor Sheng
- Bass Sheng

The 12 chromatic pitches can be played.

Ranges Sheng:



Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheng_\(instrument\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheng_(instrument))

Suona

Is a Chinese double-reed horn. You can use:

- Alto Suona
- Tenor Suona
- Bass Suona

The 12 chromatic pitches can be played.

Ranges Suona:

The image displays three musical staves, each representing a different range of the Suona instrument. The top staff is labeled '中音嗩呐 (Alto Suona)' and uses a treble clef. The middle staff is labeled '次中音嗩呐 (Tenor Suona)' and uses an alto clef. The bottom staff is labeled '低音嗩呐 (Bass Suona)' and uses a bass clef. Each staff contains a single melodic line with a series of notes that ascend in pitch from left to right, illustrating the instrument's range. The notes are connected by a dashed line, suggesting a continuous scale or a specific melodic phrase.

Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suona>

See videos of the instruments on our website, thanks to the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. At their website <http://www.hkco.org> you can also find more information about the Chinese instruments.