



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER

10  
FEBRUARY

2023

**THE INSTITUTE FOR CHINESE STUDIES,  
ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES, AND  
MERSHON CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY STUDIES PRESENT:**

Friday  
7:00-9:00pm  
Hagerty Hall 180

# "BEETHOVEN IN BEIJING: EXPLORING CULTURAL DIPLOMACY AND THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA'S CHINA LEGACY"

**JENNIFER LIN**

Fifty years ago, President Nixon pulled back the bamboo curtain separating the United States and China—and the Philadelphia Orchestra stepped across the threshold. After Western music was targeted for elimination during the Cultural Revolution, a historic visit by the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1973 touched hearts and rekindled a love for the music despite years of silence. Narrated by American and Chinese musicians and historians, *Beethoven in Beijing* explores the impact of the Philadelphia Orchestra's historic tour on China both then and now. Spanning a half-century of cultural history, the documentary highlights recent collaborations between the orchestra and Chinese musicians, including composer Tan Dun and pianist Lang Lang. Jennifer Lin, who produced and co-directed the film, will also discuss her companion book, *Beethoven in Beijing: Stories from the Philadelphia Orchestra's Historic Journey to China* (Temple University Press, 2022). The oral history examines how the 1973 tour by the Philadelphia Orchestra stands to this day as one of the most effective examples of cultural diplomacy.



**Free and open to the public**

<https://easc.osu.edu/events/ics-film-screening-and-book-discussion-jennifer-lin-beethoven-beijing-exploring-cultural>

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The Ohio State University East Asian Studies Center