

Wenbin Lyu

HUANG DI
concerto for sheng and orchestra

full score

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Program Note

The Sheng is an ancient Chinese mouth-blown free reed, polyphonic instrument consisting of vertical pipes. For my first concerto, *Huang Di*, I chose this unique instrument to create a composition divided into two movements, each based on the story of Huang Di.

Huang Di, also known as the Yellow Emperor, is a revered deity in Chinese religion. He is considered the originator of the centralized state, a cosmic ruler, and a patron of esoteric arts in Chinese culture.

The first movement, *The Ancestor of Chinese Civilization*, is a hymn dedicated to Huang Di, who united the various Chinese tribes with his formidable power. The second movement, *War with Chi Yo*, depicts a fierce battle between Huang Di and the other tribal leader, Chi Yo.

I wrote this piece specifically for my friend Bo Ling, an outstanding Sheng performer who brought my musical vision to life through his exceptional skill and artistry.

– Wenbin Lyu
Summer 2017

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duration: ca. 10 minutes

Instrumentation

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets in B \flat

2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in B \flat

2 Trombones

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion (4 players in addition to timpani) *

Harp

Solo Sheng (38-pipe keyed sheng)

Strings

* Tubular Bells, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel, Bass Drum, Snare Drum, 5 Chinese Drums, Tam-tam, Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, 5 Wood Blocks, Mark Tree, Claves,

HUANG DI

concerto for sheng and orchestra

I. The Ancestor of Chinese Civilization

Wenbin Lyu

Andante; ♩ = 72

The first system of the score includes the following parts:

- Flute 1 & 2:** Resting.
- Oboe 1 & 2:** Resting.
- Clarinet in Bb 1 & 2:** Resting.
- Bassoon 1 & 2:** Resting.
- Horn in F (1.2 & 3.4):** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Trumpet in Bb 1 & 2:** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Trombone 1 & 2:** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Bass Trombone / Tuba:** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Timpani:** Resting.
- Percussion I:** Playing **Chinese Dr.** with dynamics *f*, *p*, and *f*. Includes a **W. Bl.** (Wood Block) section.
- Percussion II:** Resting.
- Percussion III:** Playing **B. Dr.** (Bass Drum) with dynamic *f*.
- Percussion IV:** Playing **Tam-t.** (Tamtam) with dynamic *f*.
- Harp:** Resting.
- Solo Sheng:** Playing a melodic line with dynamics *pp* and *f*.
- Violin I & II:** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *p* and *gliss.*
- Viola:** Playing a sustained note with dynamics *p* and *gliss.*
- Violoncello & Contrabass:** Playing a sustained note with dynamic *p*.

Andante; ♩ = 72

5

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

1.2 Hn.

3.4 Hn.

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Trb. Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tempo Rubato

10

S. S.

16

S. S.

A

HUANG DI - I

21

Fl. 1 2
Ob. 1 2
Cl. 1 2
Bsn. 1 2

Woodwind section staves for Flute 1 & 2, Oboe 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, and Bassoon 1 & 2. The music features a melodic line with a dynamic range from *p* to *f*, including a 7-measure rest.

Hn. 1.2
Hn. 3.4
Tpt. 1 2
Tbn. 1 2
B. Trb. Tba.
Timp.

Brass and Percussion section staves for Horns 1.2 and 3.4, Trumpets 1 & 2, Trombones 1 & 2, Bass Trombone/Tuba, and Timpani. The brass instruments play a sustained chord with *fp* dynamics.

Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Perc. IV

Percussion section staves for Percussion I, II, III, and IV. Percussion I includes a **W. Bl.** (Wood Block) and Percussion II includes a **Susp. Cymb.** (Suspension Cymbal). Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.

Hp.

Harp staff with a melodic line starting at *f* and moving through various registers.

A

S. S.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

String section staves for Strings, Violin I & II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The strings play a sustained chord with *p* dynamics and include *gliss* (glissando) markings. The Cb. part includes a *div.* (divisi) marking.

Fl. 1 2 *f* *mp*

Ob. 1 2 *f*

Cl. 1 2 *f* *mp*

Bsn. 1 2 *fp* *f*

Hn. 1.2 *fp* *f* *p* *mp*

Hn. 3.4 *fp* *f* *p*

Tpt. 1 2 *fp* *f* *p*

Tbn. 1 2 *fp* *f* *p*

B. Trb. Tba. *fp* *f* *p*

Timp. *p* *f*

W.B. **Chinese Dr.**

Perc. II *f* *p* *f*

Perc. III *f* *p* *f*

Perc. IV **Glsp.** *f* *mp*

Hp. *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *gliss.*

S. S.

Vln. I *p* *p* *p* *f* *p* *gliss.*

Vln. II *p* *p* *p* *f* *p*

Vla. *p* *p* *p* *f* *p*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp* *f* *p*

Cb. *fp* *fp* *fp* *f* *p*

34

Tempo Rubato
40

B

45 Lento; ♩ = 46

HUANG DI - I

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1.2 3.4

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Trb. Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

B

Lento; ♩ = 46

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

HUANG DI - I

53

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts and markings:

- Fl. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (treble clef) has dynamics *f*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Part 2 (treble clef) has dynamics *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*.
- Ob. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (treble clef) has dynamics *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Part 2 (treble clef) has dynamics *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*.
- Cl. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (treble clef) has dynamics *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Part 2 (treble clef) has dynamics *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*.
- Bsn. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (bass clef) has dynamics *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Part 2 (bass clef) has dynamics *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*.
- Hn. 1.2:** (treble clef) has dynamics *mp*, *mf*, *fp*.
- Hn. 3.4:** (treble clef) has dynamics *mp*, *mf*, *fp*.
- Tpt. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (treble clef) has dynamics *f*. Part 2 (treble clef) has dynamics *f*.
- Tbn. 1 & 2:** Part 1 (bass clef) has dynamics *f*. Part 2 (bass clef) has dynamics *f*.
- B. Trb. / Tba.:** (bass clef) has dynamics *mp*, *mf*.
- Timp.:** (bass clef) has dynamics *p*, *f*.
- Perc. I:** (mallets) has dynamics *f*. Marked "Tam-t." in a box.
- Perc. II:** (mallets) has dynamics *f*, *p*, *f*.
- Perc. III:** (drum) has dynamics *f*.
- Perc. IV:** (drum) has dynamics *f*.
- Hp.:** (piano) has dynamics *f*.
- S. S.:** (saxophone) has dynamics *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Marked "accel." at the end.
- Vln. I & II:** (violin) have dynamics *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Marked "arco" above the staff.
- Vla.:** (viola) has dynamics *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Marked "arco" above the staff.
- Vc.:** (violin) has dynamics *mf*, *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Marked "arco" above the staff.
- Cb.:** (cello) has dynamics *mf*, *f*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*, *fp*. Marked "arco" above the staff.

C

63 **Andante;** ♩=72

HUANG DI - I

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1.2 3.4

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Trb. Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I **Chinese Dr.**

Perc. II

Perc. III **B. Dr.**

Perc. IV **Tam-t.**

Hp.

C

Andante; ♩=72

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

HUANG DI - I
Tempo Rubato

69

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tempo Rubato

A tempo

71

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the score, measures 71-73. It includes staves for Flute 1 & 2, Oboe 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Bassoon 1 & 2, Horns 1.2 and 3.4, Trumpets 1 & 2, Trombones 1 & 2, Baritone/Euphonium/Tuba, Timpani, four Percussion parts, and Harp. Dynamics include *fp*, *f*, and *p*. The Harp part features a glissando marked 'gliss.'.

A tempo

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the score, measures 71-73. It includes staves for Strings (S. S.), Violin I & II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. Dynamics include *fp*, *f*, and *p*. The strings play a complex rhythmic pattern in the first measure.

II. War With Chi Yo

Allegro; ♩=138

Flute 1
2

Oboe 1
2

Clarinet in Bb1
2

Bassoon 1
2

Horn in F
1.2
3.4

Trumpet in Bb1
2

Trombone 1
2

Bass Trombone
Tuba

Timpani

Percussion I
Chinese Dr.

Percussion II

Percussion III
B. Dr.

Percussion IV
Cymb.

Harp

Allegro; ♩=138

Solo Sheng

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

5

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.

3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

W. Bl.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

A
14

Fl. 1 2 *f*

Ob. 1 2 *f*

Cl. 1 2 *f*

Bsn. 1 2 *f* *fp* *a2*

Hn. 1.2 *f*

Hn. 3.4 *f*

Tpt. 1 2 *f*

Tbn. 1 2 *f*

B. Trb. Tba. *f* *fp* *a2*

Timp. *f* *p*

Perc. I *f* **W. Bl.**

Perc. II *f*

Perc. III

Perc. IV *f* **S. Dr.**

Hp. *f*

S. S. *f*

Vln. I *f* *p* *div.3* *f* *div.2*

Vln. II *f* *p* *div.3* *f* *div.2*

Vla. *f* *p* *unis.* *f* *div.v*

Vc. *f* *p* *f*

Cb. *f* *fp* *f*

20

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1.2 3.4

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Trb. Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p *f*

div.3

div.2

un.

6

26

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

1.2

Hn. 3.4

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Trb. Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV Glsp.

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I *div.3 p f pizz.*

Vln. II *div.3 p f pizz.*

Vla. *unis. p f pizz.*

Vc. *p f pizz.*

Cb. *p pizz.*

B

HUANG DI - II

31

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I
Chinese Dr.
f 3 3

Perc. II
p

Perc. III
f

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.
fp

Vln. I
arco
fp

Vln. II
arco
fp

Vla.
arco
fp

Vc.
arco
fp

Cb.
arco
fp

35

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

39

Fl. 1
2
mf

Ob. 1
2
mf

Cl. 1
2
mf

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.
f

3.4
f

Tpt. 1
2
f

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I
W. Bl. Chinese Dr. W. Bl.

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.
f *p* *f* *gliss.*

S. S.
f *mf*

Vln. I
f *p*

Vln. II
f *p*

Vla.
div. arco

Vc.
arco

Cb.
arco

44

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I
Chinese Dr. W. Bl.

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

C

49

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The top section includes woodwinds: Fl. 1 & 2, Ob. 1 & 2, Cl. 1 & 2, Bsn. 1 & 2, Hn. 1.2 and 3.4, Tpt. 1 & 2, Tbn. 1 & 2, and B. Trb. Tba. III. The middle section includes Perc. I, Perc. II (Vib.), Perc. III (Tub. B.), Perc. IV, and Hp. The bottom section includes strings: S. S., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The score features various dynamics such as *mf* and *p*, and includes performance markings like *mf* 5 and *p*. The key signature is C major, and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

53

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I
Chinese Dr.

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

D

HUANG DI - II

57

Musical score for measures 57-64. The score includes parts for Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Oboe 1 (Ob. 1), Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Bassoon 1 (Bsn. 1), Horns (Hn. 1.2 and 3.4), Trumpets (Tpt. 1), Trombones (Tbn. 1 and B. Trb. Tba.), Percussion (Perc. I, II, III, IV), and Harp (Hp.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor) and the time signature is 6/8. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* (forte). A box labeled 'D' is present above the first measure of the Flute part. A box labeled 'Tam-t.' is present above the Percussion IV part in measure 62.

D

Musical score for measures 65-68. The score includes parts for Soprano Saxophone (S. S.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor) and the time signature is 6/8. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). A box labeled 'D' is present above the first measure of the Soprano Saxophone part.

65

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

fp *f* *p* *f* *p*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

E

70

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II
Susp. Cymb.

Perc. III
B. Dr.

Perc. IV
Cymb.

Hp.

E

S. S.

Vln. I
unis. pizz. div. arco

Vln. II
unis. pizz. div. arco

Vla.
unis. pizz. div. arco

Vc.
pizz. arco

Cb.
pizz. arco

74

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

a2

77

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I
Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

W. BL.

a2

p

f

pizz.

arco

I.

*

F

82

Fl. 1 2 *p* *f*

Ob. 1 2 *p* *f*

Cl. 1 2 *p* *f*

Bsn. 1 2 *fp* *f*

Hn. 1.2 *p* *f* *fp* *f*

3.4 *p* *f* *fp* *f*

Tpt. 1 2 *p* *f* *fp* *f*

Tbn. 1 2 *p* *f* *fp* *f*

B. Trb. Tba. *p* *f* *fp* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

Perc. I *f* *f*

Perc. II *p* *f*

Perc. III *f* *p* *f* *mp*

Perc. IV *mp*

Harp

S. S. *fp* *ff* *p*

Vln. I *fp* *f*

Vln. II *fp* *f*

Vla. *fp* *f*

Vc. *fp* *f*

Cb. *fp* *f*

88

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.

3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

W. Bl.

p *f*

unis. pizz. *f*

unis. pizz. *f*

unis. pizz. *f*

pizz. *f*

pizz. *f*

92

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.



96

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

99

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

Hn.
1.2
3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

fp

f

div. arco

arco

gliss.

5

6

G

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.

3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

fp fp fp simil

Chinese Dr.

Perc. I
fp fp fp simil

Perc. II
f

Perc. III
f

Perc. IV

Hp.

G

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.



Timp.

p

Perc. I
p

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV
p
Tub. B.
f

S. S.
f

111

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Bsn. 1
2

1.2
Hn.

3.4

Tpt. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Trb.
Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. III

Hp.

S. S.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Fl. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Ob. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Cl. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Bsn. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Hn. 1.2 *f* *fp* *ff*

3.4 *f* *fp* *ff*

Tpt. 1 2 *f* *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 1 2 *f* *fp* *ff*

B. Trb. Tba. *f* *fp* *ff*

Timp. *f* *fp* *ff*

Perc. I *f* *ff*

Perc. II *f* *p* *ff*

Perc. III *f* *ff*

Perc. III *ff*

Hp. *f* *gliss.* *8va*

S. S. *f* *fp* *ff*

Vln. I *f* *unis.* *pizz.* *ff*

Vln. II *f* *unis.* *pizz.* *ff*

Vla. *f* *pizz.* *unis.* *ff*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *ff*

Cb. *f* *pizz.* *ff*

W. Bl.