

Leo Li

Artistic Director & Conductor





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音

乐

会



2024/04/13 7:30pm Trinity-St. Paul's United Church 427 Bloor St W, Toronto M5S 1X7





### NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir

NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir, officially established in 2023 in Canada, is a federally registered non-profit choral art group composed of vocal enthusiasts from various professions who love choral singing and pursue their musical goals.

The choir shares one common mission: to demand singers with professionalism in rehearsals, to treat audiences with professionalism in concerts. NeoVoce has rich performance experiences covering a variety of Western traditional choral works, contemporary choral arrangements and compositions in diverse cultures and numerous languages.

Since 2020, under the baton of the Artistic Director and Conductor Leo Li, NeoVoce has undergone a systematic and rigorous choral training; the choristers' choral literacy and skills have been improved rapidly. The choir was selected in the open rehearsal at PODIUM2022, Canada's national biennial bilingual choral conference, in Toronto. NeoVoce hosted its inaugural choral concert "Hearing the East" in 2023, and has also participated in PODIUM2024's the Digital Horizons Series in Montreal.





### **Artistic Director & Conductor**



Dr. Leo Li (abd), Choral Canada on board director, Chair of Choral Canada Membership Committee. Member of Juried Program Committee, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee recipient. choral and orchestral Award conductor.

His journey as a conductor commenced officially at the age of 18, where he led a choir to victory with a Gold Prize at the Czech International Music Festival. Currently holding his Ph.D. Candidate status at the University of Toronto, Canada, Dr. Li (abd), a Chinese Canadian award-winning conductor, ardently dedicates himself to fostering connections and bridging possibilities for various choirs and singing groups, facilitating cultural exchange from the East to the West.

Dr. Leo Li (abd) has undergone a comprehensive musical education, studying under the tutelage of esteemed Canadian and international conductors, maestri, and educators. His educational journey spans from high school to graduate levels, including masterclasses and workshops, where he has focused on choral and orchestral conducting, musicology, and music education. Dr. Li (abd)'s influence in the conducting sphere transcends borders, as he has conducted and performed in various countries spanning four continents.

In addition to his conductor training, Dr. Li (abd) has delved into vocal performance and instrumental studies such as flute and percussions under the guidance of Canadian well-known artists and musicians.

At the end of 2022, Dr. Li (abd) accepted NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir's invitation as the conductor and staged their inaugural choral concert in downtown Toronto in 2023. In 2023~2024 music season, Dr. Li (abd) has been appointed as the Artistic Director and Conductor of NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir and NeoVoce Philharmonic Quartet.

# NEOVOCA MICHARMONICO

### NeoVoce 馨声爱乐合唱团

馨声爱乐合唱团(NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir)于2023年正式注册为加拿大联邦非营利性合唱艺术团体,由来自不同行业的热爱合唱、追求梦想的声乐爱好者组成。

合唱团秉承"以专业精神严格要求自己,以专业合唱态度对待观众"的理念,积累了丰富的演唱经验。排演的曲目涵盖了西方传统合唱作品以及东西方现当代合唱作品,覆盖的语言种类繁多。

自2020年以来,合唱团一直在艺术总监和指挥Leo Li的指导下接受系统、严格的合唱训练,音乐素养和演唱水平得到稳步提升。合唱团于2022年参加了加拿大合唱大会联动系列项目一公开排练;2023年举办了首场专场音乐会《聆听东方2023》;2024年参加加拿大合唱大会网络音乐会。



# 艺术总监&指挥



Dr. Leo Li (abd) 加拿大合唱协会理事、会员委员会主席、评委委员会理事,英女王白金禧年奖获得者,多伦多大学博士 (Ph.D.) 研究生,合唱和乐队指挥,加拿大合唱大会联动系列项目和网络音乐会项目联合总监。

Dr. Leo Li (abd) 自幼喜爱音乐,学习过钢琴和长号的演奏,并成长于合唱团中。他15岁起担任助理指挥,16岁加入爵士声乐团,18岁正式担任合唱指挥,同年,他指挥的合唱团获捷克国际音乐节金奖。他师从于国际著名指挥家和教育家利泽特・康顿博士和马塞洛・维塔博士,并得到数位教授在指挥与教学上的悉心指导。他曾跟随女高音歌唱家斯蒂芬妮・博格尔学习声乐,与演奏家芭芭拉・阿克曼学习长笛,并和安娜・梅尔尼科夫与弗雷德里克・卡瓦西・邓约等专家学习打击乐。

Dr. Li (abd) 长期作为艺术总监、常任和客席指挥,和外聘专家参与指导各类音乐团体,其中包括:各类合唱团(童声、混声、同声、学生等)和交响乐团。他的演出足迹涉及北美、亚洲、欧洲和大洋洲。

2022年末,Dr. Leo Li (abd) 应馨声爱乐合唱团邀请任指挥;并举办了《聆听东方》首场合唱专场音乐会。他在2023~2024音乐季,任馨声爱乐合唱团艺术总监和指挥,并组建馨声爱乐弦乐四重奏任作(编)曲和指挥。





# Vocal Coach/声乐指导



### Yan HUANG / 黄燕

Ms. Yan Huang, Lyrical Soprano, graduated from Department of Music at Xiamen University's School of Arts. She studied successively under Professor Chen Yanfang from School of Arts at Xiamen University, Professor Zhan Shihua from Department of Music at Jimei University, Professor Guo Lingbi from Voice and Opera Department of China Conservatory of Music, and national Level I Actor: YAN Dongdong.

She has successfully held solo concerts, engaged in music education for over twenty years, possessing extensive experience in vocal instruction.

### Her achievements include:

- The Silver Prize in the 2009 China Outstanding Singer Competition
- The Gold Prize in the Fujian Province Singer Competition
- The Gold Prize in the 5th (Graz, Austria) World Choir Competition, among others.

She also participated in numerous music and cultural exchange activities in Southeast Asia, South Asia, Europe, and eta. She emigrated to Canada in 2022 and was once a jury member at the 2023 North American Rising Stars Singing Competition.

抒情花腔女高音,毕业于厦门大学艺术学院音乐系。先后师从于厦门大学艺术学院陈言 放教授、集美大学音乐系詹士华教授、中国音乐学院声歌系郭凌弼教授、国家一级演员 严冬冬老师。

曾成功举办过个人独唱音乐会。从事音乐教学工作二十余年,有丰富的歌唱教学经验。

曾获得中国2009优秀歌手比赛银奖、福建省歌手赛金奖、第五届(奥地利格拉茨)世界 合唱比赛金奖等。多次赴东南亚、南亚、欧洲等国家进行音乐文化交流活动。2022年移 居加拿大。2023年担任北美超凡之星歌唱大赛评委。



# Collaborative Pianist/钢琴艺术指导



### Luyao XU / 徐路遥

Ms. Luyao Xu, Master of Music from Michigan State University of the United States, majoring in Piano Pedagogy, under the tutelage of Professor Deborah Moriarty, Chair of the Piano Department, and Georgian pianist Tamar Mikeladze. She also held Master's degree in Education from University of Toronto in Canada, specializing in Developmental Psychology & Education.

She has served as a piano accompanist and artistic director for numerous arts groups and choirs in China and North America, including top-level groups such as Shanghai Little Stars Choral Art Troupe in China and the Choral Union at Michigan State University in the United States.

Her achievements include winning Gold Award in the Piano Category at the "Charm of Hong Kong"- Asian Youth Arts Festival and the First Prize in the Piano Category at Art Teachers' Skill Competition in Shanghai.

音乐硕士,毕业于美国密歇根州立大学,主修钢琴教学法,师从钢琴系主任Deborah Moriarty教授和格鲁吉亚钢琴家Tamar Mikeladze。她于加拿大多伦多大学获得教育硕士学位,专攻发展教育心理学专业。

她多次在中国和北美的艺术团和合唱团担任钢琴伴奏和艺术指导,其中包括中国一流团体上海小荧星合唱艺术团、美国密歇根州立大学合唱团Choral Union等。

她荣获的奖项包括: "魅力香港"亚洲青少年艺术节钢琴组金奖,上海市艺术教师技能 评比钢琴组一等奖等。



### Guest Bass/客席男低音



### Hong TANG / 唐虹

Mr. Hong Tang graduated from Tsinghua University, currently serving as Bass lead of the Tsinghua Alumni Choir in South Ontario. He has been passionate about choral arts for decades, actively participating in numerous choral activities including: Global Chinese Music Concert at China National Grand Theatre in 2014; As lead singer at Tsinghua University's (Arr.) "The Yellow River Cantata" in 2015; Performance in "The Yellow River Cantata" conducted by Jia Lů at China National Theatre for the Performing Arts, in cooperation with its orchestra.

毕业于清华大学化学与化学工程系,现任南安省清华校友艺术团合唱团男低声部长。几十年来一直热爱合唱艺术,积极参与合唱活动。2014年在国家大剧院参演全球华人音乐会。2015年参加了清华大学版的《黄河大合唱》,担任领唱。并在国家大剧院与其交响乐团合作,参演吕嘉指挥的《黄河大合唱》。

## Baritone Soloist/男中音领唱



### Jason Peng / 彭欣

Mr. Jason Peng, MBA, works in Accounting Section of a large multinational corporation. He is passionate about music, serving as the Vice President of NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir. His achievements include: Winning the second place in the "Youth-China-Dream" all-age talents competition on TV in Canada region in 2019; Winner of Gold Award in the Water Cube Cup Singer Competition in Toronto in 2021; One of the top ten contestants in the third China national singing competition of "I Sing Teresa Teng" held in 2022.

MBA会计专业毕业,就职于一家大型跨国公司会计部门。喜欢音乐,现任加拿大馨声爱乐合唱团副团长。2019年荣获"青春中国梦"全龄电视才艺大赛加拿大赛区亚军;2021年多伦多水立方杯歌手大赛金麦奖得主;2022年第三届中国"我唱邓丽君"歌曲大奖赛十强选手。



# Accompanists/伴奏团



### Zachary Li - Apprentice Piano Accompanist

Mr. Zachary Li began learning piano at the age of seven and violin at ten. Then he served as piano accompanist for choirs of Hamilton and Burlington. He also studied trumpet, flute and enjoys singing. He showcased his talents at Hamilton Chinese New Year Gala multiple times and has won numerous gold awards in piano and popular vocal competitions at music festivals in different regions including London (Canada), Niagara and Hamilton.

七岁开始学习钢琴,十岁学习小提琴。十岁开始为汉密尔顿及伯灵顿的合唱团担任钢琴伴奏。他还学习过小号和长笛,喜欢唱歌。曾多次登上汉密尔顿华人春晚的舞台展示才艺,也曾在伦敦(加拿大), 尼亚加拉, 汉密尔顿等不同地区举办的音乐节的钢琴及通俗唱法比赛中获得多个金奖。



### Vivian Li - Accordion Accompanist

Ms. Vivian Li, majoring in Children's Music Education from The Royal Conservatory (Canada), specializes in three major music pedagogies with teaching certificates for each: Orff, Kodály, and Dalcroze. She has worked in this field in China and Canada for many years. She also conducted brass bands, winning First Prize in Western Instrumental Music Competition in a student arts festival in Shanghai, among others.

拥有皇家音乐学院儿童音乐教育专业背景,主修三大音乐教学法,并获得奥尔夫、柯达伊、达尔克罗兹教学证书。在中加两地从事音乐基础教育多年,她指导并担任指挥的铜管乐队,曾在上海市闵行区学生艺术节器乐比赛中斩获西洋乐一等奖。她本人也多次荣获优秀指导奖。



# Executive Director/理事长



### Dr. Jing Ning / 宁静博士

Dr. Jing Ning embracing multiple roles in life: Dr. Jing Ning was once a farmer, medical doctor, scientist, drug regulator to ensure its safety and efficacy. In 2020 she joined a choir conducted by Leo Li, a young, talented and passionate musician. Together with a group of choral music enthusiasts, they established NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir to pursue their music dreams and to promote multicultural choral music.

种过地,做过医生,研究员和药物审批等多种工作。 自2020起参加了由年轻而极具才华和奉献精神的Leo指挥的合唱团,接受严格的专业合唱培训。 2023年与志同道合热爱合唱的朋友们一起创建了馨声爱乐合唱团, 在Leo 艺术总监&指挥的引领下,为合唱艺术的多元化及跨民族交流而不断努力。

### President/团长



### Pamela Xiaodong Li / 李晓东

Ms. Pamela Li is an engineer, she has a passion for singing since childhood. She studied vocal music under professional vocal teachers and was a choir leader for years. From early 2023, she studied under professional choral conductor Leo Li for choral skill enhancement. Together with a few music enthusiasts they founded the NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir. Their goal is to build a top-level Chinese choir in the GTA and make strides towards the international stage.

工科女,自幼酷爱唱歌,曾跟声乐老师学习声乐,并带领合唱团和唱诗班多年。2023年初,为了提升合唱技能,她决定继续跟随专业合唱指挥Leo Li学习,与一群有着同样梦想和追求的声乐爱好者们共同创建了馨声爱乐合唱团,致力于将合唱团打造成大多地区最具实力的华人合唱团,并向国际舞台迈进。



### **Greeting Letter**





### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir's annual choral concert, "Hearing the East 2024".

Dedicated to promoting cultural connections through choral music, this concert promises to be a unique experience featuring compositions in a variety of languages including Japanese, Ojibway, Italian, Indian, English, Mandarin, and Cantonese. I would like to thank vocal coach, Yan Huang, and conductor, Leo Li, as well as the organizers and volunteers who make this special performance possible.

I am pleased that wonderful events like these are taking place in Toronto. They celebrate the diversity that make our city so unique, and are essential to a prosperous, vital, and livable Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Yours truly,

Olivia Chow Mayor of Toronto

Chrochous



# **Greeting Letter**

Matt Mahoney Acting Mayor Councillor, Ward 8 City of Missisauga



300 City Centre Drive MISSISSAUGA ON L5B 3C1 matt.mahoney@mississauga.ca mattmahoney.ca

April 2024

#### Message from Acting Mayor Matt Mahoney



Dear Members of the Neo Voce Philharmonic Choir,

On behalf of Mississauga Council and the residents of our community, I extend my warmest greetings to you as you prepare for your annual choral concert.

Your commitment to presenting choral music in multiple languages not only showcases the beauty and diversity of different cultures but also serves as a powerful tool for fostering unity and appreciation among people of all backgrounds. Through your harmonious melodies and heartfelt performances, you are breaking down barriers and building

bridges of understanding that transcend language and cultural differences.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all the members of the Neo Voce Philharmonic Choir for your talent, passion, and unwavering commitment to promoting multicultural communication through the arts. Your annual choral concert is a testament to the power of music to inspire, uplift, and unite us all.

May your performance of 'Hearing the East' be met with resounding applause and serve as a shining example of the transformative impact of cultural exchange and understanding.

Sincerely.

Matt Mahoney

Acting Mayor of Mississauga

Councillor, Ward 8



# **Greeting Letter**



300 City Centre Drive, Suite 1055 Mississauga, ON L5B 3C9 905-615-4278 www.mississaugaartscouncil.com

#### Hello!

Greetings to performers, families, friends and supporters of the new NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir. The Mississauga Arts Council is proud to commend your attendance at this special concert of international choral music.

We are delighted that "Hearing the East" has extended the reach of NeoVoce Philharmonic Choir, to go beyond timeless Chinese melodies presented by Chinese Canadians, to sharing their voices with fellow Canadians, by singing a uniquely multicultural repertoire that includes English, Indian, Italian, Japanese, Ojibway, and Mandarin/Cantonese choral music pieces.

All of which prompts the question - has this ever happened before?

In Mississauga, cross cultural exploration is gaining momentum everyday, and we are grateful to Jing Ning and the Neo Voce Philharmonic Choir for helping to lead the way.

Thank you!

Mike Douglas, Executive Director Mississauga Arts Council



2. Caro mio ben

# **Programme** - First Half

1. From Jasmine Flower to Turandot/从茉莉花到图兰朵

Arr. LUO Mai-Shuo Quartet Arrangement: Leo Li

Music: Giuseppe Giordani (1744~1798)

Arr. Gwyn Arch

3. Lascia ch'io pianga (from the opera Rinaldo)

Music: George Frideric Handel (1685~1759)

Arr. Gwyn Arch

Quartet Arrangement: Leo Li

4. Cantate Domino in Bb - Psalm 96

Ps. 96-1,2,4,5,6,11

Music: Ko Matsushita

5. Horane

Lyrics: Keishi Itō

Music: Ko Matsushita

6. If Tomorrow Were the Next Life/如果明天就是下一生

Lyrics: ZHANG Huimei

Music: SHI Qingru

7. Turn Around Again/再回首

Lyrics: CHEN Lerong

Music: LU Guanting

Arr. JIN Wei

8. Love Across Mountains and Rivers/万水千山总是情

Lyrics: DENG Weixiong

Music: GU Jiahui

Arr. LIU Xinyao

Choral Arr.: ZHANG Yizhen

Intermission

• The repertoire is subject to performance/曲目以演出为准



### Programme - Second Half

9. Cease Mine Eyes

Thomas Morley(1557-1603)

10. The Song of The Chi-Le People/敕勒歌

Yuefu Poetry Lyrics Expansion: XUE Baoqin Music: LIU Zhou

Arr. WU hao

11. Tea-Picking/采茶

Fujian Folk Song (Chinese) Lyrics and Music: JI Qinglian Arr. ZHANG Yida

12. The Song of Yue Boatman/越人歌

Lyrics: Qin Dynasty Music: LIU Qing Arr. 7HANG Yi

13. Night Beauty at Prairie/草原夜色美

Inner Mongolian Folk Song (Chinese)

Lyrics: BAI Jie

Music and Choral Arrangement: WANG Hesheng

14. Ambe

Ojibway Folk Composition Lyrics: Cory Campbell Music: Andrew Balfour

15. Distant Guests, Please Stay/远方的客人请你留下来

Sani Folk Composition (Chinese)

Lyrics: FAN Yu

Music and Arrangment: MAI Zhizeng & ZHU Qiu

16. For Many Reasons I Sing/我歌唱的理由有很多

JIN Chengzhi

17. Farewell/城南送别

Lyrics: LI Shutong & LIN Haiyin Music: ZHOU Xinguan & John Pond Ordway

Arr. ZHOU Xinguan



# Lyrics Translation

#### 1. From Jasmine Flower to Turandot / 从茉莉花到图兰朵

What a beautiful jasmine flower! Aroma and beauty all over the branch, So fragrant, so white and so adorable, Shall I pluck you off and give you to someone? Jasmine. O. Jasmine.

#### 2. Caro mio ben

My darling dear at least believe me, without you my heart languishes.

Your faithful admirer always sighs. Stop, cruel one, being so harsh.

#### 3. Lascia ch'io pianga (from the opera Rinaldo)

Let me weep My cruel fate, And that I should have freedom. The duel infringes within these twisted places, in my sufferings I pray for mercy.

#### 4. Cantate Domino in Bb - Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, bless His name, proclaim His salvation day after day.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

He is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

#### 5. Horane

Rivers are conversing with the wind, Birds are touching flowers, Sunlight is frolicking with the leaves, Rain is nodding in agreement with frogs.

Fish are competing with the waves, Mountains are calling out to the clouds, Windows are smiling with the piano, Snow is gazing at the lights. See, We are not alone, Certainly, No one is alone.

Even if there are sad days, Days when tears won't stop, Let's slowly and gently sing a song, The song filled with memories, Songs are your precious friends, Always there, precious friends.

#### 6. If Tomorrow Were the Next Life/如果明天就是下一生

Time wanders between our breaths,

When the finish line arrives, do those desires find rest? Body and mind consume between sunrise and sunset, When impermanence pronounces its verdict, has your soul returned home?

Each scene around us plays out, strangers that don't exist. Searching and searching, oh, how do you mend a broken pearl?

How do you sing the lost notes?

If tomorrow were the next life, how would you spend today
I guard life with warmth, leaving traces in the waves,
I guard health with awareness, illuminating the turning wheel.

### 7. Turn Around Again/再回首

Looking back again, the clouds are obscuring the way home It is full of thorns

Tonight, there will be no more old dreams I am loath to part with

The dreams we once shared To whom can I tell moving forward

Looking back again, I see your figure fading away My teary eyes get hazy

Keeping your blessings to warm me in cold nights

No matter how much pain and confusion I've to face tomorrow

I once kept asking over and over again in gloom or darkness Only to find a true life is plain and simple, unhurried and leisurely

Looking back again, it is like a dream

My heart stays the same

Only that endless long road keeps my company

#### 8. Love Across Mountains and Rivers/万水千山总是情

Do not say mountains block the way or winds blow harsh and violent

Even the white clouds drifting across the mountain peaks can carry my love

Do not say waters change too much, the water is pure and calm

Tender feelings are like water and love is the ever-flowing

stream
Do not worry that strong wind would dispel my love

My love fills and goes all across the mountains and rivers Parting or reunion are destined by heaven

Thus, no point blaming fate or destiny

Just hoping that mountains and rivers both serve as my witness.



# Lyrics Translation

#### 9. Cease Mine Eyes

Cease mine eyes, cease your lamenting,
O cease, alas, this your lamenting.
In vain you hope of her hard heart's relenting.
O cease your flowing:
drop not so fast, O where no grace is growing.
See she laughs, she smiles, she plays with joy and gladness;
To see your grief and sadness.
O Love, thou art abused:

#### 10. The Song of The Chi-Le People/敕勒歌

Was never true love so scornfully thus used.

At the foot of Yinshan Mountain Stretches the Che Le prairie The sky is like herdsman's giant tents Covering the vast land. Boundless is the blue sky The wind bends the grass To reveal herds of cattle and flocks of sheep

#### 11. Tea-Picking/采茶

The flowers bloom, and the spring is beautiful, Tea-picking girls cover the hills, With baskets in hand, they gather tea, Collecting leaves piece by piece, each with fragrance, Picking from east to west, Tea-picking girls smile happilly. Filling basket after basket, Songs echo all across the mountains, The tea mountain is as beautiful as a painting, The hearts of the tea farmers are bright, The path to happiness is getting wider and wider.

#### 12. The Song of Yue Boatman/越人歌

What a night, tonight
All through the waves I row.
what a day, today
I share with you, the prince, a same boat
appreciate your acceptance in spite of my lowliness
feelings fluctuate wildly in my heart since I meet you
There are trees on the mountain, and branches on the tree.
I lose my heart to you while you are not aware of.

### 13. Night Beauty at Prairie/草原夜色美

Night is beautiful on the grassland With melodious tune of the violin, the crisp sound of the flute The evening breeze carries the stars of the Milky Way Collecting them into the felt tent, shining with silver light The moon of the Nine Heavens always accompanies The evening breeze gently brushes the green dreams Cattle and sheep, like clouds, descend on the borderland

Night is beautiful on the grassland Without raising the golden cup, one is already intoxicated The evening breeze sings a sweet song Riding a horse lightly in the silver moonlight, one is reluctant to

#### 14. Ambe

Come in, two-legged beings. Come in all people There is good life here. Come in!

#### 15. Distant Guests, Please Stay/远方的客人请你留下来

By the roadside, the flowers are blooming,
On the trees, the fruits are waiting to be picked,
That serene place, oh, alas, Distant guests, please stay.
The lush ears of grain sway in the wind,
Anticipating people to harvest them,
Distant guests, please stay,
The girls drive a flock of white sheep,
Stepping in the evening glow, they are about to return,
Singing the time of a bountiful harvest, singing the prosperity
of our motherland,
We want to sing for happiness without restraint.
Distant guests, please stay, Serene, serene, in that serene

#### 16. For Many Reasons I Sing/我歌唱的理由有很多

For many reasons I sing
Because I often say things wrong
Being shy often times, seeking approval
To show my sincerity and love
Searching for my hometown, the white moonlight
I sing of poverty and destitution
And of wild dogs wandering
I sing of fishing fires on autumn rivers
Parting or reunion, the sweetness or bitterness
When I sing, I'm dreaming
In my dreams, there are countless stories
My heart is red, also my cheeks
The reasons I sing
are who I am

For many reasons I sing To relieve, to vent For shackles, for loneliness To endure, to escape For farewell, for reunion

Singing is my very first voice into this world What is there to be afraid of The reasons I sing Are always who I am

#### 17. Farewell/城南送别

Outside the long pavilion, by the ancient road Fragrant grass stretches to the azure sky In the evening breeze, the sound of a flute lingers among the willows

As the sunset paints mountains after mountains Far off to the edge of the heavens, and the corner of the earth Scattered over half of my friends and loved ones With a ladle of wine drained, to hold on to the lingering joy Tonight, we part with chilly dreams

I am wondering, when will you return from this journey? Whenever you could come back, do not hesitate In life, rare are moments of gathering joy Only farewells abound NeoVoce Philharmonic Strings Quartet:

Zachary Li, Ivan Li, Gavin Li, Kaylee Tian

**Soprano:** Li Liu\*, Yan Huang, Jing Chen, Cynthia Chow,

Jia-An Ding, Fanny Fan, Xiaohong Feng,

Anika Hou, Hongjuan Jin, Jing Li, Yinghua Li,

Zhujuan Qiu, Fangfang Sun, May Zhang,

Yixin Zhang

Alto: Xiaodong Li\*, Grace Chen, Jing Chen,

Pingping Jiang, Joy Fung, Amy Li, Qiao Liu, Jing Ning, Dina Sun, Ping Wang, Yulin Wang, Jing Xing, Michelle Xu, Bing Yu, Xiaohui Zhang, Jing Zhou, Wei Zhou, Wendy Zhu

Tenor: Gordon Hu\*, Zhiguang Qian, Gary Wang,

Henry Yan

Bass: Jason Peng\*, Yingtao Fan, Jingzhong Qu,

**Guofang Zhong** 

\*Vocal Lead



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