



Canada One Family Network

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Ruan & Pipa Beginner to Advanced Class

Ruan, also known as Ruan Qin and Ruan Xian, is a plucked stringed instrument from China. It was named after Ruan Xian in the "Seven Sages of Bamboo Forest" from the Western Jin Dynasty. Before the Tang Dynasty, this musical instrument was also called Qin Pipa or Qin Hanzi. After the Tang Dynasty, due to the large number of Quxiang Pipa introduced into China, the name "Pipa" was taken, so it was named after Ruan Xian, who was good at playing this instrument.

"Pipa" is a Chinese-style Quxiang pipa that combines the characteristics of the Chinese straight pipa and the western region Quxiang Hu pipa. The shape of this type pipa was established during the Ming Dynasty.

Instructor

Lilian (Xiaolei) Yang, a Pipa (Chinese lute) musician, is a member of the Artist Society of Toronto. Born in Beijing, China, Lilian began her Pipa studies at the age of 8. She studied with the renowned Pipa soloists and musicians, Liu Gui-lian, Kuang Yu-zhong and Sun Wei-xi from the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music. As a dynamic figure in Beijing's traditional Chinese music scene, Lilian has performed as a Pipa soloist countless times in the celebrated Beijing Concert Hall and Forbidden City Concert Hall. Since 2018, she has been the Pipa chief and soloist of the Age of Literati Culture Festival.