

*Final Report to
The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Varangerfestivalen, Vadsø, Norway

&

Beijing Top Gem Creative Culture & Art Co. Beijing China

Norway China World Music Concert Tour

Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations between
Norway and the Peoples Republic of China

Programme and Documentary

Sponsors

Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Beijing
Scandinavian Airlines, China
Radisson SAS Hotel, Beijing
Norwegian Seafood Council
Ullensvang Kommune, Hardanger
Ullensvang Hotell, Hardanger

Promoters

Polyculture Arts Company, Beijing
Continental, Oslo
Kunming Hue Tan, Yunnan

Vadsø and Beijing , December 2005

A musical cultural exchange between Norway and China launched during the visit of Bian Liu Nian at the 2003 Varanger Music Festival. The project includes a mix of Chinese and Norwegian world music with inspirations from Norwegian and Chinese traditional and ethnic music.¹

We report here on the follow up of the project, which celebrated Norwegian and Chinese Cultural Ties as part of the 50 Years Anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The project resulted in three main productions:

1. October 2004 concert series in China to celebrate the 50 year anniversary.

The concert series made the debut with the largest ever concert tour from a Norwegian Musical Group. From 25th September to 13th October the Secret Garden held altogether 13 concerts in 8 cities including Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Wuhan and Kunming. Bian Liunian was a special guest of part of the tour that culminated in Kunming where they participated in the special Galla Concert with other Norwegian musicians. Three anniversary concerts were held consecutively - at the Radisson SAS, The Sheraton Great Wall Hotel, Beijing and the Kunming Hall, in Kunming, Yunnan Province.

The special galla concert in Kunming Hall culminated the 50 years celebration to mark the cooperation with the Yunnan National Minorities University with the participation of Speaker of the Norwegian Parliament , Jørgen Kosmo and his team, Ambassador Tor Christian Hildan , The Governor of Yunnan and other dignitaries and leaders and 800 students from Yunnan National Minorities University.

2. Production of 58 min documentary on Norwegian Broadcasting Channel 1 titled *Musikk Over Muren* (Music “Through The Wall”) to be aired the first day of Christmas December 25th 2004 at 1430.
3. Publication of a VCD to be published jointly in Norway and China in January/February 2005.

The TV and VCD productions draws from interviews of musicians and other personalities involved with the 50 years celebration, video shots of concerts from both China and Norway and shots from attractions such as the Great Wall, the historical city of Lijiang in Yunnan province, and in Norway from the Beautiful Fjord of Hardanger and other venues.

¹ Under the direction of Musical Director and Producer Mr. Bian Liu Nian, a TV Documentary was produced showing his tour in Norway during the month of August 2003. The programme was aired on Chinese Central Television Cultural Channel (CCTV3) in two 30 minute programmes December 12 and December 19.

Bian Liu Nian, born in 1961 Nanjing, Jiangsu, Province, is a first class (rated) national musician and composer and musical supervisor and director of Dongfeng Oriental Dance Troupe, Beijing. The last 10 years he has been musical director and composer for China Central Television (CCTV) Festival TV Productions. He has produced more than 100 television musical productions and won the coveted TV Golden Eagle Award (Chinese Television Oscar Award). Bian Liu Nian is founder of the New Folk Music Association. He is member of the National Musical Instrument association, associate of China Light Music Committee, member of the National Professional Music Producer association and the MIDI Association. Bian Liu Nian performs on a wide range of string instruments including the Cello but is best known for his performances on Chinese instrument Erhu and the Satar. He has composed some 1000 musical pieces for many leading Chinese vocalists, instrumentals and orchestras.

Concert Series China, September - October 2004

China 2005 Secret Garden Tour , 25th September to 13th October 2004

Secter Garden China Tour , Rolf Løvland, Fiuonulla Sherry & Bian Liunian



Galla Concert in Yunnan , Kunming Hall, Yunnan 13th October 2004

Secret Garden China Tour (Løvland & Sherry) Hans Fredrik Jacobsen, Tone Hulbækmo, Knut Buen, Knut Reiersrud , Geir Botnen, Mari Boine, Svein Schultz and Bian Liu Nian





**Radisson SAS Hotel Beijing
10th October 2004**

*Hans Fredrik Jacobsen, Tone Hulbækmo, Knut
Buen, Knut Reiersrud , Geir Botnen and Bian
Liu Nian*

Great Wall Sheraton, Beijing 11th October 2004

*Hans Fredrik Jacobsen, Tone Hulbækmo, Knut Buen, Knut Reiersrud ,
Geir Botnen, Mari Boine, Svein Schultz and Bian Liu Nian*



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