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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Music Association of Auckland Invited to Perform Xian Xinghai's *Yellow River Cantata* in New York City

New York, N.Y. – June 24, 2014

Outstanding music program
receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that Iris Cheng and the Music Association of Auckland have been invited to participate in a performance of Xian Xinghai's *Yellow River Cantata* on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance, in celebration of Chinese New Year, is planned for February 16, 2015 at Carnegie Hall. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Maestro Jie Yi will be conductor of the performance and clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Music Association of Auckland received this invitation due to the high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers and the impressive quality of their audition recording. It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

The singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York by contacting Iris Cheng at +64 (0)9 5287792 or via email at diss@xtra.co.nz.

Conductor
Jie Yi

Jie Yi teaches at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and is the Resident Conductor of the Shanghai Opera Chorus. In 2005, he was selected by the "Internship and Overseas Fellowship for Young Conductors," sponsored by the U.S. China Cultural Institute, to study with Maestro John Nelson in Paris. He received the "Huang He Fellowship" sponsored by the Asian Culture Council to study at the Metropolitan Opera with Chorus Master Donald Palumbo. He also studied with Andrew Megill, Associate Professor of Westminster Choir College.

In 2011, Mr. Yi participated in the Jarvi Summer Festival as an active candidate, where he was invited to perform with Neeme Jarvi and Parvo Jarvi. In 2008, he was the assistant conductor to Maestro Lorin Maazel for

the “Symphony Open Day” with the New York Philharmonic. In 2007, he made it to the final round of the “Besançon International Competition for Young Conductors”. In 2006, he was one of 6 conductors to be chosen for the Vendôme International Academy of Conducting (France).

Mr. Yi studied conducting with Professor Zhang Guoyong at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music where he received his Master’s degree of Conducting and Bachelor’s degree of Composition. He has conducted and assistant conducted performances of *Elijah*, *Messiah*, *Carmina Burana*, Mozart’s and Verdi’s *Requiem*, *Mahler Symphony No.8*, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Così fan Tutte*, *Don Carlo*, *La Traviata*, *Turandot*, and *Carmen* among others. He has conducted, among others, the Ensemble Orchestra de Paris, Orchestra de Besançon, the Estonian National Youth Orchestra, Parnu City Orchestra, the Shanghai Opera House Chorus and Orchestra, the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra and the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra.

DCINY Productions

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is a production company based in New York City. Our concert series includes choral and instrumental concerts in world-class venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall and Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) DCINY is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. Following our motto “The Art of Performance – The Power of Education”, we focus on the educational process while upholding a high performance standard and provide ensembles and conductors of distinction educational and performance opportunities including select solo performances, rehearsal audit, conductor mentoring and debut performances.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566 Ext. 307, or BoxOffice@DCINY.org.

Contact & Interviews

Interviews and additional information may be arranged by contacting Shira Gilbert, at 212.707.8566 Ext. 316, or Shira@DCINY.org.

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