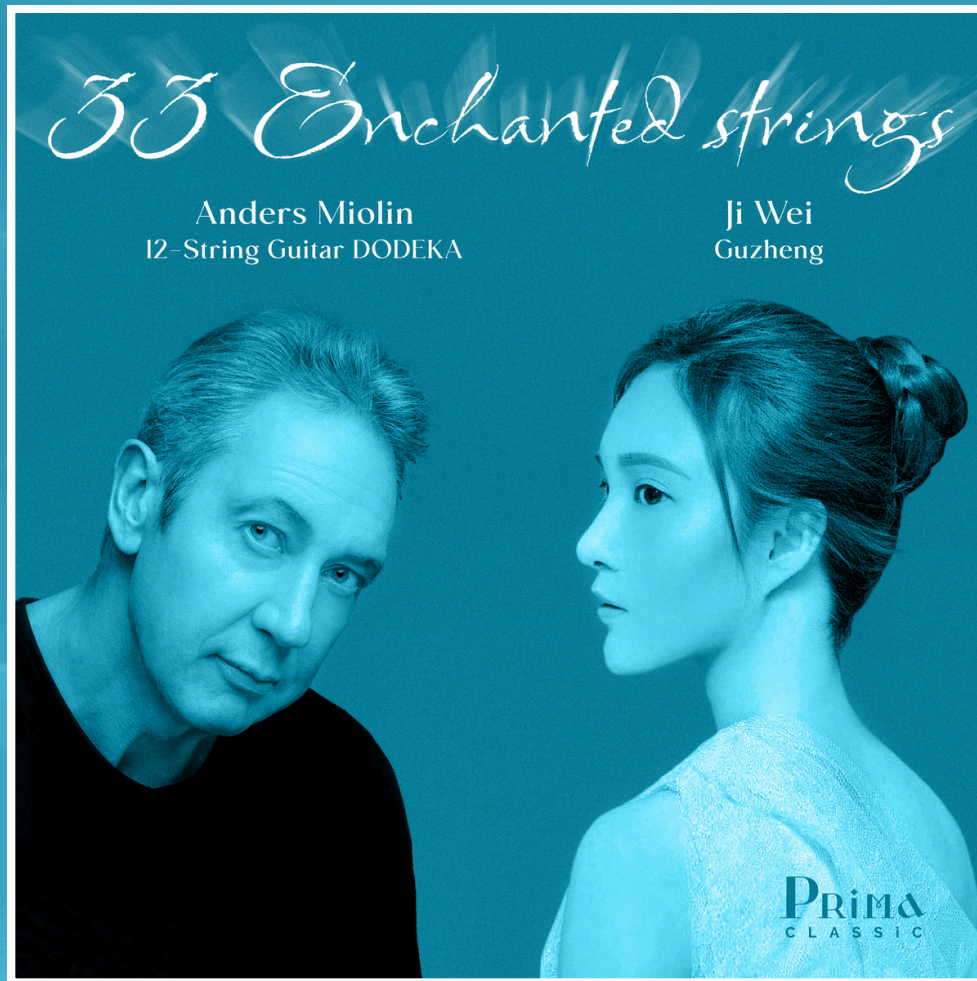


PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS



This album explores a novel collaboration between Anders Miolin with his unique 12-String guitar Dodeka, and Ji Wei, one of the leading performers of the Chinese traditional harp Guzheng. Together, they play their combined 33 strings and enchant us with the new colors they bring to well-known pieces, as well as traditional Chinese works, which are new to most of our ears.

ANDERS MIOLIN

A cosmopolitan in styles, his programs span from Renaissance to contemporary music. As an arranger and composer, he innovatively extends the repertoire and possibilities of the guitar.

JI WEI

Ji Wei's innovation in music and continuing commitment to education make her modern pioneer in the art of Chinese Guzheng.

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55 Enchanted strings

1. Anders Miolin (*1961) SPRING - 8:12
2. Anonymous (1616) DREWRIE'S ACCORDES - 2:00
3. Robert Johnson (1583-1633) THE FLATT PAVIN - 2:30
4. Anders Miolin AZURE DREAM - 4:54
5. Erik Satie (1866-1925) GYMNOPIEDIE No. 1 - 3:11
6. Chinese Traditional THE MOON IS HIGH - 11:14
7. Robert Johnson UNE PIÈCE SANS TITRE - 2:43
8. Robert Johnson THE GALLYERDE TO THE FLATT PAVIN - 1:56
9. Chinese Traditional THE MOON ON KWAN MOUNTAIN - 3:26
10. Erik Satie GYMNOPIEDIE No. 2 - 2:38
11. Robert Johnson LAVECHE'S GALLYERDE - 1:51
12. Erik Satie GYMNOPIEDIE No. 3 - 2:32

The core of Western music is harmony. However, in contrast to the often overloaded, maximalist Western music, Chinese art music focuses on exactly how a note is performed instead of trying to add as much material as possible; melodic structures, minimalist motives and single lines are more important than harmonic constructions.

If a Western painter would have an empty canvas, he or she would almost certainly fill it out completely, whereas a Chinese painter would focus on fewer, subtle structures, leaving space free.

The performance of Chinese art music is strongly connected to language, e.g. how a vowel is pronounced with the different intonations.

Mandarin, the most widely spoken Chinese dialect, utilizes four main tones – flat, rising, falling then rising, and falling. Mastering these pitches is essential for effective communication.

If the way of intonating a word is altered, the meaning can change radically. In music this is utilized especially on instruments like the plucked guzheng and the bowed erhu.

Also Western music is often connected to the different languages: e.g. Hungarian, Spanish and Russian music's rhythmical texture and tempi possess an obvious link to the corresponding languages, but Chinese music builds above all on different intonations, as the language does.

When I started to dive in into Chinese music by careful listening, I was fascinated by its inner beauty - a beauty that emerged from a delicate fragility and lightness similar to blossoms and butterflies.

*Prof. Anders Miolin.
February, 2025*



Anders Miolin

Anders Miolin was born in Stockholm, commenced his academic music studies at an early age and graduated with several diplomas. His art has been recognized with international prizes and awards. Anders Miolin is a professor at the Zürich University of the Arts (Zürcher Hochschule der Künste), where he teaches a large international class. He is an active recording artist, performs and gives master classes worldwide. The artistry of Anders Miolin is characterized by a unique instrument, unique sound, and unique programs. He developed the 12-string DODEKA guitar in 2017 - built by Ermanno Chiavi - and is the only musician in the world who plays it. A cosmopolitan in styles, his programs span from Renaissance to contemporary music. As an arranger and composer, he innovatively extends the repertoire and possibilities of the guitar.

Anders Miolin's ample discography includes many albums with Prima Classic: A Timeless Odyssey, Romantic, Visions, Mirage, Living 12 Strings, and 12 Strings Pearls.

A portrait of Ji Wei, a Chinese Guzheng musician, with long dark hair, looking slightly to the side. The image is monochromatic with a blue tint.

Ji Wei

Ji Wei (吉炜), As a renowned Chinese Guzheng musician and Professor and postgraduate tutor of music at the Chinese Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM), Ms. Ji Wei has gained high praise for her remarkable performance technique and musical expression. She has held nearly 100 solo concerts at home and abroad in such concert halls as the Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Chinese National Theatre for the Performing Arts, LA FANICE Opera, Zurich Opera House, Royal Albert Hall, Concertgebouw, Radio City and Iceland Harper Concert Hall.

Ms. Ji Wei has published dozens of solo albums, solo live concert DVDs and some DVDs for teaching purposes. She has been awarded as China's Golden Record of Best Performer (the first and only player to receive this award as Guzheng musician).

Ms. Ji Wei has produced many works combining the guzheng with other western instruments, creating new musical styles and adding depth to the repertoire of the guzheng.

Credits

Mastered by Edgardo Vertanessian
Cover design by Andrew Vlasov and Tatyana Vlasova
Photos of Anders Miolin by Tatyana Vlasova
Booklet design by Jeremy Smedes

PRIMA
CLASSIC

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