



ZHOU TIAN BIOGRAPHY

Critically acclaimed for his lush and distinctive musical voice, Chinese-born American composer **Zhou Tian** (pronounced JOH TEE-en; Zhou is his last name) seeks inspiration from different cultures and strives to mix them seamlessly into a musically satisfying combination for performers and audience alike. Described as “absolutely beautiful” and “utterly satisfying” (*Fanfare*), his compositions have been performed by major orchestras and performers in the United States and abroad. His recent work, *Concerto for Orchestra*—commissioned, premiered and recorded by the Cincinnati Symphony and Music Director Louis Langrée—was nominated for a 2018 GRAMMY Award for Best Contemporary Classical Composition. His large-scale suite for soloists, orchestra, and chorus, *The Grand Canal*, was performed during a nationally televised celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

His music has been performed at prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and broadcast on NPR and PBS. He holds degrees from the Curtis Institute (B.M.), the Juilliard School (M.M.), and USC Thornton School of Music (D.M.A.). His principle teachers included Jennifer Higdon, Christopher Rouse, and Stephen Hartke. He is a first-prize winner of Washington International Composers Competition, ASCAP/Lotte Lehmann Art Song Competition, and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Glick Award, and has held Composition Fellowships from Tanglewood and Aspen. He is associate professor of composition at Michigan State University College of Music.