

# In The Very Highest Place

Text in English  
 In the very highest place, deep within a mansion  
 Dwells a family perfectly united, loving and devoted.  
 Beyond past, beyond present, the three Persons are one;  
 Penetrating heaven, penetrating earth, the one family is three!

Text in Mandarin (Pinyin)  
 Zui gao zhi chu fu tan tan; Juan shu tuan yuan le qie cheng.  
 Wu gu wu jin san wei yi; che tian che di yi jia san.

Wu Li: "Singing of the Source and Course of the Holy Church"  
 in Jonathan Chaves, Singing of the Source: Nature and God in the  
 Poetry of the Chinese Painter Wu Li, Hawaii: University of Hawaii  
 Press, 1993

Legend:  
 △ Crotales  
 ○ Tibetan Bells  
 ● Thai Gongs

Score parts:  
 Marimba (with 'Marimba' label)  
 Erhu  
 Zheng  
 Soprano  
 Alto  
 Tenor  
 Bass

Tempo: ♩ = 72

Mar. (Marimba): *p*, *mp*

Erhu: *p*

Zheng: *pp*, *mp*

7

Mar.

mf mp

Erhu

mp p

Zheng.

mf

pp



13

Mar.

p

Erhu

p

Zheng.

p pp

mp

18

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a piece in 2/4 time, starting at measure 18. It features four instrumental parts and four vocal parts. The Maracas part consists of a rhythmic pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The Erhu part has a melodic line with some grace notes. The Zheng part provides harmonic support with chords and a bass line. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) all sing the same lyrics: 'Zui gao zhi chu / In the ver-y high - est place,'. The lyrics are written in Chinese and English. Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and hairpins.

24

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

3

3

3

6

3

fu tan tan  
deep with-in a man - sion,

fu tan tan  
deep with-in a man - sion,

fu tan tan  
deep with-in a man - sion,

fu tan tan  
deep with-in a man - sion,

30

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

3 3 3

juan\_ shu\_ tuan\_ yuan le  
dwells a fam-ily per - fect-ly u - nit - ed,

juan\_ shu\_ tuan\_ yuan le  
dwells a fam-ily per - fect-ly u - nit - ed,

juan\_ shu\_ tuan\_ yuan le  
dwells a fam-ily per - fect-ly u - nit - ed,

juan\_ shu\_ tuan\_ yuan le  
dwells a fam-ily per - fect-ly u - nit - ed,

36

Mar.

mf

mp

Erhu

3

p

mp

Zheng.

3

mp

S.

p

qie \_\_\_\_\_ cheng \_\_\_\_\_  
lov - ing and de - vot -

A.

p

qie \_\_\_\_\_ cheng \_\_\_\_\_  
lov - ing and de - vot -

T.

p

qie \_\_\_\_\_ cheng \_\_\_\_\_  
lov - ing and de - vot -

B.

p

qie \_\_\_\_\_ cheng \_\_\_\_\_  
lov - ing and de - vot -



48

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mp* *p*

qie cheng  
lov-ing and de - vot - ed.

*mp* *p*

qie cheng  
lov-ing and de - vot - ed.

*mp* *p*

qie cheng  
lov-ing and de - vot - ed.

*mp* *p*

qie cheng  
lov-ing and de - vot - ed.

6

55

Mar. *pp* *ppp*

Erhu *pp* *pp*

Zheng. *pp* *pp*



64

Mar. *mf*

Erhu *with vibrato*

Zheng. *mf* *pp* *f* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

S. *mp* *mf*

A. *mp* *mf*

T. *mp* *mf*

B. *mp* *mf*

Wu gu, past, wu gu, be- yond past, wu gu, be- yond past, wu gu, be- yond past,

69

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*f*

*mf* *pp*

*f*

*mf*

*increasing vibrato*

Wu Be - yond jin, present,

gu, yond gu, past, Wu, Be - yond jin, present, wu jin be - yond wu jin, present, wu be -

Wu Be - yond jin, present,

wu gu, past, Wu jin, Be - yond wu jin, be - yond wu jin, pre - sent

76

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

— jin,                      wu — jin,  
yond —                      pres - ent,

—                      wu pre -                      jin, sent.

81

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

wei yi, wei yi;  
the one fam-ily is three;

wei yi, wei yi;  
the one fam-ily is three, yi;  
three;

wei yi, wei yi;  
the one fam-ily is three;

wei yi, wei yi;  
the one fam-ily is three;





mp      mf      f

98

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

che tian, che  
pen-e-tra-ting heaven, pen-e-tra-ting

che tian, che  
pen-e-tra-ting heaven, pen-e-tra-ting

che tian,  
pen-e-tra-tingheaven,

che  
pen-e-tra-ting

*mf* *mp* *f* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mf*

6 5 6 3

103

*f*

Mar.

*mf* *f* *mf*

Erhu

*mf*

Zheng.

*f* *mf* *f* *mf*

S.

tian, \_\_\_\_\_  
heaven, \_\_\_\_\_

che \_\_\_\_\_ di, \_\_\_\_\_  
pen-e-tra-ting earth, \_\_\_\_\_

A.

tian, \_\_\_\_\_  
heaven, \_\_\_\_\_

che \_\_\_\_\_  
pen-e-tra-ting

T.

tian, \_\_\_\_\_

B.

tian, \_\_\_\_\_  
heaven, \_\_\_\_\_

109

Mar.

*mf* *mp* *mp*

Erhu

*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Zheng.

*mf* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

S.

che di,  
pen-e-tra-ting earth,

A.

*p* *mp*

di,  
earth, che di,  
pen-e-tra-ting earth,

T.

*mp*

che di,  
pen-e-tra-ting earth,

B.

*f* *mp*

che di  
pen-e-tra-ting earth,



122

Mar.

mf

f

mp

p

Erhu

f

p

mp

mf

Zheng.

p

mf

p

S.

three jia san. per-sons are one.

A.

three jia san. per-sons are one.

T.

three jia san. per-sons are one.

B.

three jia san. per-sons are one.

131

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

138

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

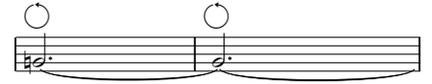
B.

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,

Zui gao zhi chu  
In the ver-y high - est place,



144

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

*p* fu tan tan *mp* juan shu  
 deep with-in a man - sion, dwells a fam-ily

A.

*p* fu tan tan *mp* juan shu  
 deep with-in a man - sion, dwells a fam-ily

T.

*p* fu tan tan *mp* juan shu  
 deep with-in a man - sion, dwells a fam-ily

B.

*p* fu tan tan *mp* juan shu  
 deep with-in a man - sion, dwells a fam-ily



156

Mar.

Musical score for Maracas (Mar.) in treble and bass clefs. The treble clef part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes. The bass clef part features a similar rhythmic pattern with some sustained notes.

Erhu

Musical score for Erhu in treble clef. It starts with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and transitions to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece includes several triplet patterns marked with a '3'.

Zheng.

Musical score for Zheng in treble and bass clefs. The treble clef part has a steady eighth-note rhythm. The bass clef part is mostly silent, with some activity at the end marked with *mf* *f* <sup>3</sup> and *mp* <sup>3</sup>.

S.

Vocal line for Soprano (S.) in treble clef. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are: cheng vot - ed. Wu Be -

A.

Vocal line for Alto (A.) in treble clef. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are: cheng vot - ed. Wu, wu Be - yond

T.

Vocal line for Tenor (T.) in treble clef. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are: cheng vot - ed. Wu Be -

B.

Vocal line for Bass (B.) in bass clef. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are: cheng vot - ed. Wu gu, Be - yond

163

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*f* *mp*

*f* *mp*

*f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

*f* *mp*

*f* *mp*

*f* *mp*

*f* *mp*

- yond \_\_\_\_\_ gu, \_\_\_\_\_ wu \_\_\_\_\_ jin \_\_\_\_\_  
 past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ pres - ent, \_\_\_\_\_

gu, \_\_\_\_\_ wu \_\_\_\_\_ gu, \_\_\_\_\_ wu jin, \_\_\_\_\_ jin, \_\_\_\_\_  
 past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ pres - ent,

yond \_\_\_\_\_ gu, \_\_\_\_\_ wu \_\_\_\_\_ jin, \_\_\_\_\_ jin, \_\_\_\_\_  
 past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ pre - sent,

\_\_\_\_\_ wu \_\_\_\_\_ gu, \_\_\_\_\_ wu jin, \_\_\_\_\_ wu jin, \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ past, \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_\_\_ pre - sent,

169

Mar.

Erhu

Zheng.

S.

A.

T.

B.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

wei yi, wei  
the one fam-ily is



180

*f* *mf* *mp*

Mar.

*p*

Erhu

*f* *p*

Zheng.

*f* *p*

S.

*f* *molto dim.* *p*

che tian, che di, yi  
pen - e - tra-ting heaven, pen - e - tra-ting earth, the three

A.

*f* *molto dim.* *p*

che tian, che di, yi yi  
pen - e - tra-ting heaven, pen - e - tra-ting earth, the three per -

T.

di, yi  
earth, the three

B.

*molto dim.* *p*

di, yi yi  
earth, the three

