

## Glossary

**Concert harp** - a large and modern harp with pedals for chromatic playing

**Extended technique** - an unconventional, unorthodox, or non-traditional method of singing or of playing a musical instrument in order to obtain unusual sounds or timbres.

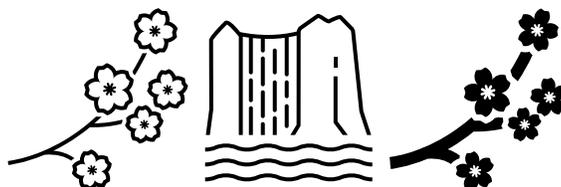
**Folk song** - a traditional or composed song typically characterized by stanzaic form, refrain, and simplicity of melody.

**Guzheng** - a plucked Chinese musical instrument with over 20 strings

**Melody** - a sequence of single notes

**Sound world** – the combination of sounds that share characteristics and create a distinct and complete world.

**Timbre** - the character or quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity.



## Listen

### A Whole Symphony Orchestra in a Harp

The composer, Fang Man, says that she started writing this piece right after finishing a piece for a 100-person orchestra. Though it might seem very different from writing for a full orchestra, she says it's actually not! As you listen to the piece, consider how Man evokes many different timbres so that it reflects the sound world of an orchestra.

## Dig Deeper

### Two Folk Songs

*Blue Flowers on the Flowing Water* combines two popular Chinese folk melodies. The composer, Fang Man, talks about composing the piece by starting with the melodies of the folk songs and then adding her own harmony. Can you hear the two melodies? Do they happen at the same time or is the piece split into two parts? How can you tell?

## Create and Make

### Make your own harp!

This piece is written for the concert harp, sometimes also known as a pedal harp. The composer says she was inspired by a similar instrument, the guzheng, which also has long strings that are plucked. Build your own harp-like instrument with objects at home!

## Listen

### A Whole Symphony Orchestra in a Harp

What techniques are used to make the harp sound differently? One way that Man evokes the sound of the orchestra is by having multiple musical voices occur simultaneously. This is possible because the harpist can play ten notes at the same time! Man also uses many different extended techniques like harmonics, using different plectrums (or picks), pedal buzz, etc.

## Dig Deeper

### Two Folk Songs

As you listen to *Blue Flowers on the Flowing Water*, can you determine where the two melodies occur? Are there certain rhythms or notes that identify the different melodies? The two melodies are titled *Blue Orchid Flowers* and *High Mountain and Flowing Water*. Do the titles help identify the melodies? As you listen to the two pieces one after another, what other similarities and differences do you hear? Do you think they fit well together?



## Create and Make

### Make your own harp!

To make your own harp you will need 5 – 10 rubber bands and a large container. Experiment with different size rubber bands and materials for the container to see if you can make different sounds and timbres. Try using a Tupperware container, a cardboard box or shoebox, and a soda can. All you need to do is stretch the rubber bands across the open space of the container and then pluck them! Change the tension (tighter or looser) of the rubber bands to get different pitches!

