

# Chuseok Performance Jeong Ga Ak Hoe

Thursday 15 September 2016, 15.00–16.00  
BP Theatre  
British Museum



*Finding a balance between the old and the new, Seoul-based Jeong Ga Ak Hoe perform ancient and newly composed works for traditional instruments. They explore the shamanistic inspiration in Korean music and draw on forms such as pansori, giving it contemporary relevance.*

## Musicians\*

An Minyoung: vocalist  
Bang Chorong: *daegeum*, *danso*, vocalist  
Chun Hyunjun: percussion  
Chun Jaehyun: *geomungo*  
Ha Sora: *gayageum*  
Kim Hyunsoo: *daegeum*  
Lee Hyanghee: *saenghwang*, *piri*, vocalist  
Park Hyerim: *ajaeng*  
Sunwoo Jinyoung: percussion  
Wang Heerim: vocalist

Director: Chun Jaehyun  
Musical Director: Jung Saerom

\*Musicians' names appear following the common East Asian practice of surname preceding given names. They are listed alphabetically by surname.

## Programme

**Mitan (미탄)** 7 ½ minutes

*Daegeum* (Kim Hyunsoo and Bang Chorong); *saenghwang* (Lee Hyanghee); percussion (Chun Hyunjun and Sunwoo Jinyoung)

Mitan, meaning beautiful brook, is located in central Korea. This piece expresses the spirit and nature of Mitan and its citizens. The melodies created in the pairing and interplay between *daegeum* and *saenghwang* showcase the beauty of Korean wind instruments.

**I'yaong (이야옹)** 6 minutes

*Gayageum* (Ha Sora); *ajaeng* (Park Hyerim); *daegeum* (Kim Hyunsoo); *piri* (Lee Hyanghee); percussion (Chun Hyunjun and Sunwoo Jinyoung); *danso* (Bang Chorong); vocals (Bang Chorong, Wang Heerim and An Minyoung)

Based on a folk song of Jeju Island, through the combination of singing, dance, and music, this piece laments the destruction of nature due to human greed.

**Yeom'yangchun (염양춘)** 5 minutes

*Daegeum* (Kim Hyunsoo); *saenghwang* (Lee Hyanghee); *gayageum* (Ha Sora); *ajaeng* (Park Hyerim)

The notion of *yeom'yangchun* (glorious springtime) was the inspiration for this piece. The lyrical

melodies build up to represent the coming and blossoming of spring.

**Beompi jungnyu (범피중류)** 9 minutes

*Gayageum* (Ha Sora); *ajaeng* (Park Hyerim); *daegeum* (Kim Hyunsoo); *saenghwang* (Lee Hyanghee); percussion (Chun Hyunjun and Sunwoo Jinyoung), vocal (An Minyoung)

This piece is from the famous *pansori Simcheongga*, a tale about a filial daughter. This scene is the dramatic moment when Simcheong sacrifices herself and drowns in the ocean to cure her father's blindness. The drama and tension of the scene is depicted through the music.

**Jeong Ga Ak Hoe Arirang 1 – Allio version 1**

(정가악회 아리랑 1 – 알리오 version 1) 15 mins

*Gayageum* (Ha Sora); *ajaeng* (Park Hyerim); percussion (Chun Hyunjun, Kim Hyunsoo, and Sunwoo Jinyoung); vocals (An Minyoung, Lee Hyanghee, Wang Heerim, and Bang Chorong)

Arirang is the most renowned Korean folk song. There is a theory that the word *arirang* stems from the word *allio* (knowing). Jeong Ga Ak Hoe's interpretation empathetically focuses on mothers who live for their children. With the vocal styles *beompae* (Buddhist chanting) and *pansori* accompanied by string and percussion instruments, the piece captures the beautiful natural landscape of Korea.

**Susimga – What shall I do?**

(수심가 – 나 어이 할까요?) 4 minutes

*Gayageum* (Ha Sora); *saenghwang* (Lee Hyanghee), vocal (Wang Heerim)

Susimga is a folk song of the Seodo region, now northwest North Korea. The song expresses the longing to meet someone in a dream. The music, lyrics, and added spoken phrase of "what shall I do?" convey the yearning and desire to meet, particularly pointed toward the meeting of North and South Koreans.

**Nanbongga (난봉가)**

5 minutes

*Gayageum* (Ha Sora); *ajaeng* (Park Hyerim); *daegeum* (Kim Hyunsoo); *piri* (Lee Hyanghee); percussion (Chun Hyunjun and Sunwoo Jinyoung); vocal (Bang Chorong, Wang Heerim, and An Minyoung)

This is another folk song from the Seodo region. The *gayageum*, *ajaeng*, *daegeum*, *piri* and percussion create a lively and spirited atmosphere. Like the word *nanbong* (paramour), the piece ends with a crescendo to leave a strong impression.

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