Shanghai local

MUSIC

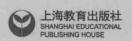
上海乡土音乐文化 CULTURE

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Shanghallocal DCC 上海乡土音乐文化 MUSIC EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Shi Honglian Shi Zhong



图书在版编目(CIP)数据 上海乡土音乐文化(国际版):英文/施红莲,施忠主编. 一上海:上海教育出版社,2012.8 ISBN 978-7-5444-4391-3

I. ①上... II. ①施... ②施... III. ①民间音乐—音乐文化 —上海市—中小学—教学参考资料—英文 Ⅳ. ①G634.951.3

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2012)第192420号



出 品 人 范慧英 责任编辑 李世钦 封面设计 蒋娟芳

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上海乡土音乐文化(国际版)

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- 出 版 上海世纪出版集团教育出版社 (200031 上海市永福路123号 www.ewen.cc)
- 出 品 上海世纪出版集团世纪音乐教育文化传播公司 (200040 上海市延安中路955弄14号 www.ewen.cc/centmusic/index.aspx)
- 发 行 上海世纪出版集团发行中心
- 经 销 各地 后著 多 左
- 印 刷 上海景条印刷有限公司
- 开 本 890×1240 1/16 印张8.5
- 版 次 2012年8月第1版
- 印 次 2012年8月第1次印刷
- 书 号 978-7-5444-4391-3/J.0336
- 定 价 33.00元

(如发现质量问题,读者可向工厂调换)

PREFACE

Shanghai is a world city with demographic and cultural diversity thanks to its special history and geographical location. However, its individualistic local culture has been abating and is on the brink of demise over recent years following rapid urbanization. Facing such a situation, the international version of *Shanghai Local Music Culture* aims to help both local students revisit traditional Shanghai culture and international students understand authentic Shanghai native music and its role in the multi-cultures and the formation of the unique Shanghai culture.

Shanghai Local Music Culture consists of six chapters that cover various music forms such as folk songs, dance, local operas, ballad singing (quyi), instrumental music and folk customs, with titles as "Folk Songs in a New Tone", "Blowing and Playing with Hometown Sentiments", "Ballad Singing Arts Rhymed Clear", "Folk Dance for Celebration", "The Wonderful World of Local Operas Gathers Dazzlingly", and "Folk Customs in New Styles". The textbook is classic, modern, integrated and scientific.

The international version of *Shanghai Local Music Culture* is part of the Understanding International Education program, as well as an important result of Minhang District's education section of the 12th Five-year Plan.

We would like to apologize for any mistakes in this book and appreciate your correction. We would also like to express our acknowledgement to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Music College of Shanghai Normal University, Research Office of Shanghai Educational Committee, Minhang Education Bureau, leaders and experts with the Minhang Institute of Education and the supportive teachers and students from the Understanding International Education program.

Editorial Group of Shanghai Local Music Culture August, 2012

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Appendix

Hometown music touches our hearts, telling intimate stories;
Hometown tone touches our feelings, lingering long in hearts;
Blend our attachment to our hometown in songs,
And turn our love for life into tunes.

Let's gather together, speaking our minds and passing on hopes....

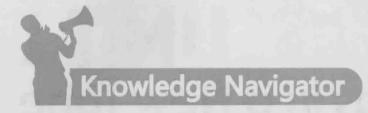
Overview: Shanghai folk song

Folk song is a form of song formed and developed by passing on from mouth to mouth among the grassroots people in social life. It is simple, crude, easy to remember and sing, and usually is intimately related with dialects. It can be classified into Haozi (a work song sung to synchronize movements, with one person leading), Shan'ge(a kind of folk song sung in the fields during or after work), and ditty. According to A Collection of Chinese Folk Songs, Shanghai Section, folk songs in Shanghai fall under five categories: Haozi, field Shan'ge, little Shan'ge, ditty, and chant.

The folk songs in Shanghai, with distinctive regional characteristics, came from "the Wu-dialect song" of the Northern and Southern Dynasties, which played an important role in the formation and development of the names of tunes in Kunqu opera and actors' rendering of tunes in local Shanghai operas. Traditional Shanghai folk songs mainly mirror the life of urban and rural people engaged in various trades, apart from reflecting the local customs, production, and daily life. These songs, while expressing the emotions, opinions and love for their hometown of the working people, are an essence of the infinite wisdom of the great masses.

In recent years, the government and its departments for culture has been giving exceptional attention to inheriting and developing original cultures and intangible cultural heritages by actively digging into, sorting out, and protecting local folk songs, and reviving them with contents of this new age, so that they can breathe renewed artistic life and celebrate this era.





You Will See

- The Emergence and Development of Shanghai Folk Songs
- Classic Shanghai Folk Songs
- Shanghai Nursery Rhymes



Key Words

- Haozi (Work song)
- Field / Little Shan'ge
- Ditty

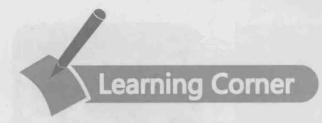




Followe Me

Notes: Shanghai localism is a hotchpotch of dialects used in each area of Shanghai, with each area using its own personal pronouns of person.

- •我、你、他(她)—ngu, nong, yhi—I, you, he/she
- •我们、你们、他们 aklak, na, yhila we, you, they



I. Haozi (Work song)

Haozi, or Work song, born out of and used in work, is a type of folk song for expressing feeling, coordinating and directing movements of labors. It is featured with vigorousness and a relative strong rhythm. Usually, there is a leading singer.

Do You Know

侬晓得哦

The work songs in Shanghai, numerous in category, full of fun, and of practical use, fall roughly under four categories—work songs for boatmen and fishermen, for potters, for constructors, and for farmers.



Fishermen singing while casting fishing nets and catching fish



Workers buckling under weights singing work songs at the dock



Farmers singing while working in fields



Ramming Song sung at construction sites



Potters singing while carrying goods



Singing *The Dock Song* with new vigor on the stage



Listening

听听看

The work songs popular in Shanghai is marked with local features. Generally, those sung by porters, haulers, and construction workers sound vigorous, unrestrained, and full of strength, of which, *The Work Song at Shanghai Port*, born out of a folk song and work song of the hometown of the dock workers, is especially typical of Shanghai Work Song; The work songs sung by boatmen, fishermen, and farmers, at work, were long drawn, with a slow and easy rhythm. For all that, they are all used to organize and direct labors.



Shanghai dockers at work



The Dockers' Song of the new age sung at the stage of Shanghai

Single Porter Haozi (Work song sung by removers)







Appreciation Tips

This piece, a typical Shanghai dockers' song, with a brief, swift and compact rhythm, sung according to the pace of steps of dockers, with the front and rear parts corresponding to and overlapping each other, is started by a leader, and sung along by other labors.

Tampers' Song (Work song sung by construction workers)

Qingpu District, Shanghai



Appreciation Tips

The piece, a work song sung by construction workers popular in Qingpu District, Shanghai, in pentatonic, mostly with four or more sentences as a period or paragraph, distinctively rhymed at the end of each sentence, falling on the same sound, with simple words, is chanted repeatedly by farmers at work.



Unmooring Song (Work song sung by boatmen and fishermen)

Chongming District, Shanghai







Hardworking fishermen

Appreciation Tips

This piece, a work song sung by boatmen and fishermen popular in Chongming District, Shanghai, loud, vehement, and powerful, is sung by fishermen at work to raise spirits and working drive.

Try To Do

试 试 看

Twelve Tables, a work song sung by tampers popular in Qingpu District, Shanghai, usually with Chinese historic figures as its subject, plotless, glorifying historic heroes familiar to the great masses, mirrors morality standards of the working people.

Twelve Tables



Performance Tips

Hum repeatedly. Choose one student as the leading singer, and let the other students sing along. Try to experience the form feature of the work song—one leading and others singing along, and the uniqueness of suburban work songs sung in Shanghai native language, and imagine the enthusiasm of tamping labors.



II. Shan'ge

Shanghai's suburban Shan'ge, spread far and wide, free of rhythm, spontaneous for expressing feelings, fall into two categories: Field and Little Shan'ge. Qingpu is dubbed as The Homeland of Field Shan'ge in the south of China.

Do You Know

侬晓得哦

The Field Shan'ge, also known as the Big Shan'ge, Loud Shan'ge, or Shout Shan'ge, mainly about rice production and the river land customs, bright and loud in tone, started by one singer and followed by others in rotation, is mainly spread in Qingpu, Songjiang, Jinshan, and Fengxian districts.

The Little Shan'ge, popular among the suburbs and all counties of Shanghai as one of the most native-flavored, are also called Luanjiao Shan'ge, Question-Answer Shan'ge, Sijutou (Four-Phrase) Shan'ge, and may come in two, three, and five phrases in structure.



Qingpu Field Shan'ge are loud and resonant, with a melody of relatively big variation



Field Shan'ge alive and active at the modern art stage



These Little Shan'ge are simple, crude, and close to the heart



The questionanswer form of Little Shan'ge oozes a rich touch of life