# 不完整學 作品集 Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection



外語歌曲 Songs in Foreign Languages



Fe - Fermille



外語歌曲 Songs in Foreign Languages

817

# 香港聲樂作品集 VIII

### 外語歌曲

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# 序

自古至今,歷來文化藝術的發展都深受政治、經濟、社會環境等所影響,而作曲家則是音樂藝術發展的推動者。鑑於香港回歸祖國已進入歷史新階段,面臨廿一世紀大時代,《香港聲樂作品集》在此時出版,尤其具有重大意義。我們有系統的整理和總結,目的在於展現二十世紀下半葉內,在香港(或曾在香港)生活、工作,為音樂文化作出貢獻的近四十位作曲家的原創聲樂作品;因為他們的辛勤耕耘,使音樂園地花木茂盛,並且更成為香港本地文化的重要元素之一。

《香港聲樂作品集》分為《合唱曲:中國古典詩詞》(一)、(二),《合唱曲:中國現代詩詞》(一)、(二),《合唱曲:民歌》,《藝術歌曲》,《宗教歌曲》和《外語歌曲》八冊:其中匯集了半個世紀以來活躍於香港樂壇的作曲家,包括始自五十年代,份屬香港第一代的作曲家林聲翕、黃友棣、黃永熙,以至到八、九十年代最年輕的作曲家吳俊凱、陳錦標、許翔威等,和七十年代、先後由內地來港定居的作曲家符任之、施金波、屈文中等不同形式、不同風格的獨唱、重唱和合唱歌曲。《香港聲樂作品集》為聲樂藝術愛好者提供豐富的曲目品種,從創作的精神面貌而言,它是香港音樂文化的縮影,具備高度的藝術性和可唱性之外,還具有研究香港音樂發展史料的歷史價值。我們深信,《香港聲樂作品集》會跨越時間和空間,成為世界性的音樂文獻。

我們謹在此衷心感謝香港藝術發展局的資助和支持,並基督教文藝出版社承擔起出版(及日後再版)的重任,使《香港聲樂作品集》能夠順利出版。

本作品集是由香港作曲家聯會、香港合唱團協會和基督教文藝出版社 聯合推動,成立「出版委員會」(委員會成員包括費明儀、羅炳良、陳偉 光、蔣慧民)策劃出版,並且是在羅炳良博士為首的「編輯委員會」(委員會成員包括蔣慧民、許翔威、周廣恩、李燕芬、溫以德),黃永熙博士為首的「選曲委員會」(委員會成員包括陳永華、陳偉光、費明儀、郭嘉特、陳晃相、蔣慧民),及所有參與工作人員的協力合作下所得的成果,對他們的辛勞我們亦衷心感謝。

《香港聲樂作品集》將帶領我們進入廣闊的音樂世界。

《香港聲樂作品集》 出版委員會主席 費明儀 一九九八年二月一日

# Foreword

Since ancient times, the development of art and culture has been deeply affected by politics, economy, and social environment etc., and composers in turn act as expediters in the development of music. In view of Hong Kong entering into a new historical era by being reunited with China, the publication of the *Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection* at this moment is especially significant. Through our systematic compiling and summing up of the works of nearly forty composers who lived and worked in Hong Kong and who made contributions to the musical field, we aim to publicize their original compositions of vocal music composed during the latter half of the twentieth century, honouring their industrious labour in the garden of music. The flourishing of their work is also a crucial element in the formation of the local culture of Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection is divided into eight volumes, including: Choral: Classical Chinese Poetry I & II; Choral: Modern Chinese Poetry I & II; Choral: Folksong; Solo Art Songs; Religious Songs and Songs in Foreign Languages. The composers of these collections include Lin Sheng-shih, Hwang Yau-tai, and Heyward Wong, composers of the first generation active since the 50's. Some belong to the youngest generation in the 80's and 90's, including Ng Chun-hoi, Chan Kam-piu and Hui Cheung-wai. There are also those who migrated from the mainland since the 70's, including Fu Yam-chi, Shi Kum-por and Wut Manchung. Their compositions of solos, ensembles and choruses cover a wide range of form and style. The Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection provides a rich collection of repertoire for vocal music lovers. In the spirit of creativity, this collection is a miniature of Hong Kong's musical culture. Apart from its high artistic value and singable qualities, this collection contains great historical value for the study of the development of music in Hong Kong. We firmly believe that Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection will leap over time and space and find a place among the world's musical documents.

We would like to express our heart-felt appreciation to the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for their subsidy and support, and to Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd. for taking up the responsibility for publishing (and future reprinting of) this collection. Their collaboration has contributed to the smooth publication of these volumes.

The Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection is jointly propelled by Hong Kong Composers' Guild, Hong Kong Association of Choral Societies and CCLC. The 'Publication committee' (members include Barbara Fei, Daniel Law, Victor Chan and Chiang Wai-man) was set up for the planning of its publication. Under the co-operation and involvement of the 'Editorial committee', headed by Dr. Daniel Law Ping-leung (members include Chiang Wai-man, Hui Cheung-wai, Godwin Chow, Ivy Lee and Wan Yi-tak), the 'Selection committee' headed by Dr. Heyward Wong (members include Barbara Fei, Chan Wing-wah, Victor Chan, Jimmy Chan, Gabriel Kwok, and Chiang Wai-man) and other related staff, we witness the blossoming of their effort. To them we would also extend our thanks.

The Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection will surely lead us into a vast world of music.

Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection Chairman of Publication Committee Barbara Fei 1 February 1998

# 編輯緒言

為著要將有代表性的香港聲樂作品向世界展示,香港作曲家聯會的委員、香港合唱團協會的委員、與基督教文藝出版社,於一九九五年商討出版這八冊的聲樂作品集。「編輯委員會」千辛萬苦地確保選曲、編輯與印製均能達到其他類似性質的全集最高標準。

本曲集絕無可能包羅近六十年來香港所有的作曲家,也無法包羅每位個別作曲家的全部聲樂作品。我們成立了「選曲委員會」,選出在香港音樂事業不同領域中留下鴻爪(頗有貢獻)的作曲家——他們多數因應音樂廳演出的需求而創作,也有為教育目的而編寫民歌,更有一些專只為教會寫作。作曲家經選定後,委員會訂出選曲準則,甄選出作曲家有代表性的曲種及作品,不過此實非易舉;在生的作曲家也常表達他們的偏好。然而在曲集中,作品的代表性相當平衡。

我們徵集到選曲的手稿或已出版的的樂譜後,編輯委員仔細核對每一 音及每一符號,在有疑問處諮詢作曲家本人或對個別作品熟悉的音樂家。 在某些情況下,諮詢在生的作曲家不果(或不可能),對樂譜上作曲家的意 圖不明確時,註釋派上用場。

樂譜的外觀與出版的目的關係密切。編委會的方針是提供的樂譜既為供研究,也為演出之用。鑑於出版樂譜的規格與植譜軟件的限制,要將樂譜的外觀完全統一説易行難;加上同一集中作品之間聲部的多寡及樂器的組合不同更將問題擴大了。

雖然我們原欲在歌詞每一個中文字之下加上漢語拼音,但為著保持樂譜版面的簡潔與清晰,並減輕樂譜製作上的困難,我們不得不打消這樣的念頭。取而代之的是將全部中文歌詞的漢語拼音附錄於曲集的後面。希望此折衷辦法不至於降低曲集的實用性。

在每一曲集之後,尚附有作曲者的簡介,或由作曲家親自提供,又或參考標準的資料來源如一九八八年及一九九七年由香港作曲家聯會出版的會員簡介。這些資料均經過細心編輯,力求風格與篇幅的統一。此外,除了作曲家資料,還附錄有每首樂曲的簡介。樂曲簡介一般由作曲家提供,原有內容的風格都盡量保持。

曲集中的每一集都有明確的種類分野:或是音樂的,或是文辭的,又 或是風格上的。第一、二集收錄了不同音樂風格、以中國古典詩詞譜寫的 合唱曲。第三、四集則是中國現代詩詞的合唱曲。第五集所收錄的為中國 不同地方民歌改編的作品,或是以民歌風格特性創作的歌曲。第六集藝術 歌曲涵蓋的音樂風格與首四集相似,所不同的,這些全為獨唱作品。第七 集乃宗教曲集,歌詞大都來自基督教(廣義的),反映基督教的信仰。最後 的第八集收錄了長時期旅居香港的外籍作曲家的聲樂作品,又或是以外語 譜寫的樂曲。

#### 第八集:外語歌曲

在此八集香港聲樂作品集中的編輯緒言,基本上是為兩組使用者而寫的:1.那些會使用這些音樂而可能對我們的作品的文學、歷史、文化及音樂背景未有太多了解的海外專業或非華裔的音樂家:2.那些可能未有處理當代中國聲樂作品專業訓練的華裔指揮或聲樂家。雖然每一集代表了不同種類的聲樂曲,然而這些緒言內的資料和概念是可以互相轉移挪用的。每一集的編輯緒言都以出版計畫的背景與編輯程序的簡介作開始,但最重要的是可以從中透視演譯中文歌詞方法(如歌唱吐字、發音的方法,中文歌詞的聲調)的資料來源。除了本集外,這在每一集都重複(因本集並無中文歌詞樂曲);還有的是,在每一集中,我們簡略地討論了該集裡歌曲的一個題目。

第一集裡,我們給讀者介紹了中國文學史上三個重要時期,這是中 文詩詞取材來源最集中的時期。

第二集裡,我們簡略分析了幾首樂曲的材料與結構。

第三集裡,我們向讀者介紹了歌詞的簡略發展,及其如何脱胎自傳統詩詞而成為獨立的文體,給中國語言注入了更新的音樂元素。

第四集裡,我們談論了香港作曲家創作靈感的來源及其歌曲之社會 背景。 第五集裡,我們討論了民歌的分類及作曲者如何將民歌化作合唱 曲。

第六集裡,我們提供了多個聲樂曲伴奏的寫作法,並討論了作曲家 對旋律與伴奏關係的各種處理手法。

第七集裡,我們展示了演藝學 (performance practice) 的不同方面及一些合唱處理的提示。

在本集裡,我們將注視香港音樂特殊的一面:有關合唱技巧與合唱音樂美學。從歷史的角度來看,合唱並非中國樂種。通過演唱標準的西方聲樂曲目、教會音樂及學校音樂,香港的合唱團已習慣了演唱不同風格與語文的聲樂曲。除了中英文兩法定語文外,德文、法文、拉丁文加上意大利文差不多就是我們合唱團演唱所用的全部語文。香港的合唱團在不同的程度上發展出頗為「普世」的視野。這就是香港作曲家的寫作對象。

在引述作品討論合唱音樂美學之前,我們先看一看一個被亞洲華人 合唱團忽略而重要的合唱處理觀念。最純粹的合唱音樂定是無伴奏合唱。 從歐洲的理念來看,無伴奏合唱在教學上及音樂上有許多優點。舉個例子 説,沒有樂器干擾的合唱純母音,可讓我們更好地聽得到和把握到音響的 整體及變化。所謂變化,我們的意思是掌握精微細節,達至在同一聲部裡 的一致,與在合唱團的整個演唱音域內聲音抖動穩定平均,並在複韻(二 元音/三元音)的處理上微調至準確的固定比例。在無伴奏合唱中,我們 更可通過追求同一聲部內最佳音準而達至「完全同度/齊唱」。在西方音 樂中有不同的律制,在中國則更多。在這裡,我們對純律與十二平均律、 或全音平均律與三分損益律(畢達哥拉斯律)的優劣不作深入的討論;為 能分辨到音律的精微細緻之處,是需要有安靜的環境與較能承托餘響的場 地。無論演唱巴勒斯替那、布魯克納或史特拉文斯基,為要調整細緻音 準,並為達到音樂效果的要求,合唱團最好「回到」無伴奏合唱的方式。 至於貴勾利的吟誦調,偏高的三度音與導音常是較合適的,但用在強音上 結束的大三和弦中是頗不堪入耳的。用鋼琴練習本來無可厚非,但若以它 作相對音高的準繩,在所有的排練中都以之調校合唱音準,合唱許多美感 特質及音響上的精細之處都會給犧牲掉了。

我們從本集裡選取了六首樂曲,以簡略説明作曲家創作時所追尋的,及為何合唱領導者/指揮要對此敏鋭。我們要的是音樂非常精細的方

面,雖然文辭同樣重要,或説更為重要。取紀大衛的 'A Cheerful Welcome' [第四首(1)]為例,歌詞 'year',一些合唱團唱成拉丁文發音 'yi' 而非正 確的 'vi-e(er)'; 同樣, 歌詞 'day' 母音為雙韻母(二元音), 該以拉丁韻母 i(ee)作結。好的合唱團要做的是努力聆聽這些音樂細節。演唱中文及法文 等已被證實難度極高。由於文字(語音)內裡複雜的屈折變化,我們應鼓 勵合唱團更認真地去鑽研無伴奏合唱,使我們歌唱者與聽眾更能享受合唱 藝術之樂。

音響特性與聲響圖象:在聲響的物理學上,同度音程及純八度音程 給我們最穩定的共鳴聲響,而條件是我們要保持一致的咬字發音,相近的 母音發音及同樣的發聲方法。純五度的和聲音程給我們富清純泛音而圓潤 開放的聲響,至於純四度則可能給我們一些心理上的潛音 (sub-tone)——對 耳朵來説是怪怪的,不過卻極具個性。陳永華在其Peace to the Planets (第三 首)中就做了音程的轉化及泛音的增添豐潤。我們內聽覺與外在的聲響同 時有助我們領會在第七至三十一小節音程蜕變而產生的幻變。其順序如 下:同度、純四度、五度、四度、五度、大三度、屬七和弦的第三轉位、 大三和弦、同度、大六度、增四度、小六度、大七、小七及第廿四小節的 開放三和弦 (無三度音)。在此曲稍後之處,大三和弦與四度疊置 (C,F,B)) 的三和弦之間對比在音響領域是非常可觀而值得注意的,它們並 非只是兩個三個音集合一起的和絃,而是兩個有強烈和聲內涵對比的實 體。 (大三和弦基本上很穩定,但四度疊置的三和弦給人清晰的附加二度 的效果。)

「集」的特性與結構:從紀大衛的 A Prayer (第六首) 我們可聽到及領 悟到一首應用了「集」(set)結構的當代音樂。第一至三小節是一個三音主 「集」升D-E-B或[3,4,11]而以鄰音擴張(向外)及收縮(回歸)。我們稱 之為B 集。當合唱團牢記這集,每一次重現(在此曲中多次)它都承擔著有 若浪漫派作品的「主」和弦的分量。在第四及第五小節,**G** \*音(在男低音部) 加在B集之內而形成一「母集」,我們稱之為A集。男低音部G#音多數時候與 女低音聲部形成一大概平行的進行,而第四至第五小節,兩者間的音程 基本上是純五度。在第六小節,B 集由男低音及兩部女高音部形成,在第三拍 轉回其原來形態。第七小節是A集。要對樂曲這詳細「描述」是因為能體驗的 細緻的和聲變化由此兩個和弦集之間樂音細微的來回活動所形成的。擬人 化地說,這兩值得留意的聲響集合是最小的個體。在第八小節那頗不協和的B集轉化為較溫和的B「集和弦[D,E,A]。加上低音就得A「集。在音樂理念中,從較尖銳的不協和音解決到較不尖銳的不協和音給人揚抑格(強一弱、重一輕或高一低)效果。A集與B集經歷了許多變化:在一聲部裡每一次只提高或降低一音(例如在第十二小節,第一及第二女高音交換了聲部,取F<sup>‡</sup>代替E,而男低音部的G<sup>‡</sup>有時轉移到A及在其後的小節裡,有時變化為G。)紀氏如何將之「帶」回B集之上是一逆行的程序。順道一提,最純粹的A及B集只用於'Jesu'(耶穌)一詞,從神學角度來說,那就是説祈禱把我們帶領回歸於「耶穌」。合唱團只準確地唱出此曲的每一個音而對「集」的神髓無所感應,是沒法欣賞這短小精煉而蘊含豐富的小品之美感與意義。

聲部的方向與音樂的方向:有些音樂意義是由習慣所創(那就是作曲家重複的使用),而有些乃是原型的運用。平行的純音程在中世紀裡長期應用,而陳永華的作品及紀大衛的'A Cheerful Welcome'同時都運用了此種神祕古風。如在'A Cheerful Welcome'首三小節一連串平行的上升和弦乃描繪興奮。中世紀學者會稱之為「正題」(thesis),而這以下降的八度音去平衡,那可稱之為「反題」(antithesis)。審視歌詞'this good New Year'可看到最簡潔有力的反向平行四度與五度——自我完滿的「合題」(synthesis):這是頌歌的重複多次的「複唱句」或「副歌」(burden)。在此頌歌組曲的另外一首也有平行的用法。要正確處理演譯那特殊而有若奧干農(organum-like)的'Pleasure it is'〔第四首(3)〕,合唱團要強化反向進行(例如第一小節的'hear'一字),賦與歌詞稍微的延長,而在第二小節的詞句'birds sing'補以較「前趨/趨趕」的平行進行。

韻母的掛留:掛留音在傳統西方音樂中是指兩個或以上同時發出的音而其中(通常是)低音部與任何一高音聲部在重拍上形成不協和音,而其解決(resolution)一般是在弱拍上或在其他任何時間。文藝復興的作曲家知道此特性不只適用於音高的掛留,同時也可結合到歌詞之上。在一個典型有掛留音的複調終止式裡,文藝復興的作曲家會把最後的一個音節放在強拍之上,而倒數第二個音節則放在重音(強拍的掛留)之上。如此,兩個韻母就互相「衝突」。例如以'Alleluia'為詞的樂句,那不協和的韻母會出現在一個或更多的聲部唱最後的'ia'而一聲部唱'lu'而後慢慢解決到'ia'音節之上。至今許多西方合唱中習以為常,不過在亞洲的合唱音樂裡使用還不顯

注。在無伴奏音樂裡,並置的字詞可以非常明白可見,若這些互相抗爭的 韻母都作掛留的處理,那麼許多樂句的結束就來得非常自然。歌唱掛留音的金科玉律當然是不協和音的建立,因此任何聲部的抖動會對掛留音有所破壞,而不清晰的咬音就不能突顯掛留的效果。可以特別指出紀大衛的 'Pity for Mary'的第四至五小節,以説明在第四小節唱著不同歌詞的不同聲部如何頗和諧地達至終結。在第五小節,在男高音部的'fair'一字在其他三部唱'rood'字有如「錯誤」的音節般鶴立雞群。此韻母的掛留使漸弱記號更形重要。

不協和音的美感:韋氏《學院大辭典》 (New Collegiate Dictionary) 為不 協和音 (dissonance) 下一頗普遍的定義:「不和諧聲音的混合 (a mingle of dicordant sounds)。」Knud Jeppessen説得極對:研究音樂理論就得尋探作曲 家如何在時空中運用不和諧的聲音。許多巴洛克、古典及浪漫作曲家在一 般稱為「通用手法」(Common Practice,是指1600-1900期間的調性和聲時 代)的定理範籌內寫作,把掛留音置放於強拍或一拍的強位處,而經過 音與鄰音的一般用法是在弱拍或一拍的弱位上。唱這些風格的作品,這是 每個合唱團員都應知悉的。自「通用手法」時期以降,不協和音屬性的美 學意義並無改變。不協和音製造張力,而張力就如曾葉發那教人驚嘆、以 R.Frost《十月》(第十三首)所譜一曲中所看到的一樣有效果。他示範了能強 調不協和音以致可隨己意舒緩張力是何等重要。多數的音樂學生都能辨認 出第十三至十六小節的不協和音;對合唱指揮及歌唱者來説,認識它們 (不協和音) 在上述樂曲中理論的作用更為重要。在樂曲的開端, 左手那 不斷重現的八分音符可能教人想到舒伯特的《魔王》,其和聲的暗示則更 強。第十三小節是沒有三度音的開放和弦,從上文下理來看暗示D♭從缺,第 二拍的Gb 音不單與F 音形尖鋭的不協和音,它更是有待解決的上鄰音。歌唱聲 部其後在第十四小節去了Db 音之上,但和聲則變為F及C音的開放和弦而略去 Ab; Db音的'morn-'音節仿似上一小節的和聲解決,而實際上與鋼琴的C音形 成尖鋭的不協和音。至於二分音都是最穩定的。此精密計算的不協和音處 理彷彿是每一個作曲家的印鑑。若以此曲所提供的速度,實際的不協和音 的聆聽乃先在內聽覺,然後才是場地(每個場地都不相同)。實際的音響 處境會決定我們將以何種力度去處理不協和音。

**聲音形式的美感**:漢斯力(Hanslick)把音樂定義為:運動的聲音形式

(tönend bewegte Formen)。 Soar Pallid Brow(第十四首)是一首在音題進程(thematic process)上精心策畫,而在和聲色彩上組織精細的作品。其音樂無疑是後浪漫風格,而歌詞也是作曲者屈舜所作,其文學形式作曲家稱之為「後現代擬古主義」之作。動機發展的細胞都是從第三、四小節E♭-A♭-B♭-C-G分枝出來的。此細胞的變奏在各種可想到的動機中出現(例如在第一小節,右手A-G‡-D‡-A是細胞最後的三個音;第五、六小節女高音的動機只是細胞略去第一音等)。然而從合唱聲響角度來看,此曲的美感在於和聲音響。讓我們檢視一下在前面的兩次 'the night with beauty' 所用和弦(暫不理會其轉位):

night with beau the ty 16-19小節 小11和弦 小9和弦 小11和弦 小7和弦 大9和弦 f(bvii) f(vii) f(vii) D(V)[>>>D(V)]和弦 a(ii) 半終止 G之屬和弦 以G為主音 25-26小節 空5和弦 空5和弦 空5和弦 小11和弦 小11和弦 小11和弦 F(\(\bar{V}\)II) F(\(\bar{V}\)II) 和弦 F(bVII) d(v)g(i)d(v)[>>>G(I)]以G為主音

九和弦與十一和弦的神祕色彩已非筆墨所能描述,尤其是在'beau-'音節上的突然極弱(subito pp),但上表揭示了就算沒去界定其調性也可看出對稱是刻意的安排。(歸根結柢,以G 為主音可能是編者的猜度而已,但和弦的性質無論怎樣分析都就是這個樣子。)第一次的'beauty'之前是頗暗晦不明的'the night with',而第二次頗蒼白的'beauty'之前則是清晰澄明的'the night with'。若要突出此和聲音響,只要有四聲部諧和的合唱就可以了。若任何一聲部歌唱時我行我素,就會產生聲部的「線條」而非原本想要的聲響。若以木管四重奏奏出,由於四件樂器的音響獨特而同樣會產生上述的效果;但出若以弦樂隊演奏,效果則會頗不相同,四部完全能諧和。

我們希望上述對本集六首選曲所作的分析,會為這些作品的演出增 添滿足和深度。

> 香港聲樂作品集 主編 羅炳良 (蔣慧民譯)

# **Editor's Notes**

In order to present representative vocal music in Hong Kong to the world, committee members of the Hong Kong Composers' Guild met with their counterparts in the Hong Kong Association of Choral Societies and the Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd. in 1995 to plan these eight volumes. The editorial board has made great effort to ensure that both the selection and presentation meet the highest criteria of other anthologies of the same nature.

This collection is by no means an all extensive and comprehensive collection of all composers living in Hong Kong in the last sixty years. Nor do these sets represent all the works of each composer. A selection committee was set up to select composers who, in one way or another, have left a mark in the musical life of Hong Kong. Most of them have been active in writing music for the concert hall. Some have arranged folk music for education purpose or even wrote exclusively for the Christian church. After the selection of composers, then measures and criteria were drawn up to select the representative work and genre of each composer. This was sometimes not an easy task as living composers would also express their own preference, but the representation in these volumes has been well-balanced.

After we collected the manuscript and/or consequently published score of each selected work, the team of editors checked each note and musical sign in consultation with the composer or with musicians familiar with an individual's pieces. On a few occasions, when verification with a living composer was not possible or successful, footnotes are utilized in cases in which the composer's intention may be arbitrary.

The appearance of the printed score has much to do with publication objectives. It is the intention of the editorial board to publish both a scholarly edition and a performance edition. Bearing in mind the size of the printed page and the certain constraints with the input software of the computer, unifying all the pieces in appearance may be easier said than done. Augmenting the problem may be the difference in vocal forces and instrumentation between pieces of the same volume.

Although it is our intention to romanize each Chinese character in the music, our goal to keep the score simple and clear, coupled with difficulties in technical procedure, deterred us from taking the step. But we have put the pinyin (romanization) of all the lyrics at the end of

each volume. It is hoped that this compromise would not weaken the usability of the eight volumes.

There is a short biography of each composer at the end of the volume. They are either provided by the composers or from standard biographies such as the one published by the Hong Kong Composers' Guild in 1988 and 1997 respectively. Special care has been taken to ensure uniformity in writing style and length wherever possible. Program notes for each piece are also provided. They are normally in the original form written by the composers themselves. Here, difference in writing styles and content are published with as little editing as possible.

Each volume represents a clear division of either musical, literary or style genres. Volumes 1 and 2 are choral pieces written in a variety of musical styles with lyrics from classical Chinese poetic sources. Volumes 3 and 4 include choral works with modern Chinese texts. Volume 5 are either arrangements of representative folk songs from various parts of China or original songs written in idiosyncratic folk style(s). Volume 6 includes art songs also sharing the same musical attributes of the first four volumes except that they are written for the solo voice. Volume 7 presents choral or vocal ensembles written for religious use. Texts are mainly taken from Christian sources and written for the Christian faith. Finally, Volume 8 includes vocal works written either by expatriates living in Hong Kong for an extended period of time or simply compositions using non-Chinese texts.

#### **Volume 8 Songs in Foreign Languages**

The Editor's Notes in these eight Volumes of Hong Kong Vocal Music Collection were written primarily for two groups of users. 1. Overseas professional musicians or non-Chinese musicians who use these music but who might not be aware of some of the literary, historical, cultural and musical backgrounds of our composers. 2. Chinese conductors and vocalists who may not have professional training in handling contemporary Chinese vocal music. Although each Volume represents a different genre of vocal music, the facts and concepts in these Notes are sometimes transferable from one Volume to the other. The Editor's Notes of each Volume always starts with some background of this project and the procedures of editing. The most important though, are the notes on the sources where the perspectives of singing the Chinese text (e.g. the vocal treatment of the enunciation, intonation and inflection of the Chinese language) are to be found. This is repeated in each Volume except this Volume (because this Volume does not contain music with a Chinese text). Then, in each Volume we also briefly discussed one topic in relations to the pieces therein.

In Volume 1, we presented three important historical periods in the history of China during which we can find the most concentrated literary resource for poetic lyrics.

In Volume 2, we made analyses to both the materials and structure of sample pieces.

In Volume 3, we tried to acquaint readers with a short history of Chinese song lyrics and how they were derived from classical poetry but eventually stood out as song lyrics which instilled a stronger musical element in the Chinese language.

In Volume 4, we talked about the sources of inspiration for Hong Kong composers and the social implications of the songs.

In Volume 5, we accounted for the types of folk songs and what composers did to turn them into choral pieces.

In Volume 6, we provided a general picture of how accompaniment for vocal music is written and discussed the various ways composers treated the relationship between the vocal melody and the accompaniment.

In Volume 7, we showed the different aspects of performance practice and gave some hints for choral treatments.

In this Volume, we will be looking at a special side of Hong Kong choral music, relating chorale techniques to the aesthetics of choral music. Choral singing is not, historically speaking, a Chinese genre. Through concert performances of standard Western vocal repertoire, Christian church music and music in school, our choirs in Hong Kong are used to singing vocal music of different styles and languages. Besides Chinese and English, the two official languages used in Hong Kong, German, French, Latin and Italian make up nearly all other languages our choirs sing. It is also through musicians and teachers from other countries that Hong Kong's choirs, in a different degree, develop a rather universal outlook. It is these kinds of choirs that Hong Kong composers write for.

Before engaging in citing examples that exemplify the different aspects of choral aesthetics, we would first look at one important but much neglected aspect of choral consideration among Chinese choirs in Asia. Choral music in its purest form must be a cappella singing. From the European setting and rationale, a cappella singing has a lot of advantages both pedagogically and musically. For example, we can hear and capture the total sound and the sound variants better when we sing in pure vowels without the influence of instruments. By variances, we mean achieving such details as a kind of even vibrato throughout the whole tessitura of the choir and a kind of sameness among the same section. We also mean the ability for choirs in a cappella singing to fine-tune diphthongs and triphthongs to the exact mensural proportion. In a cappella singing we can also achieve 'perfect unison' in the same voice section by aiming for the best intonation. There are different types of temperaments in the West and there are of course, even more Chinese temperaments. Without going into the details of just intonation versus well-tempered, or meantone versus Pythagorean, we must emphasize the need of a quiet environment and a venue that would support an active reverberation in order to tell the minute details of temperaments. Choirs, no matter singing Palestrina, Bruckner, or Stravinsky need to constantly 'go back' to a cappella singing in order to adjust, fine-tune and achieve what some music demands. For Gregorian chant singing, the high 3rd and high leading tone are always preferable but it will be rather disastrous to use them in a forte-ending major triad. There is