



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

# University of North Texas College of Music

Doctoral Lecture Recital | Thursday, June 1, 2023 | 6:00 pm | Recital Hall

**Fang Chen, viola**  
**Joshua Vigran, piano**

## A PERFORMANCE GUIDE TO ZILI LI'S VIOLA CONCERTO NO. 1

The *Viola Concerto No. 1* was commissioned in 2010 by Xidi Shen, a viola professor at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, and composed by Zili Li (b. 1938), a Chinese composer and violinist. For musical, cultural, and technical reasons, this little-known Chinese viola concerto strongly aroused my interest, and led me to use it as the research subject for my doctoral dissertation and to also introduce this work to Western violists.

This dissertation provides a performance guide to Zili Li's *Viola Concerto No. 1*. By analyzing the Mongolian music topics used in the work as well as addressing its typical Mongolian-style string performance techniques, the dissertation should provide a foundation for viola players who wish to play the work but are not familiar with this specific style. In addition, I hope that it can serve as an inspiration to other string players who are playing works based on Mongolian music.

from *Concerto No. 1* (2012) .....Zili Li (b. 1938)  
I. Urtu in daguu

**Nine hundred thirty-sixth program of the 2022–2023 season**  
**Photography and videography are prohibited**