

Chinese Musical Instruments

Music and Society

Marquis Yi of Zheng, 433 B. C., Bianzhong (65 Tuned
Bronze Bells)



Guqin

- 7-string zither without bridges.
- Ancient indigenous instrument of the literati. Confucius' instrument.



Guqin (or qin)

- Playing position.



Zheng

- Zither with bridges.

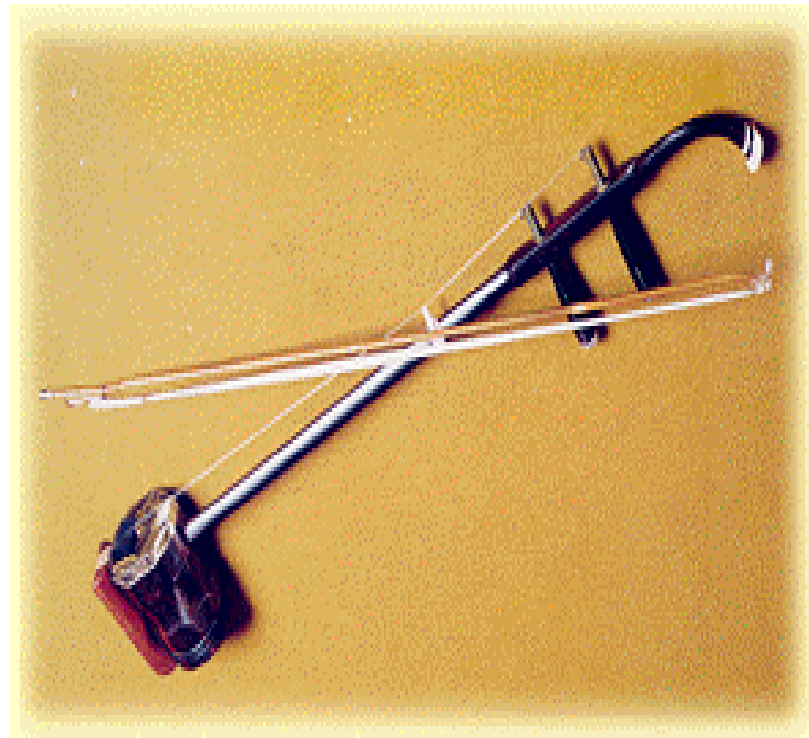


Zheng

- Playing position
- Note use of left hand for subtle ornaments.



- Erhu



Pipa

- Four-string fretted lute.
- Of Persian origin.



Sanxian



Yangqin

- Chinese hammered dulcimer. Introduced to China in 16th Century by Jesuit Matteo Ricci.



- Dizi



Sheng

- “mouth organ” with bamboo pipes set in metal wind chamber.
- Free-reed technology from this instrument imported to Europe for accordion, harmonica, harmonium.



Suona

- Called “Zurna” in Persia; Shenai in India; Shawm in Scotland.
- Weddings and funerals; loud, outdoor instrument.



Peking Opera (*Jingju*)

- “Female impersonator” role.

