



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2004

The Orchid Ensemble at Cornish College of the Arts

Tuesday, February 17 at 8 pm

Mei Han, zheng; **Lan Tung**, erhu; **Jonathan Bernard**, marimba/percussion

Chinese traditional and contemporary music and music by Canadian composers for Chinese instruments.
PONCHO Concert Hall, 710 East Roy Street, Seattle

Tickets: \$12; \$6 for students and seniors; free to the Cornish College community.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Window, by phone at 206.325.6500;
online at www.ticketwindowonline.com

SEATTLE, WA – East meets West as the Orchid Ensemble blend musical traditions and instruments from China, Europe and beyond, creating an innovative and distinct new sound. From the tranquil beauty of the zheng, to the rich textures of the marimba, and the soaring splendor of the erhu, they present a beautiful blend of musical techniques and styles. This unique combination of instruments creates a fascinating tapestry of musical textures and colors, which consistently intrigue and delight their audiences.

Orchid Ensemble bring a variety of musical styles to their performances, ranging from traditional and contemporary pieces of the many regions of China, to New Music, World Music and Jazz. They are also regularly developing new collaborations with musicians and composers from a wide variety of world cultures.

Acclaimed as a "rapidly rising stars in the Mecca of multi-cultural music", the Orchid Ensemble have been actively performing in concerts and festivals throughout Canada and the U.S., with bookings as diverse as the Kennedy Centre for the Arts in Washington, D.C., The Vancouver International Jazz Festival, the Detroit Festival of the Arts, Toronto's Harborfront Centre and The Seattle Symphony Society

ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

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art dance design music performance production theater

The Orchid Ensemble at Cornish College of the Arts, cont.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

Images available upon request.

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