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(Photos of Mei-Ann Chen, Tang Jun Qiao, and the SFS's Lunar New Year festivities can be viewed and downloaded [here](#))

**THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY PRESENTS LUNAR NEW YEAR CONCERT & CELEBRATION  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

**Mei-Ann Chen leads the San Francisco Symphony in music from  
Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean traditions**

**Special guest Tang Jun Qiao performs selections on the Chinese dizi**

**Free Festival Reception with lion dancers, arts and crafts, and refreshments precedes concert**

**Elegant Imperial Dinner held after concert**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA, January 9, 2017** – The San Francisco Symphony (SFS) welcomes the Year of the Rooster with a Lunar New Year concert and celebration on Saturday, February 4 at Davies Symphony Hall. Conductor Mei-Ann Chen leads the SFS in a concert with special guest soloist Tang Jun Qiao performing the dizi, a Chinese bamboo flute. All ticketholders are invited to a free Festival Reception beginning at 3:00pm in the Davies Symphony Hall lobbies with family-friendly entertainment and activities including arts and crafts, lion dancing, games, complimentary food, desserts, and tea bars.

The 4:00pm concert opens with the popular neon dragon dance and features a combination of traditional folk music, alongside orchestral works by Asian composers, and nods to the Year of the Rooster. Concert highlights include “Raise the Red Lantern” and “Plum Blossom Variations” performed on dizi by Tang Jun Qiao with the San Francisco Symphony; SFS cellist Amos Yang performing selections from Tchaikovsky’s *Rococo Variations*; and a celebration of the year of the rooster with selections from Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Le Coq d’or [The Golden Cockerel]* Suite.

The elegant Lunar New Year Imperial Dinner, inspired by the rich visual pageantry of traditional Lunar New Year celebrations, is at 6:00pm in Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall, located at 300 Franklin Street at the rear of Davies Symphony Hall. Dinner packages that include access to the Festival Reception, premiere concert seating, and the Imperial Dinner are sold separately. All proceeds benefit the Symphony’s myriad of community outreach and education programs, which

provide music education to more than 75,000 Bay Area school children each year. The Lunar New Year Celebration, chaired by Patricia Lee-Hoffmann, is made possible through the generous support of Flutter Eyewear and is presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission. The Imperial Dinner is catered by McCalls and is designed by Blueprint Studios.

### **About the Artists**

Born in Taiwan, conductor [Mei-Ann Chen](#) has lived in the United States since 1989. She was named one of *Musical America's* 2015 "Top 30 Influencers". Recently appointed Artistic Director and Conductor for the 2016 National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra Summer Festival, she has served as Music Director of the Memphis Symphony since 2010 and of the Chicago Sinfonietta since 2011. Chen has a growing number of engagements as guest conductor in Europe, Brazil, and North America. Upcoming engagements this season include concerts with Göttesborgs Symfoniker, Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, Houston, Grand Rapids, Toledo & Tucson Symphonies and National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, and her debut with Santa Barbara and Winnipeg Symphonies. Chen conducted the SF Symphony's Chinese New Year concerts in 2013, 2015, and 2016.

**Tang Jun Qiao** is a renowned player and teacher of Chinese bamboo flute. She has performed traditional Chinese music for more than thirty foreign state leaders and in recent seasons she has played bamboo flute concertos with orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de France, Bamberg Symphony, Hamburg Symphony, Belgium National Symphony, Honolulu Symphony, Hong Kong Orchestra, Macau Orchestra, and the leading orchestras of China. She has also toured with the Shanghai Symphony, Beijing Symphony, and Hangzhou Philharmonic. In addition, she was the first artist invited by China's National Centre for the Performing Arts to play a Chinese instrument concerto after its opening. She makes her San Francisco Symphony debut at this performance. Tang Jun Qiao recorded the bamboo flute and bawu parts in Tan Dun's score for the film *Crouching Tiger and Hidden Dragon*. In addition, she has premiered works by a number of Chinese composers, including Guo Wenjing, Zhu Shirui, Yangqin, and Tang Jianping. She has published ten textbooks and her album *Chinese Magic Flute—Tang Jun Qiao*, released by the Dutch Record Company, is the first SACD bamboo flute album in the world. Tang Jun Qiao teaches at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She is also President of the Bamboo Flute Professional Committee of the Shanghai Musician Association, Vice-President of the China Bamboo Flute Academy, Vice-President of the Bamboo Flute Academy of the Chinese Musicians Association, and a member of the review committee of the China National Arts Fund.

### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

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## **San Francisco Symphony Lunar New Year Concert & Celebration**

Davies Symphony Hall  
201 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA

### **Saturday, February 4, 2017**

3:00pm – Festival Reception for all ticketholders  
4:00pm – Lunar New Year Concert  
6:00pm – Imperial Dinner (*Dinner packages are sold separately*)

**Mei-Ann Chen** conductor  
**Tang Jun Qiao** dizi (bamboo flute)  
**Amos Yang** cello  
**Loong Mah Sing See Wui** dance ensemble  
**San Francisco Symphony**

<b>TRADITIONAL</b>	Chinese Dragon Dance
<b>LI HUANZHI</b>	<i>Spring Festival Overture</i>
<b>TRADITIONAL (arr. Quan)</b>	"Beo Dat May Troi" [Floating Water Lily and Wandering Cloud]
<b>TCHAIKOVSKY</b>	Selections from <i>Rococo Variations</i> , Opus 33
	Thema
	Variations I-III
	Variations VI-VII e Coda

<b>VARIOUS</b>	<b>Amos Yang, cello</b>
	Selections for dizi and orchestra "Raise the Red Lantern" "Plum Blossom Variations"
	<b>Tang Jun Qiao, dizi</b>
<b>RIMSKY- KORSAKOV</b>	Selections from <i>Le Coq d'or</i> [ <i>The Golden Cockerel</i> ] Suite
<b>TRADITIONAL (arr. Lee)</b>	<i>Gong Xi Gong Xi</i>

The San Francisco Symphony rings in the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Rooster on Saturday, February 4 at its 17th Annual Lunar New Year Concert and Celebration at Davies Symphony Hall. The celebrations begin with a Festival Reception for all ticketholders at 3:00pm. Pre-concert festivities in the Davies Symphony Hall lobbies provide playful entertainment and activities in the spirit of the Rooster including arts and crafts, lion dancing and games, as well as complimentary food, desserts and tea bars. The 4:00pm concert opens with the popular Chinese Dragon Dance and features a combination of traditional folk music, alongside orchestral works by Asian composers. The elegant Imperial Dinner, inspired by the rich visual pageantry of traditional Lunar New Year celebrations, is at 6:00pm in Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall, located at 300 Franklin Street at the rear of Davies Symphony Hall. Dinner packages that include access to the Festival Reception, premiere concert seating, and the Imperial Dinner are sold separately. All proceeds benefit the SFS's myriad of community outreach and education programs, which provide music education to more than 75,000 Bay Area school children each year.

**TICKETS:** Tickets for the Chinese New Year concert and the pre-concert Festival Reception are \$32-\$76 and are available through [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org), by phone at (415) 864-6000, or at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street.

The event chair is Patricia Lee-Hoffmann. Dinner packages that include access to the Festival Reception, premiere concert seating, and the Imperial Dinner are \$395-\$1,250 and are available on the [SF Symphony website](http://SF Symphony website) or by calling the SFS Volunteer Council at (415) 503-5500. [At this time, \$395 Gold Supporter tickets are sold out.]

**Photos** are [available here](#).

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*The San Francisco Symphony receives support from over 10,000 individual donors and 150 partner institutions.*

*The Lunar New Year Concert & Imperial Dinner is made possible through the generous support of Flutter Eyewear and event underwriters Thao & Jerome Dodson and Dr. Peter & Mindy Sun. The Lunar New Year Concert is generously underwritten by John & Sherry Chen and presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission.*

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