Meet Qian Yi!

Ni hao Musical Explorers,

I was born in Shanghai, China, and first began singing in the choir when I was eight years old. When I turned 10, I was picked to go to the Shanghai Opera School. I studied Chinese opera for many years in my home country. Now I love to sing all different kinds of Chinese traditional music, including folk songs. I can’t wait to share these songs with you!

Your friend,

Qian Yi

P.S. On Bayard Street in Chinatown, there’s a garden where Chinese opera can be heard almost every day, and especially on the weekends!

Greetings from Chinatown, Manhattan!

We asked Qian Yi ...

What was your first memory of hearing traditional Chinese music as a child?
I remember hearing my grandmother singing opera songs at home!

Do you have a favorite Chinese traditional song?
Yes, “Mo Li Hua”!

Did you have a favorite Chinese fairy tale as a child?
I loved the story called “The River Snail Lady.” This story is about a poor fisherman who caught a river snail one day and put her in a fish tank in his house. Every day after that when he would come home, there would be warm food waiting for him on the dinner table. One day, he discovered that the snail transformed into a beautiful woman each day while he was away to prepare the food. He and the woman fell in love and lived happily ever after.

Musical Explorers
c/o Carnegie Hall
881 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10019

Leaving from Park Slope, Brooklyn

Arriving at Chinatown, Manhattan

Chinese Opera