



把音乐梦想变成现实，CFC人物专访才华横溢的青年华裔演奏组 - 程氏二重奏

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【CFC人物专访】或许你对来自渥太华的程氏二重奏这个名字还有些陌生，但近年来，这个由华裔姐弟组成的钢琴大提琴二重奏组已在

音乐界备受瞩目。

程氏二重奏由姐姐程洵佳Silvie，弟弟程硕聪Bryan组成。Silvie司钢琴，Bryan司大提琴。姐弟俩自小心怀音乐梦想，多年来一直保持对音乐和演奏的热爱，激情不断，且不乏勤奋和努力，一步一步把自己的音乐梦想变成现实。

“基因变异”，与音乐结缘

程氏姐弟的父母20多年前从中国移民到加拿大。两人都是理工科背景，没接触过乐器。生得这双儿女却接连



在3, 4岁时就显示出对音乐的极大兴趣，而后一发不可收拾，获得奖项无数。Silvie现在在曼哈顿音乐学院主修钢琴演奏研究生课程。Bryan在Lisgar Collegiate Institute 就读11年级，也开始为报考音乐学院做准备。

所以程家人之间自己开这样的玩笑：两个孩子走上音乐之路完全属于基因变异。中国家庭的孩子学琴，“虎妈”现象，父母逼着学的现象比较普遍。但姐弟俩提起父母，“爸爸妈妈从来都没有强迫过我们。爸爸妈妈很爱我们，让我们自由选择个人所爱。他们只希望我们快乐，按自己的兴趣做事。”父母给予他们的的爱和支持，应该是姐弟俩最大的宝藏。

谈到和音乐的缘分，Silvie至今仍津津乐道。4岁的时候，父母带着她驾着车长途出游。坐在后座的她，周围摆放着不同样的玩具。可她唯独对一个蓝色键盘着迷，玩了几个小时也没觉得闷。回来后程爸爸程妈妈送小Silvie上钢琴课，从此Silvie走上了她的音乐之路。Bryan的音乐启蒙，可说有姐姐的功劳。Bryan说，“我是听着姐姐演奏的练习曲长大的。”耳濡目染的Bryan 3岁多就开始看姐姐在台上演奏，很羡慕，也提出要学乐器。他选择大提琴是因为迷恋大提琴那种深沉的音色，尽管小时候玩的大提琴是小号的那种。

站在卡内基音乐大厅的舞台中央

在音乐之路上努力探索和学习10年之后，2011年和2013，姐弟俩人终于站在卡内基音乐大厅的舞台



中央，举办了自已的音乐会。卡内基的Weill厅，是青年演奏家眼里的圣殿。这两次演奏经历，是迄今为止他们感觉最棒的演出。两人每次说起来或者想起来，仍然激动不已。

演奏会结束后，《纽约音乐会评论》这样评论：“她，加拿大钢琴家Silvie Cheng的演奏符合古典音乐的气质，演出很精致，极富诗意，非常神奇。”《评论》提到Bryan时是这样说的，“大提琴家Bryan Cheng极具天赋，他的音乐才华由内至外，他的演奏充满喜悦。.....Cheng会成为一名出色的演奏家。”

姐弟俩回忆起当时的情景时，“一切地一切，都很完美。演奏大厅里摆放的钢琴，充满历史的装饰。我们的音乐会座无虚席。在卡内基音乐厅里演奏，自己和钢琴前所未有的那种和谐，还有太多灵感涌上来。.....我们的亲戚朋友，和加拿大，美国的多年来支持我们的音乐爱好者们都飞来纽约来看我们的演出，我们感觉就象在自己的客厅里演奏。”

两人之间的音乐配合显然是默契的，姐弟俩用了“安心，很亲密的体验”这几个词来描述。Silvie说，和弟弟一起演奏时，心里感觉“很踏实”。因为无论是平时练习还是表演，“都是一种沟通，我俩之间的沟通几乎无须语言。演奏时互相的那种信任感，无人能取代。”姐弟俩对音乐的演绎，也是姐弟情自然而然的流露。

这个夏天，Silvie从纽约回渥太华，为了和Bryan有更多时间一起练习和演出。姐弟俩的演出行程排得很满，周三结束渥太华国家艺术中心举办的大师课程表演，周四飞去纽约彩排，周五纽约演出，周六就出发去欧洲演出。在比利时和意大利的音乐节演出结束后再回到渥太华，驱车去安大略省北部的Parry Sound，有四场演出等着他们，其中包括在著名的Festival of the Sound的专场首演。七月底返回渥太华又投入每年市里举行的国际室内乐节（International Chamber Music Festival, 简称Chamberfest）。姐弟俩去年在该音乐节的专场首演座无虚席。今夏再次受邀于八月七日下午3点在加拿大国家美术馆礼堂(380 Sussex Drive, Ottawa) 举办一场音乐“环球之旅”专场。之后还安排了去多伦多专场演出，并由加拿大广播公司(CBC Radio Two)为2014青年音乐艺术家节目做现场录制。

参与越多的演出，就会有越多的历练，越宽的眼界，他们如此享受在路上的演出生活，相信他们的付出一定会接出丰硕的音乐果实。



吸取源自
古典音乐
的养分，
闪烁当代
灵感

程氏二重奏除了演奏古典名曲，巴赫，贝多芬，勃拉姆斯，还和很多现代作曲家合作。华裔加拿大

作曲家Alexina Louie特地为这对姐弟组合作曲两首，“池塘里的天空”和“野马奔腾”。Alexina Louie曾获加拿大Juno作曲奖。

Louie在作曲时试图把程氏姐弟在演奏时的那种和谐感融入创作里。“池塘里的天空”是一首颇具动感的曲子。尤其是曲子最后的一段，光彩流溢，闭上眼睛，光线在池塘水面上流动的意象犹如音符奔泻在琴弦上。

另外巧的是，马的意象成为作曲家和演奏家间特殊的纽带。Louie把奔马的力量，速度和动感融入创作曲目中，而Silvie的生肖正是马。

古典大师的作品为他们的成长提供深厚的音乐养分，现代作曲家的作品给他们带来新的灵感。

程氏二重奏呈现出的演出风格总能给人一种亲切动人的感觉。每次演出，两人会给观众做有关曲目的简短介绍，把曲目背景，特别是发生在自己和演奏曲目间的故事告诉观众。他们希望能够将听众和音乐，听众和演奏者之间的距离能够拉近一些。

程氏二重奏对自己的表演有个有趣的比喻，他们把自己比作是导游，带着观众乘坐飞船。Silvie解释说，音乐世界如此之美，我们要通过演奏把观众带入另一个世界，这个世界里充满着音乐之美。

用这个类比，Bryan解释说，“是因为每次音乐会，都会有很多白发苍苍的老人来。我就强烈地想要做些什么，让更多的年轻人来欣赏音乐演出。.....在音乐里，有太多东西可以发掘。”

Silvie也说希望能把更多的当代元素融入到演奏里，把古典音乐和现代生活更好地融合起来。8月7日的室内音乐节“环球之旅”专场，两位年轻音乐家为观众准备的演出，就是结合他们对旅游和音乐的爱好，把当代的多媒体技术融入到演奏会中去，让观众即饱耳福，又饱眼福。



未来的计划

谈到未来三年的计划，姐弟俩告诉CFC记者，“我们正在筹备录制我们的第一张CD，我们还计划去世界上更多的国家

和城市演出。我们还将与更多的现代作曲家合作，演奏新作品。以后还会邀请中国作曲家为我们作曲，并在中国举办专场音乐会。”

姐弟俩还希望和更多的年轻音乐爱好者交朋友。在物质丰富的现代社会，人们会更多地追求精神上的满足，增加内在修养。两人去年主持了一个儿童音乐欣赏活动。活动里，他们让孩子穿上动物服饰，一起欣赏以动物为主题的音乐和乐器演奏，深受孩子们的喜爱。今后，姐弟俩计划做更多类似的“观众互动”项目，激发孩子们的兴趣，让更多的孩子来爱音乐。姐弟俩现已有很多的音乐爱好者希望定期收到他们音乐会的消息。有心的网友们欢迎加入www.facebook.com/Cheng2Duo

English Translation:

Turning Musical Dreams into Reality - Cheng² Duo

You may still be unfamiliar with the name Cheng² Duo from Ottawa, but in recent years, this piano-cello duo of Chinese siblings has attracted much attention in the music world.

The Cheng² Duo is comprised of Silvie Cheng (piano) and her younger brother Bryan Cheng (cello). Having had musical dreams since childhood, for many years they have maintained a love for music and performance. With passion, no lack of diligence, and hard work, they have turned their musical dreams into reality step by step.

“Genetic mutations ”

The Chengs' parents emigrated from China to Canada more than 20 years ago. Both have science and engineering backgrounds and had never been exposed to musical instruments. Their children showed great interest in music when they were 3 or 4 years old, and then excelled rapidly and won numerous awards. Silvie is currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in piano performance at the Manhattan School of Music. Bryan, who is in grade 11 at Lisgar Collegiate Institute, is also preparing to enrol in music conservatory.

There is a joke amongst the family members: the two children's path to music is entirely a genetic mutation. When children of Chinese families learn piano, the phenomenon of "tiger mom" parents forcing them to learn is more common. But as the siblings speak of their parents, "Our parents never forced us. They love us very much and let us choose our own passion. They just want us to be happy and pursue what interests us." The love and support their parents have given them is probably their biggest treasure.

Referring to one's fate with music, Silvie still talks about it today. When she was 4 years old, her parents took her on a long-distance road trip. Sitting in the back seat, she was surrounded by different kinds of toys. But she was fascinated by a blue keyboard and didn't feel bored after playing it for hours. After returning from the trip, Silvie's mother sent her for piano lessons, embarking on her musical path. Bryan's musical awakening can be credited to his sister. Bryan says, "I grew up listening to my sister practice and perform pieces." Bryan, who was then just over 3 years old, was envious of his sister playing on stage and also wanted to learn a musical instrument. He chose the cello because of his fascination with its deep sound, although the cello he played as a child was of a smaller size.

After 10 years of hard work and musical studies, in 2011 and 2013, the two siblings finally stood on the stage of Carnegie Hall and presented their own recitals. Carnegie's Weill Hall is a temple

in the eyes of young musicians. They feel that these were their best performances and are still thrilled every time they talk or think about it.

After the concert, *New York Concert Review* commented: "The Canadian pianist Silvie Cheng gave thoroughly idiomatic and polished performances", "her playing was...especially poetic" and "purely magical". Of Bryan, the review said: "cellist Bryan Cheng is gifted with abundant facility, innate musicality, and a sense of joy...Mr. Cheng has all the makings of a fine concert artist."

When the two recall those memories, "Everything was perfect. The house piano; the hall full of history. Our concert was sold-out. Playing in Carnegie Hall, there was a kind of harmony between me and the piano that I had never felt before, there was so much inspiration...Relatives, friends, and music-lovers who have supported us in Canada and the United States for many years travelled to New York for the concert, and we felt like we were playing in our own living room."

The musical cooperation between the two is obviously tacit, and they use the words "peace of mind" and "intimate experience" to describe it themselves. Silvie said that when playing with her brother, she felt "very sure." Because whether it is during practice or performance, "the communication between us transcends language. No one can replace the sense of trust that we have when playing with each other." Their musical interpretations reveal their natural feelings.

This summer, Silvie returned to Ottawa from New York to have more time to practice and perform with Bryan. The siblings' schedules were very full, finishing a masterclass at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa on Wednesday, flying to New York for rehearsals on Thursday, performing in New York on Friday, and heading off for a European performance on Saturday. After performances at music festivals in Belgium and Italy, they returned to Ottawa and drove to Parry Sound in Northern Ontario for four performances, including a special recital at the famous Festival of the Sound. At the end of July, they will return to Ottawa to perform in the annual International Chamber Music Festival (Chamberfest). The duo gave a debut recital at the festival last year. This summer, they have been invited again to present "A Journey Around the World" on August 7th at 3pm in the auditorium of the National Gallery of Canada (380 Sussex Drive, Ottawa). It will be followed by a recital in Toronto, which CBC Radio Two will do a live recording of, as part of the 2014 Young Artist program.

The more performances they participate in, the more experience they have, the wider their horizons. They enjoy the performing life on the road and believe that their efforts will surely bring out fruitful music.

In addition to playing classical repertoire such as Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, the Cheng² Duo also works with many contemporary composers. Chinese-Canadian composer Alexina Louie specially composed two works for the siblings, "Pond Mirrors Bright Sky" and "Wild Horse Running".

Alexina Louie has won a Juno Award in Canada. In these compositions, she tried to incorporate the sense of harmony that the Chengs have together. "Pond Mirrors Bright Sky" is a very dynamic piece. In particular, in the last section of the piece, the brilliance overflows; closing one's eyes, the image of light flowing on the surface of the pond comes from the notes pouring on the strings.

In addition, the image of the horse has formed a special bond between the composer and the performer. Louie incorporates the power, speed, and movement of the running horse into her composition, because Silvie's zodiac sign is the horse.

The works of classical masters provide deep musical nutrients for the duo's growth, and the works of modern composers bring them new inspiration. Their performance style always gives a feeling of intimacy and affection. At each concert, they will give the audience a brief introduction to the pieces, the background and personal stories about the music. They want to be able to bring both listeners and the music, the audience and the performers, closer together.

The Cheng² Duo has an interesting metaphor for their performances, comparing themselves to tour guides who take the audience on a spaceship. Silvie explains that they want their performances to transport the audience into another world, one full of musical beauty.

Using this analogy, Bryan explains, "Every concert, there are usually a lot of white-haired elderly people. I strongly want to do something to attract more young people to enjoy to concerts...In music there are so many things to discover."

Silvie also said that they hope to incorporate more contemporary elements into their performances, blending classical music with modern life. On August 7th, at the Chamberfest "Journey Around the World" concert, in preparation the two young musicians have combined their hobbies for travel and music and integrated contemporary multimedia technology into the concert, in order to let the audience be stimulated aurally and visually.

Future Plans

Speaking about plans for the next three years, the siblings told CFC, "We are preparing to record our first CD, and we also plan to perform in more countries and cities around the world. We will also collaborate with more modern composers and commission new pieces. Chinese composers will be invited to write music for us and present special concerts in China."

The duo also hopes to make friends with more young music-lovers. In our material-rich modern society, people will pursue spiritual satisfaction more and more to increase their inner cultivation. The duo hosted a children's music appreciation event last year. During the event, they let the children wear animal costumes while enjoying animal-themed music and performances, which was very popular among the children. In the future, they plan to do more similar "audience interaction" programs to stimulate children's interest, so that more children can love music. They now have a community of music-lovers who want to receive regular news about concerts from them. Those who are interested are welcome to join: www.facebook.com/Cheng2Duo.