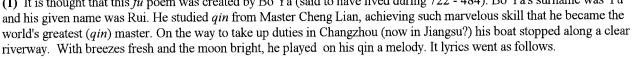
## 29. 聽琴賦 *Ting Qin Fu*Rhapsody on Listening to the *Qin*

唐世璋打譜、作五線譜 Reconstructed and transcribed by John Thompson from 太古遺音 Taigu Yiyin, 1511

## 聽琴賦 Ting Qin Fu

## 29. Rhapsody on Listening to the Qin \*

(1) It is thought that this fu poem was created by Bo Ya (said to have lived during 722 - 484). Bo Ya's surname was Yu



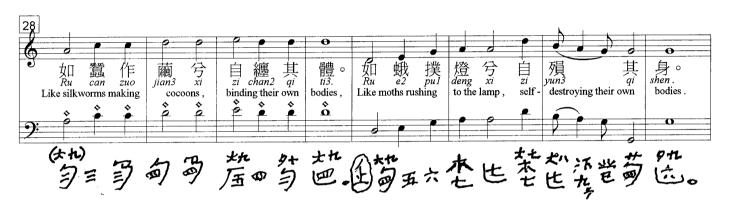


From 太古遺音 Taigu Yiyin (1511); tuning 1 2 4 5 6 1 2 Lyrics not in 樂府詩集 Yuefu Shiji; between stanzas the melody is accompanied by a narrative, included herein.

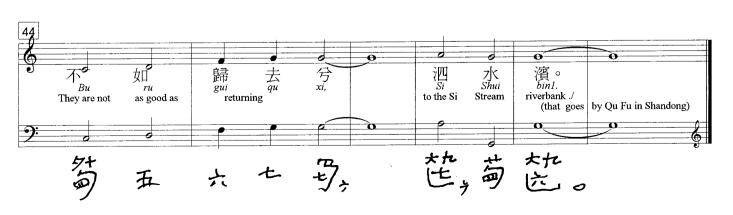
John Thompson

(2) The *qin* stopped. From the shore came the sound of footsteps approaching. Bo Ya (then) played another piece. The lyrics were as follows (compare the lyrics of stanzas 2 & 3 here with those of Sections 4 and 5 of the 1525 *Jiang Yue Bai*.):





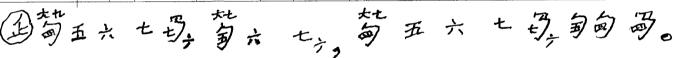




(3) When the piece was finished the other man said, "Because by chance the breezes brought me clear beautiful sounds, I came to listen." Bo Ya thereupon played one more piece and politely asked (the guest) what the piece was. The lyrics were as follows.











(4) The other man said, "That was 風入松 Wind through the Pines." Startled, Bo Ya said, "(You are) certainly a person who knows music." Honoring the man as a guest (Bo Ya) then took the man's hand to help him onto the boat and asked his name. (The guest) said, "Zhong Ziqi." Bo Ya once again played a piece. The lyrics were as follows.





















(5) When the piece was finished, Ziqi said, "'鶴沖天 Cranes piercing heaven'. The focus was on high mountains, lofty like Mount Tai; and on flowing streams, swelling like rivers and streams." Whatever was created on the *qin*, from the master it was marvelously elegant and thoughtfully graceful. Whenever (Bo Ya) lowered his hands (to play), Ziqi never failed to comprehend its beauty. When Ziqi died, Bo Ya broke his strings (and played no more), thinking that the world (now) had no one who understood music.





















