

CELEBRATE ASIA COMPOSITION COMPETITION SELECTION

World premiere: February 11, 2018

BOCHAN LI

Tibet Overture

DaYe Lin, conductor

A meaningful initiative by the Seattle Symphony is the annual *Celebrate Asia* Composition Competition for young composers to honor the vibrant local Asian communities. The winner for 2018, the 8th season, is the *Tibet Overture* of **Bochan Li**, a graduate student at Beijing's Central Conservatory. Using timpani, tubular bells and cymbals to imitate instruments in the Buddhist temples of Tibet, tuba and double basses to emulate giant ceremonial horns, low brasses to invoke the vast emptiness of the Tibetan plateau, and snatches of Tibetan folk music, this flashy gem imaginatively carries the listener to a mysterious land. When, midway through the piece, a relentless driving rhythm emerges, becoming ever more imposing and dramatic, the listener can almost imagine Matt Damon charging out of the giant IMAX screen of some Chinese/Hollywood epic.

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