

**Dinos Constantinides**

**China II - Beijing**  
*for string orchestra*  
**LRC 127**



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## China Quartet

China I - Shanghai  
China II - Beijing  
China III - Guangzhou  
China IV - Shenzhen

This cycle is meant to project the inner thoughts and impressions of the composer during his April 1990 visit to four cities in China. He was deeply moved by the kindness, hospitality, and intelligence of the people he was fortunate to meet, and also fascinated with the juxtaposition of the old and new.

“A famous American conductor-composer-violinist, Dinos Constantinides, presented to Shenzhen audiences his music [Shenzhen Symphony Concert, 1990]. ...rich in content music...warm applause burst from every corner of the hall.”

-*Shenzhen Special Zone Daily*, People's Republic of China

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### China II - Beijing (1990)

LRC 127

ca. 8:00

*China II-Beijing*, written for string orchestra, is the second work of a cycle called *China Quartet*. In this work, the composer tries to portray an overview of the long and impressive history of China in the manner of a legend.

The work opens with quiet entries over a pedal tone on “A”. A set of harmonics brings memories of past centuries. High dynamic levels and quick tempos illustrate the struggles of the people over the centuries. Various images appear in successive climaxes leading to a free section, which is the apotheosis of string sound. A return to the opening pedal “A” brings the piece to a close.