

DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

CHINA III - GUANZHOU

for percussion and string orchestra

LRC 138a



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Duration: 17 min.

China III - Guangzhou is the third work of a cycle called the *China Quartet*. Like China II, this work portrays a story, highlighted by the colors of several percussion instruments. A legend regarding the City of Guangzhou is the source of inspiration for this composition. In the legend, five celestial beings riding celestial rams landed in Nanjiao (the ancient name of Guangzhou). These beings gave golden ears of corn to the people, praying that the famine would vanish forever. Thus, Guangzhou is also called “City of Five Rams” or “City of Grain Ears.” This piece is dedicated to percussionist John Raush. Another version of this work was scored for percussion, viola, cello, and piano. Both versions were premiered by John Raush.

The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prize in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Opera Competition and the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l'Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In the 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.