

黃 昏 城
The Town at Twilight

姚 讚 福 曲

謝 宗 仁 管 弦 樂 編 曲

總 譜

Composed by Zan-Fu Yao
Arr. for Orchestra by Tsung-Jen Hsieh
In Full Score

NTSO 國立臺灣交響樂團
National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra

國立臺灣交響樂團委託管弦樂編曲
Orchestral version commissioned by National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra

黃 昏 城

The Town at Twilight

姚 讚 福 曲

謝 宗 仁 管 弦 樂 編 曲

總 譜

Composed by Zan-Fu Yao
Arr. for Orchestra by Tsung-Jen Hsieh

In Full Score

NTSO 國立臺灣交響樂團
National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra

國立臺灣交響樂團委託管弦樂編曲
Orchestral version commissioned by National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra

黃昏城

天色將暮，夜生活的百態，必然和白天迥異，但是《黃昏城》的詞意，只著眼於這都會年輕人的失落感，暮色籠罩下的孤單人的失戀、失意感，心中逐漸地被層層蒙上了黑幕。

《黃昏城》發表於 1936 年，姚讚福時年 29 歲，此年，他還完成《我的青春》、《心酸酸》、《悲戀的酒杯》、《窗邊雨》等作品，這是他投效勝利唱片公司交出亮麗成績單，受到好評的契機。難能可貴的是，《黃昏城》詞、曲都是他的創作，也是他系列作品中不下 10 首，包辦詞曲的第 1 首作品。

《黃昏城》有 3 段詞：「天悶悶，日頭漸黃昏」、「城悶悶，燈火照黃昏」、「心悶悶，為著日黃昏」，每段詞的最後一句，都是：「啊……黃昏引動阮青春」做結束。天悶悶、城悶悶、心悶悶，難怪，黃昏時分，正是愁思滿懷的開始。

姚讚福畢業於臺北神學校（今臺灣神學院），短暫擔任過傳教士；他的音樂素養，與神職教育有關。14 歲時，他被父親送到廈門英華書院就讀。據他的弟弟姚喜年說：「父親不只要哥哥學好英文，也要學習漢文，更重要的是，學成後要將樂譜抄錄回來」。姚讚福寫歌作詞的能力，此時已扎實了。

姚讚福正在歌壇確立一席之地時，可惜戰爭日熾，臺語流行歌市場逐漸式微，後來他雖為日東、東亞唱片寫了幾首歌，終在「形勢比人強」下，遠走香港。終戰後返臺，他的下半輩子是在「心酸酸」、「心悶悶」下，度過淒涼日子。更諷刺的是《悲戀的酒杯》被改填成《苦酒滿杯》，紅遍半邊天時，他卻在貧病交迫中，嚥下最後一口氣。

（莊永明 撰）

本曲為國立臺灣交響樂團委託管弦樂編曲（完成於 2019 年）

【出版】

收錄於《臺灣歌謠傳鄉情一食百二，唱一二〇》管弦樂專輯 CD 單元五「月夜詠吟」
(2020/12 出版)

【演奏錄音】

指揮／葉政德

國立臺灣交響樂團

長度約 4 分 55 秒



The Town at Twilight

Twilight rising, the many faces of the night life are poles apart from those of the day. The song “*The Town at Twilight*” revolves around the sense of loss of a metropolitan young man, while going through the phrases of breaking up and feeling dejected, the lonely man’s heart was gradually enclosed by layers of darkness under the canopy of dusk.

“*The Town at Twilight*” was released in 1936 when its composer, Zan-fu Yao, was 29 years old. In the same year, Yao completed other critically acclaimed songs such as “*My Youth*”, “*Xin Suan Suan*” (My Heart is Lamenting), “*The Glass of Bitter Love*” and “*Rain by the Window*”, the success of which also brought him a golden opportunity after he started working for the RCA Victor. What’s more impressive is that he not only composed the music for “*The Town at Twilight*” but wrote the lyrics too. The song was the first of the series of dozen songs that he produced both the music and the lyrics.

The lyrics of “*The Town at Twilight*” consist of three sections which all start with : ‘*The sky is turning depressing, the sun is setting and the twilight closing in*’, ‘*The town is turning depressing, glittering city lights reflect on the twilight*’, ‘*My heart is depressing, for it turns dismayed with the twilight*’ ; and the last line of all sections ends with ‘*Ahh... Twilight sparked my feelings of the youthful, romantic melancholy*’. With the depressing sky, the depressing town, and the depressing heart, it’s of little wonder that twilight is exactly the time when desolation comes into being.

Zan-fu Yao graduated from Taipei Seminary (now The Taiwan Theological College and Seminary), having briefly served as a minister, his music aptitude showed the influence of his theological education. When he was fourteen, his father sent him to study at the Ying Wa College in Xiamen. His brother, Xi-Nian Yao, was quoted, ‘*Father demanded my brother be proficient in not only English but also Chinese. More importantly, he was instructed to copy the sheet music and bring them home.*’ By this time, Zan-fu Yao’s song writing capability had been firmly developed.

It's a shame that, while Zan-fu Yao was establishing his status in the songwriting circle, the blazing war led to the inevitable decline of the Taiwanese pop-song market. Though he later wrote a few songs for the Nitto Recording and East Asia Music Ltd., he had no choice but leave for Hongkong '*under the circumstances*'. He returned to Taiwan after the war, spending the rest of his life in days of '*My heart is lamenting*' and '*My heart is depressing*'. What's more ironic is that, when his song "*The Glass of Bitter Love*", rewritten as "*The Glass of Bitter Wine*", was all the rage then, he passed away in poverty and illness.

Yong-Ming Zhuang

Orchestral version commissioned by National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra (2019)

Publication

Included on the "*Songs of the Land–To live long enough to sing twelve tens songs*" album CD
CD 5 – Moonlight (Published in Dec. 2020)

Conductor: Cheng-Te Yeh

National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra

Duration: ca.4'55"



編制 / Instrumentation

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets in Bb

2 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in Bb

2 Trombones

Timpani

Percussions: Suspended Cymbal

Glockenspiel

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

The Town at Twilight

Composer : Zan-Fu Yao

Arr. for Orchestra : Tsung-Jen Hsieh

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets in B \flat

2 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in B \flat

2 Trombones

Timpani

Percussion

Glockenspiel

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass