

中国民族管弦乐乐器名称缩略语表学术研讨会

暨

中国音乐作品资源总库项目专家咨询会议

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地点: 上海音乐学院

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钱敏华 香港中乐团行政总监

决议:

一、成立“中国乐器缩略名称编撰委员会” Committee for the Abbreviation of Chinese Musical Instrument Names (CACMIN)。

二、订定常用中国乐器中英文名称及缩略语对照表，先为民族管弦乐团常规乐器，待推行及评估后再推特定乐种和地域性的乐器。

中国乐器缩略名称编撰委员会

Committee for the Abbreviation of Chinese Musical Instrument Names (CACMIN)

宗旨与任务: 通过搜集、整理、编订中国乐器名称的中英文对照表与缩略语，制订中国乐器元数据描述的标准，提供世界各大图书馆、档案馆、资料馆在涉及相关领域编目时编目参考使用。

机制安排: 各编撰委员关注、搜集、整理所在地区与不仅所在地区范围内中国乐器的名称新增、变革状况，提交委员会秘书组备案，于年度会议时通过委员会讨论并通过后进入对照表修订版。委员会每年组织一次全体会员会议讨论与确定修订事宜。年度提交国际知名资料库 RISM 应用本表及历次修订版。

主任: 阎惠昌

成员: (按姓氏笔画) 王辰威 王建民 白得云 陆耘 陈明志 吴强 姜莹 曾子嘉 韩斌

秘书: 韩斌 曾子嘉

常用中国乐器中英文对照表

Bilingual Chart of Common Chinese Instrument Names

(Version 0.8)

中国乐器缩略名称编撰委员会 2018 年 4 月 20 日修订于上海

主任：阎惠昌 秘书：韩斌 曾子嘉

成员：(按姓氏笔画) 王辰威 王建民 白得云 陆耘 陈明志 吴强 姜莹 曾子嘉 韩斌

Decided by the Committee for the Abbreviation of Chinese Musical Instrument Names
(CACMIN) in Shanghai, 20 Apr. 2018

Chairman: YAN Huichang Secretaries: HAN Bin, TSENG Tzu-Chia
Members (in alphabetical order): CHAN Ming-Chi, HAN Bin, JIANG Ying, LU Yun,
Christopher PAK, TSENG Tzu-Chia, WANG Chenwei, WANG Jianmin, WU Qiang

整理：王辰威、陈明志

Complied by WANG Chenwei, CHAN Ming-Chi

Preface

This chart lists the common instruments used in the Chinese orchestra, including all standard instruments and some common auxiliary instruments.

The musical genres in the Chinese speaking region are diverse and the names for the instruments are often varied. We decided on the most representative Chinese name for each type of instrument and listed other names which have the exact same meaning under the “remarks” column – when encountering these homonyms, a librarian should input the name in the two leftmost columns instead. Variations of each type of instruments are listed as “includes...” - when encountering these names, a librarian should input the name in the two leftmost columns with additional details in brackets if necessary.

Some scores lack a precise specification of the type of instrument. For example, “Di” (flute) is stated rather than “Bangdi”, “Qudi” etc. This could also happen if the composer requires the Di player to switch between different types of Di in the same piece. In such cases, one can only input what is stated on the score. We have made provisions for the most common ambiguously used names and remarked them as such.

We decided that the English names of each instrument will simply be a Pinyin transcription. While Chinese terms such as “Gaoyin”, “Diyin”, “Da”, “Xiao” can be translated as “soprano”, “bass”, “big”, “small” respectively, someone unfamiliar with Chinese instruments may not interpret these English terms in the same way that they are used in Chinese. For example, the Diyin Guan’s lowest pitch is A2, not even as low as the tenor saxophone. Translating it as “bass Guan” may thus evoke a false impression. Furthermore, mixing English and Pinyin may cause confusion.

Dots and dashes are avoided to reduce unnecessary effort in data input.

The abbreviations follow the rules below:

1. Use the first letter of each Pinyin character
2. If the last Pinyin syllable (usually this is the syllable that defines the category of instrument) begins with “Zh”, “Ch” or “Sh”, these are used. E.g. Gaoyin Sheng → GYSh
3. If there are conflicting abbreviations, one of the syllables will be spelt out completely. As to which instrument receives the longer abbreviation, the deciding factor could be any of the following:
 - a. The odd one out: E.g. Xiaodi → XD, while Xindi → XinD, because “X” stands for “Xiao” in numerous names while the character “Xin” occurs only in “Xindi”
 - b. The shorter name that results from a full spelling: E.g. “Guan” is longer than “Gu”, thus “Gu” is spelt out while “Guan” is abbreviated as “G”
 - c. The less common instrument: E.g. Yangqin → YQ while Yueqin → YueQ
4. If the abbreviation would otherwise only be a single letter, the instrument’s name is spelt out in full. E.g. “Di”
5. If the instrument is uncommon and its full Pinyin name is 5 letters or less, it is spelt out in full. E.g. “Bawu”
6. The first letter of each Pinyin character is represented in capital, the rest in small letters.

If an instrument has non-Chinese origins, its English name and abbreviation should be used even if it is named in Chinese on the score. We have provided a list to aid non-musically trained librarian in differentiating Chinese percussion instrument names from Chinese translations of non-Chinese percussion instrument names.

With regards to the instruments’ English descriptions, we have partially used terminology from the Hornbostel-Sachs system. To avoid excessively long descriptions, we focused only on the key features of each instrument.

1. 吹管乐器 Wind Instruments

1.1. 笛 Di family

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
笛	Di	Di	Transverse flute	Any type of Di (details unavailable) 任何笛 (缺乏细节) Same meaning as Dizi 笛子, Zhudi 竹笛
小笛	Xiaodi	XD	Piccolo membraned transverse flute	Mostly referring to the keys of small B \flat and above 多指小 B \flat 调以上的笛
梆笛	Bangdi	BD	High-range membraned transverse flute	Mostly referring to the keys of small F-A 多指小 F-A 调的笛 Same meaning as Duanmodi 短膜笛, Changmodi 高音笛
曲笛	Qudi	QD	Mid-range membraned transverse flute	Mostly referring to the keys of big B \flat -E 多指大 B \flat -E 调的笛 Same meaning as Changmodi 长膜笛, Zhongyindi 中音笛
大笛	Dadi	DD	Low-range membraned transverse flute	Mostly referring to the keys of big A and below. 多指大 A 调以下的笛 Includes Beidadi 倍大笛, Diyindi 低音笛, Hengxiao 横箫, Wanguandi 弯管笛
新笛	Xindi	XinD	Low-range non-membraned transverse flute	Includes Wumodi 无膜笛 (Historically meant a 11-holed chromatic flute 原指 11 孔半音笛)

1.2. 笙 Sheng family

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
笙	Sheng	Sh	Mouth organ	Any type of Sheng (details unavailable) 任何笙 (缺乏细节)
传统笙	Chuantong Sheng	CTSh	Traditional diatonic mouth organ	Any type of Sheng that cannot play all chromatic notes in its range 任何不能演奏音域里所有半音的笙
高音笙	Gaoyin Sheng	GYSh	Chromatic soprano mouth organ	
中音笙	Zhongyin Sheng	ZYSh	Chromatic alto mouth organ	
次中音笙	Cizhongyin Sheng	CZYSh	Chromatic tenor mouth organ	
低音笙	Diyin Sheng	DYSh	Chromatic bass mouth organ	Includes Beidiyin Sheng 倍低音笙

1.3. 唢呐 Suona family

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
唢呐	Suona	SN	Shawm	Any type of Suona (details unavailable) 任何唢呐 (缺乏细节)
传统唢呐	Chuantong Suona	CTSN	Traditional shawm	Any Suona based on the diatonic scale 任何以七声音阶为基础的唢呐
海笛	Haidi	HD	Traditional sopranino shawm	
高音唢呐	Gaoyin Suona	GYSN	Soprano shawm	May mean either traditional or chromatic instruments
中音唢呐	Zhongyin Suona	ZYSN	Alto shawm	May mean either traditional or chromatic instruments
次中音唢呐	Cizhongyin Suona	CZYSN	Chromatic tenor shawm	
低音唢呐	Diyin-Suona	DYSN	Chromatic bass shawm	

1.4. 管 Guan family

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
管	Guan	Guan	Double-reed pipe	Any type of Guan (details unavailable) 任何管 (缺乏细节) Same meaning as Guanzi 管子
传统管	Chuantong Guan	CTG	Traditional double-reed pipe	Any Guan based on the diatonic scale 任何以七声音阶为基础的管 Includes the Cantonese Houguan 喉管
高音管	Gaoyin Guan	GYG	Soprano double-reed pipe	
中音管	Zhongyin Guan	ZYG	Chromatic alto double-reed pipe	
低音管	Diyin Guan	DYG	Chromatic bass double-reed pipe	
倍低音管	Beidiyin Guan	BDYG	Chromatic contrabass double-reed pipe	

1.5. 其它吹管乐器 Other wind instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
口笛	Koudi	KD	Very small non-membraned transverse flute	
箫	Xiao	Xiao	Non-membraned vertical flute	Includes Wenxiao 文箫, Wuxiao 武箫, Qinxiao 琴箫, Nanxiao 南箫, Chibaxiao 尺八箫
排箫	Paixiao	PXiao	Panpipes	
埙	Xun	Xun	Vessel flute	
巴乌	Bawu	Bawu	Transverse free-reed pipe	
葫芦丝	Hulusi	HLS	Vertical free-reed pipe	

2. 弹拨乐器 Plucked-String Instruments

2.1. 乐队弹拨乐器 Orchestral plucked-string instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
扬琴	Yangqin	YQ	Hammered dulcimer	
柳琴	Liuqin	LQ	Pear-shaped mandolin	
琵琶	Pipa	PP	Pear-shaped bowl lute	
高音阮	Gaoyin Ruan	GYR	High-range box lute	Refers to a Ruan tuned identically to a Liuqin 指与柳琴同样定弦的阮
小阮	Xiaoruan	XR	High-range box lute	Mainly in Hong Kong: refers to a Ruan tuned identically to a Liuqin Mainly outside of Hong Kong: refers to a Ruan tuned a perfect fourth below the Liuqin 主要在香港内：指与柳琴同样定弦的阮 主要在香港外：指比柳琴低四度定弦的阮
中阮	Zhongruan	ZR	Mid-range box lute	
大阮	Daruan	DR	Low-range box lute	
三弦	Sanxian	SX	Fretless long-necked membraned box lute	Includes the Xiao-Sanxian 小三弦 and Da-Sanxian 大三弦
箏	Guzheng	Zheng	Zither with pitch bend capability	Same meaning as Guzheng 古筝
箜篌	Konghou	KH	Harp with pitch bend capability	

2.2. 其它弹拨乐器 Other plucked-string instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
古琴	Guqin	GQ	7-stringed zither	Same meaning as Qin 琴, Qixianqin 七弦琴
月琴	Yueqin	YueQ	Short-necked box lute	
秦琴	Qinqin	QQ	Long-necked box lute	

3. 打击乐器 Percussion Instruments

3.1. 鼓类 Drum family

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
排鼓	Paigu	PGu	Pitched barrel drum set	
小堂鼓	Xiaotanggu	XTGu	Small barrel drum	Same meaning as Xiaogu 小鼓, Tonggu 同鼓, Zhangu 战鼓
大鼓	Dagu	DGu	Large drum	Could mean either Datanggu or Huapengu (details unavailable) 指大堂鼓或花盆鼓 (缺乏细节)
大堂鼓	Datanggu	DTGu	Large barrel drum	
花盆鼓	Huapengu	HPGu	Large goblet drum	
建鼓	Jiangu	JGu	Large barrel drum on a high stand	Includes Yinggu 楹鼓
板鼓	Bangu	BGu	High-pitched opera drum	Same meaning as Jingju Bangu 京剧板鼓 and Danpigu 单皮鼓
手鼓	Shougu	SGu	Xinjiang hand drum	May be covered with python or goat skin; may have jingles 蒙蟒皮或羊皮；有或无铃
扁鼓	Biangu	BianGu	Pancake drum	
布朗鼓	Bulanggu	BLGu	Rattle drum	Same meaning as Bolanggu 波浪鼓

3.2. 锣类 Gong Family

Diyinluo 低音锣: Same meaning as "Tam-tam". As it already has a well-known English name, the Pinyin abbreviation will not be used. 由于低音锣已经有广泛使用的英文名称，故不用拼音缩写。

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
小锣	Xiaoluo	XL	Small opera gong held by the hand	
中锣	Zhongluo	ZL	Medium opera gong hung with a string	Includes Maluo 马锣
大锣	Daluo	DL	Large opera gong hung with a string	Includes Gouluo 勾锣
云锣	Yunluo	YL	Pitched gong set	
十面锣	Shimianluo	SML	Unpitched gong set	
风锣	Fengluo	FL	Thin flat gong	
子弟锣	Zidiluo	ZDL	Taiwanese Beiguan gong	
掌锣	Zhangluo	ZL	Hand-held gong	
芒锣	Mangluo	ML	Knobbed gong	

3.3. 对敲铜器 Cymbal family

Strictly speaking, there are three categories of cymbals: 严格地讲，对敲铜器分三类：

- Nao 铙: Cymbals with conical bells, bell serves as a handle 小碗平顶，手抓乐器的碗演奏
- Cha 镲: Cymbals with round bells, held with a strap attached to bell 小碗圆顶，手抓布袋演奏
- Bo 钹: Cymbals with bowl-shaped bells, held with a strap attached to bell 大碗圆顶，手抓布袋演奏

In colloquial usage, these three terms are often not precisely differentiated. 口语用词时经常没有明确区分三者。

Diaobo 吊镲: Same meaning as “suspended cymbals”

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
小镲	Xiaocha	XCh	Small cymbals with round bells	
中镲	Zhongcha	ZCh	Medium cymbals with round bells	
大镲	Dacha	DCh	Large cymbals with round bells	
小铙	Xiaonao	XN	Small cymbals with conical bells	
中铙	Zhongnao	ZN	Medium cymbals with conical bells	
大铙	Danao	DN	Large cymbals with conical bells	
小钹	Xiaobo	XB	Small cymbals with bowl-shaped bells	Includes Naobo 铙钹
中钹	Zhongbo	ZB	Medium cymbals with bowl-shaped bells	
大钹	Dabo	DB	Large cymbals with bowl-shaped bells	Includes Chuanbo 川钹

3.4. 木类 Wooden percussion instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
板	Ban	Ban	Wooden plaque clappers	
竹板	Zhuban	ZBan	Bamboo plaque clappers	
木鱼	Muyu	MY	Woodblock	
梆子	Bangzi	BZ	Claves used in northern Chinese operas	Same meaning as Bangzimu 梆子木
南梆子	Nanbangzi	NBZ	Solid wood block with slit	Same meaning as Fangbangzi 方梆子

3.5. 其它打击乐器 Other percussion instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
磬	Qing	Qing	Temple gong	Same meaning as Qing 磬, Tongqing 铜磬
石磬	Shiqing	SQing	Pitched stone chime	
碰铃	Pengling	PL	Small concussive bells	Same meaning as Xing 星
编钟	Bianzhong	BZh	Pitched chime bell set	

3.6. 外国乐器的中文翻译 Chinese translations of non-Chinese percussion instruments

The purpose of this list is for librarians to identify percussion instruments that are named in the score in Chinese but are actually non-Chinese instruments. In this case, the original English name and abbreviation should be used.

此表的意义是让图书管理员辨别乐谱中哪些用中文标记的打击乐器其实是外国乐器。在这种情况下，应输入英文名及英文缩写。

English	Chinese translations
Bass drum	大军鼓
Bell tree	音树
Bongos	邦戈鼓
Clapper	拍板
Claves	双击木
Congas	康嘎鼓
Crash cymbals	军镲、西洋镲
Drum set	架子鼓、爵士鼓
Glockenspiel	钢片琴、小铁琴
Maraca	沙槌
Marimba	马林巴
Shaker	砂槌
Sleigh bell	橇铃、马铃
Snare drum	小军鼓
Suspended cymbal	吊钹
Suspended cymbals	吊镲、吊钹
Tam-tam	低音锣、大低锣
Timpani	定音鼓
Tom-Tom	通通鼓
Triangle	三角铁
Tubular bells / Chimes	管钟
Vibraphone	铝板琴
Vibraphone with motor on	颤音琴、铝板颤音琴
Vibraslap	拍颤器
Wind chimes	风铃
Xylophone	木琴

4. 弓弦乐器 Bowed-String Instruments

4.1. 乐队弓弦乐器 Orchestral bowed-string instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
高胡	Gaohu	GH	High-range membraned spike tube lute	Same meaning as Yuehu 粤胡; Includes Huanbao (Eco) 环保高胡
二胡	Erhu	EH	Membraned spike tube lute	Same meaning as Nanhu 南胡; Includes Huanbao (Eco) Erhu 环保二胡
中胡	Zhonghu	ZH	Mid-ranged membraned spike tube lute	Includes Huanbao (Eco) Zhonghu 环保中胡
革胡	Gehu	GeH	Cello with membrane vibrating surface	Includes Huanbao (Eco) Gehu 环保革胡
低音革胡	Diyin Gehu	DYGeH	Contrabass with membrane vibrating surface	Same meaning as Beigehu 倍革胡 Includes Huanbao (Eco) Diyin Gehu 环保低音革胡

Note: The Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra spearheaded the development of a series of bowed-string instruments replacing the python skin membrane with a synthetic membrane. These instruments bear the prefix “Huanbao” (meaning environmentally-friendly) or “Eco” (the official English prefix).

4.2. 其它弓弦乐器 Other bowed-string instruments

Chinese	English	Abbr.	Description	Remarks
京胡	Jinghu	JH	High-range Beijing opera membraned spike tube lute	
京二胡	Jingerhu	JEH	Mid-range Beijing opera membraned spike tube lute	
板胡	Banhu	BH	Spike tube lute with wooden soundboard	
椰胡	Yehu	YH	Spike bowl lute carved from coconut with wooden soundboard	
坠胡	Zhuihu	ZhuiH	Membraned spike tube lute with fingerboard	
播琴	Leiqin	LeiQ	Membraned spike tube lute with long fingerboard	