

TONG WANG

Biography

(medium, 250 words)

Tong Wang (tong-wang.com) is a Canadian pianist recognized for her innovative contributions to performance, research, and community engagement. Her work investigates the intersection of art with identity, culture, and contemporary issues. Tong's performance highlights include collaborations with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Red Deer Symphony Orchestra, and ensembles throughout North America and Europe. A versatile artist, she has spearheaded the creation of a new horror anime opera "Labyrinth of Tears" alongside research into the aesthetics of "cuteness" in music, supported by the Canada Council, FRQSC, and SSHRC doctoral grants. Tong's recent projects have explored multiculturalism, diaspora identity, and climate issues, including her solo tour "我们Us" in Lunenburg, Montreal, Basel, Verbier, and her tour with DoSi, "Homecoming", "Wanting to Start Again", and "Dark Tales" across Canada, US, and eastern Europe. In 2022, she co-founded the Windwood Music Festival in Airdrie, Alberta to bring classical chamber music to rural communities. In the past seasons, she performed with Barbara Hannigan, Lyrica Baroque, Xenia Concerts, and toured with the Wang-Dietz duo in China. In the upcoming seasons, Tong will be touring solo recitals with Debut Atlantic (2025/26) and Prairie Debut (2026/27). Tong is a graduate of the New England Conservatory and the Schulich School of Music. She continues to embark on solo and chamber tours across North America, Europe, and Asia, showcasing her dedication to fostering global connections through art.

Biography

(full, 1000 words)

Tong Wang is a Canadian artist engaging in a variety of projects across areas of performance, research, education, community engagement, interdisciplinary arts, cultural advocacy for marginalized groups, and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. She aims to realize the potential within our community when people from different backgrounds and worldviews come together to collaborate and build meaningful connections.

As a concert pianist, Wang has performed with the **Edmonton Symphony Orchestra** (2010), the **Red Deer Symphony Orchestra** (2012, 2018, 2020), and artists/ensembles throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Her awards including the **International Chopin Golden Ring Competition** (2010), **Canadian Music Competition** (2010), **Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal of Performing Arts** (2012), **Winspear Foundation** Scholarship (2012-2015), **Alberta Foundation of the Arts** Individual Musicianship Grant (2013-2016, 2025), **New England Conservatory** George Chadwick Medal (2016), **Alberta Arts Graduate Scholarship** (2018), **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council** Graduate Scholarship (2019), **Canada Council for the Arts** Grants (2021-2025), **Sir James Lougheed** Doctoral Award of Distinction (2022), **La Napoule** Art Foundation Canadian Artist Residency (2022), **Fonds de Recherche du Québec Société et Culture** Doctoral Grant (2021-2022), **Alberta Ministry of Arts, Culture and Status of Women** Grant (2024-2025), **The Hnatyshyn Foundation** Launch Grant (2025), and the **Canada Doctoral Scholarship** (2022-2025).

Wang have given recitals at venues such as Weill Hall in **New York** (2013), Jordan Hall and Symphony Hall in **Boston** (2012-2016), Salle Bourgie (2018), Bon Pasteur (2020), Pollack Hall and Redpath Hall (2017-2025) in **Montreal**, Orpheus Instituut in **Gent**, Belgium (2021), Taratata in **Verbier**, Switzerland

(2022), **Château de la Napoule**, France (2022), Podium Vocale in **Den Haag**, Netherlands (2023), Southminster United Church in **Ottawa** (2023), Central European University in **Budapest**, Hungary (2023, 2024), Gheorghe Dima National Music Academy and Ethnographic Museum of Transylvania in **Cluj-Napoca**, Romania (2024), Meridian Hall in **Toronto** (2024), New Marigny Theatre in **New Orleans** (2024), Russian Cultural Center in **Houston** (2024), and The Chinese University of **Hong Kong** and **Beijing** Central Conservatory (2025).

Throughout her career, Wang has regularly presented community engagement concerts at schools, libraries, galleries, cafes, breweries, farms, senior homes, and hospitals. Since 2012, she has been involved with various social and entrepreneurial initiatives including the **Boston Modern Orchestra Project**, **Music for Food**, New England Conservatory's **Community Partnerships and Performances Program**, and **In Concert for Cambodia**. As a **Lincoln Center Stage** artist from 2016-2019, she performed educational chamber music concerts featuring a diverse range of genres onboard Holland America Line. In 2019, as a part of the leadership for the **Montreal Musicians Collective**, she supported the expansion of a year-round concert series to promote works by queer, underrepresented, and marginalized composers.

In 2016 and 2017, as Executive Director of the artist collective, "**Zenkora Studios**", she led artists across the US and Canada to produce multimedia orchestra concerts that illustrate the stories of an original fantasy universe. The concert in Calgary, "**Zenkora: The Seven Eras**" brought together collaborations with the **Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra**, **Alberta Ballet**, **University of Calgary School of Drama**, and international composers, soloists, and visual artists. Our stage-play explored LGBTQ themes, and our new orchestral commission featured traditional African instruments along with Beijing opera

Throughout her career, Wang have actively explored the role of the arts in relation to identity, culture, and current social-political issues. During the Covid-19 pandemic, she presented a violin-piano concert, "**Song of Praise**" that spoke up against anti-Asian racism and explored the complex identities of Chinese Canadian immigrant musicians. Wang also toured a solo recital celebrating heritages and stories from across China, India, Turkey, Ukraine, and Africa, "**我们Us**" in Lunenburg, Montreal, Basel, and presented the interactive concerts "We're Not Really Strangers" and "My Neighbours Totoro and Claude!" at the **Verbier Festival**. Other festival engagements include the **Siena Music Festival**, **Rome Music Festival**, **Mendelssohn Academy**, **Holland Music Sessions**, **Brevard Music Festival**, **Aspen Music Festival**, **Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival**, **Orford Musique**, and **PianoFest in the Hamptons**.

Also in 2021, as a cohort of the **Global Leaders Program**, Wang's capstone team designed the project "Music Therapist Next" and partnered with Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA to identify qualified recent graduates for placement at health organizations. Within the first 6 months, their project created 3 permanent full-time positions for music therapists at local hospitals.

Wang's doctoral research on "cuteness" as an aesthetic in animation, kawaii metal, lo-fi, and classical music won grants from the Canada Council for the Arts, Fonds de Recherche du Québec, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. This research-performance project has commissioned new solo piano works as well as a new horror anime opera, "Labyrinth of Tears", which has been partially produced by Allegra Chamber Ensemble in Vancouver.

In 2022, Wang co-founded the **Windwood Music Festival** in Airdrie, Alberta to engage with rural communities through classical chamber music. The chamber music series presents adaptive, inclusive, and accessible music events that engage local audiences by listening to their needs, stories, and perspectives. Windwood have also partnered with **Xenia Concerts** and **Airdrie Abilities Center** to curate programs especially designed for neurodivergent and autistic populations.

Along the same vision, Wang's violin-piano duo, **DoSi** (previously Duo Perdendosi), has presented a variety of projects that explore cultural and social-political subjects. In 2023, their tour was centred on the issues of 'home' for diaspora Asian-American populations. In 2024, they were funded by the Canada Council to tour in eastern Europe a program that showcases the work of contemporary Canadian-Chinese and Sri Lankan composers. In 2024, DoSi collaborated with Barbara Hannigan and the Verona Quartet in

Lunenburg, Lyrica Baroque in Louisiana, TO Live, One Health Partners Therapy Dogs, Alzheimer Society of Toronto, and performed two inclusive intergenerational concerts at the Meridian Arts Center.

Most recently in 2025, Wang performed a cello-piano tour featuring Canadian Chinese composer Alice Ho's "Four Impressions of China" in Hong Kong and Beijing. In the 2025-26 season, she will be touring her solo recital *Towards the Flame* with **Debut Atlantic**, and in 2026-27, *My Big Prairie Sky* with **Prairie Debut**.