

WORLD MUSIC

CHINA

Presentation of Entries

An effort has been made to include the Chinese characters for the title, composer's name, and performer's name. In Chinese the family name always comes first follow by the first names. Of the three entries provided here, two are songs and the complete lyrics of these songs have been transcribed and presented in Chinese and translated into French and English.

Following the composer's name is the ISRC (International Standard Recording Code) number for that particular piece of music. This system is quite recent and most of the Western Hemisphere discs did not provide it in the early part of the 21st century. The ISRC consists of: Country – Registrant Code – Year of Registration or Year of Reference (not necessarily the year of recording) – Identification of Recording. The year of reference element identifies the year in which the ISRC (code) is allotted to the recording. In some cases the ISRC is given to the entire album, not to individual songs.

WD-CN1 China 1997

小米饭香来土窑洞暖 (FRAGRANCE THE COOKED MILLET AND WARM THE CAVE DWELLING)

World – Popular – Orchestral – Vocal

Mus: 孙韶 SUN Shao & 俞恩凤 YUN Enfeng

Lyr: 朱文洲 ZHU Wenzhou (LY-WD15)

ISRC No: (Song) ISRC CN-A01-96-301-16

Perf: 俞恩凤 YUN Enfeng (vocal)
(with string orchestra)

Prod. Co: China Record Corp.

Time: 3:59

Compilation **CD:** YUN ENFENG (THE TREASURABLE VERSION OF HUNDRED ANTHOLOGIES OF VOCAL MUSIC PERFORMED BY FAMOUS CHINESE MUSICIANS)
CRC CCD 97/863 (Tk 4)



Notes: The correct translation of the title is “The Fragrance of the Cooked Millet Comes from the Warmth of the Kiln Cave.” The family name of this celebrated singer is a very rare Chinese character and her first name translates as “the gift of the phoenix,” undoubtedly a stage name.

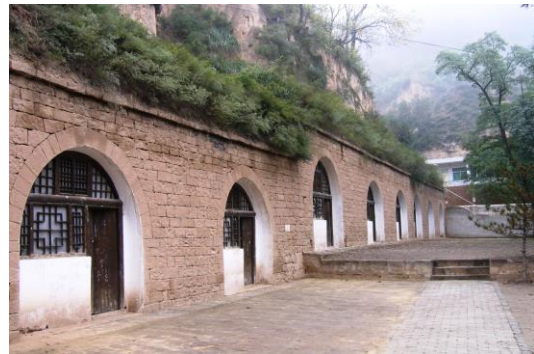
The singer performs with a very high-pitched voice accompanied by a traditional string orchestra. She is no doubt a celebrated singer of the Chinese nation.

山丹丹红来哟山丹丹艳，
小米饭那个香来哟
土窑洞那个暖。
端起那个白米和细面，
忘不了延安的小米饭。
哎！延安的小米饭，
味道真香甜。
延安的土窑洞，明灯亮闪闪。

Les monts rouge vermillon arrivent,
les monts rouges resplendent,
Ce parfum de millet cuit, ce parfum qui nous vient,
De la chaleur de la grotte de terre.
Prenant en main ce plat de riz et sa fine pâte,
Jamais je n'oublierai le millet cuit de Yan'an.
Ah ! Le millet cuit de Yan'an,
Son goût est si doux et parfumé.
Dans la grotte de terre de Yan'an, la clarté de la lampe scintille.

The red mountains turn vermillion,
the red mountains shine,
The scent of the cooked millet,
this fragrance comes to us,
From the warmth of the cave in the ground.
Take this rice dish and its fine dough,
I will never forget the cooked millet of Yan'an.
Ahh ! The cooked millet of Yan'an,
Its taste is sweet and fragrant.
In the earthen cave of Yan'an, the clear lamp
flickers.

The complete lyrics of this 23-verse song transcribed and translated in Chinese, French, and English can be found under World Music Song Lyrics – see [LY-WD15](#).



The song talks about the cave dwellings cut out of the loess deposits at Yan'an in the Shaanxi Province of northwest China. In January 1937, Mao Zedong moved his headquarters from Bao'an to Yan'an to take advantage of the cave dwellings there. "Mao set up housekeeping in a cave at Fenghuangshan (Phoenix Mountain) – in the 'old town.' ... In November 1938 he moved to caves in Yangjialing, three kilometres northwest of Yan'an (close to the current Yan'an University). In October 1943 the leadership moved to Zaoyuan (the date garden), ten kilometres northwest of Yan'an and caves slightly more palatial than earlier ones." (Boshier & Yan 2009) It was from here that Mao started the Long March to reconquer China from the Japanese occupation. The black and white photo was taken by the American journalist Edgar Snow (who interviewed Mao and documented the Long March) and the color photo shows the cave dwellings used by the Communist revolutionaries.

Ref: Boshier, Roger & Yan Huang 2009, Hey There Edgar Snow, What Happened to the Red Star over Yan'an, *Convergence* [Journal of the International Council for Adult Education], v. 41, n. 4, p. 79-101, [eric.ed.gov](#)
Boshier, Roger & Yan Huang 2009, Hey There Edgar Snow, What Happened to the Red Star over Yan'an, *Convergence*, Complete text in English, [doc88](#)

Delprat, Bruno 2012, Transcription and translations, Dec. 2012, Spéléo Club de Paris

Snow, Edgar 1938, *Red Star over China*, Random House, New York (Not seen)

Snow, Louise 1982, *Edgar Snow's China* (Not seen)

小米饭香来土窑洞暖 (Fragrance the Cooked Millet and Warm the Cave Dwelling), [xtyou.com/article/2004/130.html](#)
(Complete song lyrics in Chinese)

WD-CN2 China 2003

洞仙歌 (GE OF THE IMMORTAL IN CAVE)

World – Popular – Instrumental

Comp: (Unknown)

ISRC No: (Album) ISRC CN-A63-03-331-00/AJ6

Perf: (?) (synthesizer & traditional instruments)

Prod: 赵振平 ZHAO Zhenping

Prod. Co: Public Security Ministry Huasheng Musical Publishing House, Guangzhou (Canton)

Time: 6:10

CD: [TAICHI SWORD MUSIC] TAI JI JIAN YIN YUE

SJ 100362 (Tk 4)

Notes: The correct translation of the title is “Song of the Immortal Cave Dweller” (“Ge” means song). The names of the composer and the performers are not provided. The producer is with the Chinese police and her picture is included in the liner notes.

Regarding this piece –

“Morceau extrait de ‘Paroles et musiques du métal saôul.’ En effet, l’art de l’épée au Taichi inclue le style du guerrier saôul où en réalité les mouvements sont déformés et irréguliers pour mieux surprendre et vaincre l’ennemi.” (Delprat 2009)

[This piece is an extract from “Drunken Metal Songs and Music.” Actually, the art of the Taichi sword includes the style of the drunken warrior where in reality the movements are deformed and irregular in order to better surprise and conquer the enemy.]

Sounds like a traditional Chinese orchestra playing a charming, gentle little piece. Some of the instruments heard are string instruments including bass, wooden xylophone, accordion, flute, chimes, and small gongs. The musicians play off each other in a harmonious ensemble.

Ref: Delprat, Bruno 2009, Transcription and translations, May 27, 2009, Spéléo Club de Paris

WD-CN4 China 1997

施洞飞歌 (A SONG FROM THE SHIDONG CAVE) *

World – Traditional – Miao – Vocal

Comp: (Traditional)

ISRC No: (Song) ISRC CN-A01-97-388-14

Perf: 啊旺 A WANG (vocal)

Prod. Co: China Record Corp.

Time: 1:45

1. Compilation **CD:** [CÉLÉBRITÉS DE LA SCÈNE DES MINORITÉS NATIONALES – STAGE CELEBRITES FROM THE NATIONAL MINORITIES]

CRC CCD 97/815 (Tk 14)

2. Reissued on compilation **CD:** [Title ?] 2004

CRC (Starwn) CCD 1887 (Tk 14)

Notes: This alto woman singer, from a Chinese minority group, the Miao (苗), was born at Taijiang in the Guizhou province of southwest China. This region is the heart of the extensive karst country of southern China. In southeast Guizhou there is the Miao village of Shidong and within a short distance there are two caves: Feiyun Cave to the west and Black Dragon Cave to the northeast. It is not known whether the Shidong (Shi Cave) is the Feiyun Cave or yet another cave in the area.

A better translation of the title of this traditional piece in French would be – “Chanson entraînante de la Grotte Shi” or in English – “Enthralling Song of the Shi Cave.” A few keyboard notes lead into a wailing woman's chant (accompanied by a tsi-tsi flute) that finishes on a high strident note. The vocalist, A Wang, naturally sings in her local Miao dialect, but the lyrics printed in the liner notes are in Chinese, translated into French by Bruno Delprat. These are the complete lyrics –



歌词大意：

站在高高的苗岭，
放眼望着四方，
江水清悠悠，
奔流不停息。
苗家是美丽的故乡，
是我生长的地方。
我望着不愿离去，
她将永远挂在我心上。

Sens général des paroles:

Debout tout en haut d'un mont des Miao,
des yeux j'aperçois les quatre points cardinaux,
les flots limpides de la rivière tranquillement
s'écoulent au loin sans répit.
La famille des Miao fait
un pays natal magnifique,
c'est là où je suis née et j'ai grandi.
En le voyant, je ne veux la quitter,
elle est pour toujours accrochée à mon coeur.

The general sense of the lyrics:

Standing way up in the heights of a Miao mountain
My eyes can see the four cardinal points,
The clear waters of the river gently
Flow far away endlessly.
The family of the Miao is
A magnificent native country,
That's where I was born and grew up.
Seeing it, I don't want to leave,
Forever clasped to my heart.

The reissue CD includes all the same selections as the 1997 original but with a better quality sound. The cover artwork of this reissue CD is entirely different (no photos of the artists are included), but the nine verses of the lyrics are provided.

Ref: Delprat, Bruno 2008, Transcription and translations, Feb. 26, 2008 & May 27, 2009, Spéléo Club de Paris
La Carte touristique du Guizhou, Administration nationale de tourisme de Chine

caveinspiredmusic.com