

風入松歌 Feng Ru Song Ge: Song of Wind Through the Pines

The lyrics of this version in *Taigu Yiyin* (1511) are by 僧皎然 the monk Jiao Ran (730-799). The attribution of the melody to 嵇康 Xi Kang (223-262) follows a long tradition, but there is no evidence to support it.

西嶺松聲落日秋，千植萬葉風颼颼。
Xi Ling song sheng luo ri qiu, qian zhi wan ye feng liu liu.
In the Western mountains the pines have sounds in the setting sun of autumn,
1,000 branches and 10,000 leaves in the wind sough.

美人援琴弄成曲，寫得松間聲斷續。
Mei ren yuan qin nong cheng qu, Xie de song jian sheng duan xu.
A wonderful person takes his qin and his playing forms a song,
creating amongst the pines sounds both brief and long.

聲斷續，清我魂，流波、壞陵安足論。
Sheng duan xu, qing wo hun, Liu Bo, Huai Ling an zu lun.
Sounds brief and long clear my spirit;

other melodies such as Flowing Waves or Ruined Mounds are not even worth discussing.

美人夜坐月明裏，含少商兮點清徵。
Mei ren ye zuo yue ming li, han shao shang xi dian qing zhi.
The wonderful person at night sits under the bright moon,

with little discourse plays clear tones.

風何凄兮飄颼，攪寒松兮又夜起。
Feng he qi xi piao liao, jiao han song xi you ye qi.
The breeze: how cool; whirling and fluttering,

stirring up the cool pine trees, and night arrives.

夜未央，曲何長，金徽更促聲泱泱。
Ye wei yang, qu he chang, jin hui geng cu sheng yang yang.
At night before midnight the tune is so long,

(moving on the) qin top in an even greater hurry as the sound becomes agitated.

何人此時不得意，意若絃絃悲聞客堂？
He ren ci shi bu de yi, yi ruo xian xian bei wen ke tang?
What person at this time would not be thoughtful,

with such bitter feelings and sad notes heard in the guest hall?

醉翁吟 Zu iweng Yin: The Old Toper's Chant

These lyrics, attributed to 蘇東坡 Su Dongpo (1037-1101), honor his friend 歐陽修 Ouyang Xiu (1007-1072), also known as the Old Toper. The earliest surviving melody is in 風宣玄品 *Fengxuan Xuanpin* (1539); the second, in 龍湖琴譜 *Longhu Qinpu* (1585), is set to virtually the same lyrics but a completely different melody.

1. 琅然清圓，誰彈鄉空山？
Lang ran qing yuan, shei tan xiang kong shan?

Tinkling, pure and round, whose playing resounds in the empty mountains?

無言，惟翁醉中知其天。
Wu yan, wei weng zui zhong zhi qi tian.

There are no words, only an old man who when drunk knows of heaven.

月明，風露娟娟，人未眠。
Yue ming, feng lu juan juan, ren wei mian.

The moon is bright, wind (causes the) dew to shimmer, people are not yet asleep.

荷蕢過山前，
He kui guo shan qian,

A carrier of baskets passing the front of the hill says,

曰：有心也哉此賢。
Yue: you xin ye zai ci xian.

"He has great feelings, does this worthy person."

2. 醉翁嘯詠，聲和流泉。
Zui weng xiao yong, sheng he liu quan.

The Old Toper whistles and sings, the sound harmonizing with flowing streams.

醉翁去後，空有朝禽、夜猿。
Zui weng qu hou, kong you zhao qin, ye yuan.

After the Old Toper leaves,

the void is filled with (sounds of) morning birds and evening monkeys.

山有時而童顛，水有時而回川，
Shan you shi er tong dian, shui you shi er hui chuan,

Mountains sometimes collapse, (and) rivers sometimes reverse course,

思翁無歲年。
Si weng wu sui nian.

(but) I think the Old (Toper) is completely ageless.

翁今爲飛仙，此意在人間；
Weng jin wei fei xian, ci yi zai ren jian.

The Old (Toper) now being an ethereal immortal, this thought comes to people:

試聽徽外三兩絃。
Shi ting hui wai san liang xian.

try to listen beyond (actual) qin sounds to three or two strings' (ethereal resonance).