

Ian Y. Chung  
Artist Statement

I compose music that centers on intercultural synthesis, blending diverse musical styles to create a rich tapestry of global heritage. By incorporating elements from classical, jazz, and traditional Korean music, I invite audiences to engage effortlessly, refracting musical elements—whether abstract gestures or vibrant Korean drumming—to capture their essence and spark intrigue. These elements serve as guides, inviting listeners to connect with the music on both emotional and intellectual levels. My aim is to cultivate a sense of unity and connection among listeners from diverse backgrounds.

My music delivers vivid images shaped by ideas derived from a wide array of sources: music, nature, literature, and social issues. Whether it is about flower, neighborhood, or animal welfare, it is my role reflecting my own experiences, my community, and the world around me in the music. Driven by a strong belief in music's power to inspire change, bridge divides, and contribute to a better world, I strive to create a meaning in each composition where listeners can connect deeply.

Community engagement is central to my artistic mission, extending well beyond the traditional concert hall. I am passionate about bringing music into diverse spaces—museums, galleries, schools, senior houses, churches, and beyond—where it can reach a broader audience and build a deeper connection with local community. By performing in different spaces, I aim to make music more accessible, creating shared experiences that resonate across all backgrounds.