

Acknowledgements

The idea for this book project first took shape during the Chinese Music and Musical Instruments (CHIME) conference in Lisbon in May 2018. One evening, while in conversation with colleagues, we reflected on the noticeable imbalance in academic research: While the flow of Western sounds and music to China has been extensively studied, the sonic transfers from China to the rest of the world have received far less attention. Despite the wealth of original scholarship examining this issue from various perspectives, we recognized the need for a more systematic and comprehensive exploration of Chinese soundscapes and their global journeys into the twenty-first century.

This idea was further developed at a workshop hosted by Aarhus University (AU) in Denmark in May 2019, facilitated with funding by the Research Program at the Institute of Global Studies. The project's next phase involved organizing an international conference at AU, which was made possible by the generous support of the Carlsberg Foundation in Copenhagen. However, the conference had to be postponed due to the unforeseen challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Eventually, an online version was successfully held from May 6 to 8, 2021. We were both delighted and humbled by the overwhelming response, with over one hundred colleagues and students from around the world joining us via Zoom to participate in the discussions.

We are deeply grateful for the support provided by the Carlsberg Foundation, which made this book project possible. We would also like

to extend our heartfelt thanks and intellectual camaraderie to the seventeen speakers and authors who contributed to this volume. Their expertise, insights, and dedication were instrumental in shaping the scope and direction of this work. Following the conference, we invited all contributors to a second online meeting to refine the volume's framework and discuss their individual contributions. Their thoughtful comments, constructive suggestions, and unwavering commitment kept this project moving forward, even under the constraints of virtual collaboration. It is through their collective efforts that we were able to bring this project to completion.

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For us, this book is a testament to the power of collaboration, interdisciplinarity, and shared intellectual curiosity about sound and China, even in the face of unprecedented global challenges. We are immensely grateful to everyone who contributed to its realization.