

# Gong Xi Gong Xi

("Congratulations!")

for Two-part Treble Voices with Piano  
and Optional Percussion\*

Music and Lyrics by  
**CHEN GE XIN**  
Arranged by Lily Lung Grant

Festive ♩ = 90

Chinese Cymbals *ff*

Chinese Gongs *ff*

Piano *ff*

5 Part 1 *f*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

Part 2 *f*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

*f*

\* A woodblock could substitute for small gong. Small cymbals or suspended cymbals played by drum sticks could substitute for cymbals. The parts for Optional Percussion appears on p. 10.

Mei tiao da jeh xiao xiang, mei ge ren de jueh li,  
Ev' - ry street and al - ley, Ev' - ry per - son you meet,

*mp*

*mf*

jian mien di yi jue hua, doh shi gong xi gong xi.  
Greet each friend with joy - ful song, Sing - ing "Gong Xi Gong Xi!"

*f*

17 *f*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! . Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

*mf*

*f*

21

la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

25

*mf*

la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la

29

*mp*

la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la la

*f*

Dong tien yi dao jin — tou,      jen shi hao di xiao — xi!  
 Time for ce - le - bra - tion,      Ev' - ry where and ev' - ry - one,

*mf*

33

*f*

Wen — luen di chun — feng, jiu yao chui sheng da di!  
 Spring time comes to Mo - ther Earth, All life is a - gain new.

*mp*

la la la la la la la la la la la la la

37

*mf*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

*mf*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

41

*f*

Mei tiao da jeh xiao — xiang, mei ge ren de jueh — li,  
 Ev' - ry street and al - ley, Ev' - ry per - son you — meet,

*f*

Mei tiao da jeh xiao — xiang, mei ge ren de jueh — li,  
 Ev' - ry street and al - ley, Ev' - ry per - son you — meet,

*f*

45

jian mien di yi jue — hua, doh shi gong xi gong xi.  
 Greet each friend with joy - ful song, Sing - ing "Gong Xi Gong Xi!"

jian mien di yi jue — hua, doh shi gong xi gong xi.  
 Greet each friend with joy - ful song, Sing - ing "Gong Xi Gong Xi!"

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Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi Gong xi ni!

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

53 *ff*

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni ya! Gong xi gong xi gong xi ni!

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

## Cultural Context

*Gong Xi Gong Xi* is one of the most well-known and popular Chinese New Year songs today. During the two weeks of New Year celebrations, this song is heard in Chinese communities around the world. But this song was not originally composed solely for Chinese New Year. In 1945, Japan's surrender ended the Second World War, which also ended eight years of kang jian (抗戰 - resistance war) in China. Chinese people were ecstatic at the returning of peace. It was in this atmosphere that composer Chen Ge Xin (1914-1961) created *Gong Xi Gong Xi* for the first post-war Chinese New Year. The words "gong xi" actually means "congratulations," therefore it could mean both "the war is over!" or "Happy New Year."

## About the Composer

Chen was one of China's most celebrated popular music composers in the early twentieth century. He was active in Shanghai and Hong Kong. Many of his songs, such as *Rose, Rose, I love you* and *Evening in Shanghai* still enjoy popularity and have come to define the era.

## Suggested Introduction for Concert

"*Gong Xi Gong Xi* is a song for celebrating Chinese New Year. It was originally composed to celebrate the end of the Second World War. Nowadays it is sung and heard in all Chinese communities around the world during the two-week long Chinese New Year celebrations. The words "gong xi" mean 'congratulations'."

Original Text	Transliteration	IPA	Lyrical Translations
每條大街小巷	Mei tiao da jeh xiao xiang,	meɪ t̪iɑ̃ da t̪sia ɕiɑ̃ ɕiɑ̃ŋ	In every street corner and small alley
每個人的嘴裡	Mei ge ren de jue li,	meɪ gə rən də t̪zueɪ li	from every person's lips
見面第一句話	jian mien di yi juu hua,	tsien mien di ji dzi hwa	when they see each other, the first thing they say
都是恭喜恭喜	doh shi gong xi gong xi.	doʊ ʃɪ gəŋ ɕi gəŋ ɕi	is "Congratulations!"
冬天已到盡頭	dong tian yi dao jin tou	dəŋ tien ji daʊ dzin to	Winter has already come to an end.
真是好的消息	jen shi hao di xiao xi	dʒ ʃɪ haʊ də ɕiɑ̃ ɕi	What good news!
溫暖的春風	wen nuan di chun feng	wen nuan də t̪ʃən fəŋ	Warm spring wind
就要吹醒大地	jiu yao chui seng da di	dʒiu jaʊ t̪ʃwe ɕəŋ da di	will soon wake up the Earth.