

JADE STAR HOTEL

GENERATIONS OF CHINESE SPOKE
OF IT ONLY IN WHISPERS.
THAT CHANGES TONIGHT.



CREATIVE TEAM

COMPOSER & CREATOR
STEPHANIE CHOU

LIBRETTIST
SUSAN KANDER

DEVELOPMENT ARTISTS *

SERGIO MAURITZ ANG
DAVID ARTHUR BACHRACH
MARISSA CARPIO
YA HAN CHANG
YIHONG CHEN
ABAGAE CHENG
ELLIS GAGE
JONON GANSUKH
NINA LAM
REBECCA LEE LERMAN
MIGUEL SUTEDJO
JUSTINE YEAJIN AN
DOMINIQUE XI

List of artists are from the work's libretto reading, hosted at The Space at Iroindale in Brooklyn.

SYNOPSIS

JADE STAR HOTEL is the story of a Chinese 'comfort woman', a cruel euphemism for the women who were abducted and forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese army in the 1930s and '40s. In 1939, sixteen-year-old Lian is kidnapped by Japanese soldiers from her own wedding in a rural village in Manchuria and kept at a military 'comfort station' with other women. Though she survives, she is rejected by her family as a "cursed one," and relegated to the edges of society. Sixty-five years later, a letter arrives from America to the modest apartment she shares with her daughter and granddaughter, causing Old Lian to finally share her story with her only family. JADE STAR HOTEL is a tribute to the more than 200,000 comfort women, and to their courage in finally telling their stories.

This jazz-opera combines the drama of opera with the energy of improvised jazz.

SCORE & PRODUCTION INFO

DURATION

90'

ROLES

13-16 singers, various voice types
1 dancer

INSTRUMENTATION

Chamber ensemble of 14
instruments: alto saxophone,
violin, viola, erhu, piano, drums,
percussion

INFORMATION & MEDIA SAMPLES

For more information, visit www.aopopera.org/jade-star-hotel
or
contact Mila Henry, AOP Artistic Director; mhenry@aopopera.org

FUNDING

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COMMISSION & DEVELOPMENT

Jade Star Hotel is based off the 2019 song cycle *Comfort Girl* by Stephanie Chou. The song cycle received its World Premiere at Joe's Pub (NYC) on March 29, 2019. The chamber opera is currently in development with The American Opera Project. A reading of the revised libretto took place in August 2022. The work's first piano-vocal workshop is scheduled for 2023.