

YING-CHEN KAO

Short Biography
(151 words)

Ying-Chen Kao is a Taiwanese-American composer, pianist, educator, and graphic and web designer whose music has been praised as "exceedingly beautiful" by *Soundboard UK* and "an evocative and surreal soundscape" by *Minor 7th: Acoustic Guitar Music Reviews*. Her work has been featured at venues and broadcasts worldwide, including The Stone, Ningbo Grand Theater, Kaohsiung Music Center, WBJC, and NPR. In the 2026–2027 season, her newest work, *Where Paths Converge* (2026) for piano and electronics, commissioned by pianist Tina Chong with support from San Diego State University, will receive its world premiere. Her compositions *Frustration Factory* and *Ancient Memory* are published by Warwick Music/Hal Leonard Europe, and her Prix d'Été–winning *Lilac . Star . Bird* was released as the title track on guitarist Tracy Anne Smith's debut album. An alumna of the Peabody Institute and the University of Miami, Ying-Chen also co-founded ycArt Design Studio LLC. For more, visit yingchenkao.com.

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