

Chinese Folk Songs & *Kangding Love Song*

Folk song has the longest history, simplest structure, richest numbers, and widest spreading musical genre among traditional Chinese culture. It has been distributed to many provinces, The folk songs are originally sang by labor people, more and more people accept the folk songs.



China is a large nation with a diverse array of ethnic groups, each of which has their own unique set of folk songs that constitute a solid foundation of Chinese musical heritage. The co-existence of different artistic forms, such as dancing, instrumental music, and opera, offer a fertile environment for the future development of Chinese music. Professional music is usually created by drawing materials from the folk songs of different ethnic groups. For this purpose, either the whole song can be used and performed or part of the song can be used as the basis for a more original work.



The different ethnic minorities in China all have their own work songs, mountain songs, dance songs, ritual songs and children's songs. Besides, love songs, narrative songs and religious songs are all give high importance. The folk songs of Han people, which accounts for above 90% of China population.



There are three types of Chinese Folk songs, they are called: *hao zi*, *xiao diao* & *Shan Ge*. Usually, *haozi* is sung by male labor people, such as “Song for fisher”. *Shan Ge* are sung by two people, such as “*Xiao He Tang Shu*”. *Xiao Diao* with the nice tone, usually girls like sing *xiao diao*, such as “Purple Bamboo”. There are more than 27 provinces and states in China, different place has different style of folk song.

Kangding Love Song is a folk song originated in *Kangding* town, Sichuan Province. In the 40s of the last century, *Li Yiruo* from Sichuan composed a song “Racing Horse in the Mountains”. *Jiang Dingxian*, a lecturer from the Department of Composition of *Chongqing Qingmuguan* National Conservatory, scored it and then recommended it to a popular singer *Yu Yixuan* after re-naming it to *Kangding Love Song*.



Kang Ding Love Song is one of the most popular Chinese folk songs. Its simple melody and vivid rhythm are easy to remember and sing, and its lyrics tell a timeless theme — Love. *Kangding Love Song* is sung in the international community also has a broad influence, As early as three to four decades in the 20th century on behalf of the United Nations UNESCO has this folk songs as one of the

world's top ten folk songs, and use it as China's most important folk Music to the world recommendations; in 90th , the U.S. National Space Agency in the to find human space aficionados, and launched a satellite, the selected representative of the world's most recorded 10 songs, including one in China, it is the song of *Kangding Love Song*. So, since then, it will fly in the vast universe, the ceaseless search for fellow human beings.



Kangding Love Song for the first time taken the door in May 1949, by the well-known soprano, vocal Music educator, Professor *Yu Yixuan*, held in Paris, France at *Shouchang* personal Music. French intoxicated with romantic love songs in Chinese. Cultural exchanges in the future, this is the first folk song several times by Chinese and foreign artists perform, such as the singers *Placido Domingo*, soprano *Kailunaisi Ciprian*, etc., which makes it even more beyond.

August 18, 2001, the Chinese love songs for the first time named '2001 years of western China *Kangding Love Song* Festival' in *Kangding Paoma Shan* on the singing, which is undoubtedly the cultural significance of *Kangding love song* into a new historical height.

康定情歌

Kangding Love Song

pǎo mǎ (liū liū de) shān shàng yī duǒ (liū liū de) yún
yo

跑马(溜溜的)山上一朵(溜溜的)云哟

duān duān (liū liū de) zhào zài kāng dìng (liū liū de)
chéng yo

端端(溜溜的)照在康定(溜溜的)城哟

yuè liàng wān wān kāng dìng (liū liū de) chéng yo

月亮弯弯康定(溜溜的)城哟

lǐ jiā (liū liū de) dà jiě rén cái (liū liū de) hǎo yo

李家(溜溜的)大姐人才(溜溜的)好哟

zhāng jiā (liū liū de) dà gē kàn shàng (liū liū de) tā yo

张家(溜溜的)大哥看上(溜溜的)她哟

yuè liàng wān wān kàn shàng (liū liū de) tā yo

月亮弯弯看上(溜溜的)她哟

yī lái (liū liū de) kàn shàng rén cái (liū liū de) hǎo yo

一来(溜溜的)看上人才(溜溜的)好哟

èr lái (liū liū de) kàn shàng huì dāng (liū liū de) jiā yo

二来(溜溜的)看上会当(溜溜的)家哟

yuè liàng wān wān huì dāng (liū liū de) jiā yo

月亮弯弯会当(溜溜的)家哟

shì jiān (liū liū de) nǚ zǐ rèn wǒ (liū liū de) ài yo

世间(溜溜的)女子任我(溜溜的)爱哟

shì jiān (liū liū de) nán zǐ rèn nǐ (liū liū de) qiú yo

世间(溜溜的)男子任你(溜溜的)求哟

yuè liàng wān wān rèn nǐ (liū liū de) qiú yo

月亮弯弯任你(溜溜的)求哟

High upon the mountain side

Floats a cloud so white

There lies peaceful Kang Ding town

Bathed in silver moonlight

Moonlight shines bright

Over Kang Ding town, oh

Lovely maid with a smile so sweet

Li the wood cutter's daughter

Gheng the blacksmith eldest's son

Came through moonlight to court
her

Moonlight shines bright

Over Kang Ding town, oh

Came through moonlight to court
her

He fell in love with her smile so
sweet

And her pleasing ways, oh

She could cook and she could sew

Care for him all of his days, oh

Moonlight shines bright

Over Kang Ding town, oh

Care for him all of his days, oh

Lovely maidens of the world

I cannot but love you

Gentlemen folk of the world

They cannot but woe you