

Research Grant – CoTA Faculty Research Grant Fall 2015

Faculty Member: Kyoung Cho

Unit: School of Music

Proposal Title: Concert and Lecture Tour to Three Asian Countries (Japan, Korea, and China)

A. Abstract:

I am seeking support for a Concert and Lecture Tour to Three Asian Countries (Japan, Korean, and China). In recognition of my emerging profile as a leading Asian American performing scholar, the invitations came from several important performing arts organizations and universities in three countries. During the visit, I also have been invited to meet the leading scholars, composers, and musicians to discuss the future creative research projects, including research on Art Songs by leading Ethnic Japanese Korean Composers/Poets and a new Korean Art Song CD recording, commissioned to me by The Korean Society of Women Composers.

B. Proposal:

Encouraged by USF's strong commitment to global engagement in research, I have invested my efforts towards my research activities at international stages, since joining the USF music faculty in 2007. I have received twelve research grants from USF Office of Research & Innovation, College of The Arts, and the School of Music that enabled me to present my research internationally (13 countries) in lectures and performances, and also through CD recordings.

In recognition of my emerging profile as a prominent performer and educator of vocal music, I have been invited to Japan, China and Korea this winter to present several lectures, lecture-recitals, and concerts.

This invitation came from The Korean Society of Women Composers, Ko China Art Culture Association, Kansai University, Osaka Korean Association/Consulate General of Korea in Osaka Japan, Po Cheon News Press, Inc., Northeast Normal University, and Jilin College of Arts.

I will present a lecture on Korean Diaspora & Korean Songs, lecture on Verdi's Opera & Shakespeare, one recital featuring Korean Songs, one Gala concert of Korean and Chinese Songs, and three voice recitals, featuring songs and operatic arias. I expect to receive critical reviews of my performances and lectures by local critiques.

Additionally, during this visit, I will have the opportunity to meet and collaborate with the composers, poets, singers, and voice professors in Japan to research Korean Art Songs by ethnic Korean Japanese artists. For the past several years, I have studied, researched, translated, and performed Korean art songs

from South Korea and China. I have produced 2 CDs that received critical claims and another CD of Korean Art Songs by prominent ethnic Korean Chinese composers and poets is expected to be released in December 2015. I hope to add Korean Art Songs by Korean Japanese artists as another crucial chapter of “Korean Diaspora and Songs” project.

During my visit to Korea, I will also meet the members of The Korean Society of Women Composers to continue the research on Art songs by Korean women composers. I have been commissioned by KSWC to record and produce a Korean Art Song CD by leading Korean women composers.

I believe these activities will further enhance my reputation as an International Leading Performer & Scholar of Korean Vocal Music and I am also hoping that my recitals, lectures, and lecture-recitals will lead to further international exchanges between USF and these institutions and research opportunities from these countries where the interest and audience base for Classical and traditional music is rapidly growing.

This project will make a positive contribution as an international interdisciplinary creative research and scholarly activity (Multicultural and Ethno Music, History, Diaspora, Literature, and Language) International recognition is extremely important to all levels of our university. All of this will also help to further expand USF’s international presence and prestige as a global research university making a global impact in the arts, and one which supports the strategic goals and objectives of the unit, college, and university.