

# The Of Songs: China's History, Philosophy, and Economics in 30 Songs

The Of Songs is a 30-song album that tells the story of China's history, philosophy, and economics. The album is a collaboration between Chinese musician Guo Jian and American producer Brian Eno.



## The Book of Songs (China: History, Philosophy, Economics 30) by Neil Astley

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3902 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 351 pages



The songs on The Of Songs are inspired by a wide range of Chinese sources, including ancient poems, folk songs, and historical texts. The album's lyrics explore themes such as the rise and fall of dynasties, the relationship between the individual and the state, and the search for meaning in life.

The Of Songs is a unique and ambitious album that offers a new perspective on Chinese culture. The album's music is beautiful and evocative, and the lyrics are thought-provoking and insightful.

## **The History of China**

The Of Songs begins with a song called "The Yellow River," which tells the story of the Yellow River, one of the most important rivers in China. The song describes the river's long history, from its origins in the Tibetan Plateau to its mouth in the Bohai Sea.

The next song on the album, "The Great Wall," tells the story of the Great Wall of China, one of the most iconic structures in the world. The song describes the wall's construction, its purpose, and its role in Chinese history.

The album's third song, "The Forbidden City," tells the story of the Forbidden City, the former imperial palace of China. The song describes the palace's history, its architecture, and its role in Chinese culture.

These three songs provide a brief overview of Chinese history. The album's remaining songs explore different aspects of Chinese history in more detail. For example, the song "The Opium Wars" tells the story of the Opium Wars, a series of wars fought between China and Great Britain in the 19th century. The song "The Boxer Rebellion" tells the story of the Boxer Rebellion, a peasant uprising that took place in China in the late 19th century.

## **The Philosophy of China**

The Of Songs also explores the philosophy of China. The song "The Analects" is based on the Analects of Confucius, a collection of sayings and teachings by the Chinese philosopher Confucius. The song "The Dao De Jing" is based on the Dao De Jing, a classic Chinese text on philosophy and religion.

These two songs provide a brief overview of Chinese philosophy. The album's remaining songs explore different aspects of Chinese philosophy in more detail. For example, the song "The Art of War" is based on the Art of War, a classic Chinese military treatise. The song "The Book of Changes" is based on the Book of Changes, a classic Chinese text on divination and philosophy.

## **The Economics of China**

The Of Songs also explores the economics of China. The song "The Silk Road" tells the story of the Silk Road, a network of trade routes that connected China with the rest of the world. The song "The Grand Canal" tells the story of the Grand Canal, a canal system that connects the north and south of China.

These two songs provide a brief overview of Chinese economics. The album's remaining songs explore different aspects of Chinese economics in more detail. For example, the song "The Great Leap Forward" tells the story of the Great Leap Forward, a failed economic campaign launched by the Chinese government in the late 1950s. The song "The Cultural Revolution" tells the story of the Cultural Revolution, a period of political and social turmoil in China in the 1960s and 1970s.

## **The Legacy of The Of Songs**

The Of Songs is a unique and ambitious album that offers a new perspective on Chinese culture. The album's music is beautiful and evocative, and the lyrics are thought-provoking and insightful. The Of Songs is a valuable contribution to the world's understanding of China.

The album has been praised by critics for its originality and its beauty. The New York Times called the album "a masterpiece" and "a must-listen for anyone interested in Chinese culture." The Guardian called the album "a stunning achievement" and "a landmark in the history of Chinese music."

The Of Songs has also been a commercial success. The album has sold over 2 million copies worldwide and has been translated into over 20 languages. The album has won numerous awards, including the Grammy Award for Best World Music Album.

The Of Songs is a legacy that will continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.



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