Amhassy of the People's Republic of China

2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

YANG JIECHI Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Telephone: (202) 745-6764 Fax: (202) 328-2582

January 27, 2003

Mr. Stephen M. Weitzman Chairman of the Board of Trustees New York Choral Society 1201 Carnegie Hall 881 Seventh Avenue, Studio 1201 New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Weitzman,

I am delighted to know that the New York Choral Society will be singing the Yellow River Cantata at a special concert in Carnegie Hall on the eve of the Chinese Spring Festival. This is indeed a highly commendable event.

As two influential members of the international community, China and the United States are assuming greater responsibility and sharing more common interests today in world peace, stability and development. It has thus become even more vital to enhance exchanges and cooperation in all fields between our two countries, including cultural exchanges.

The Yellow River Cantata, which was composed in 1939 when the Chinese people were fighting fascism, is a masterpiece of Chinese music, not only for its artistry, but also for its true expression of the peace-loving nature and unbending spirit of the Chinese people. It is therefore of important significance to introduce this song of peace to the American people during the Chinese Spring Festival.

I hope that the Yellow River Cantata will be another messenger between the Chinese and American peoples. I wish the concert a great success.

With warm regards.

Sincerely,

Yang Jiechi Ambassador