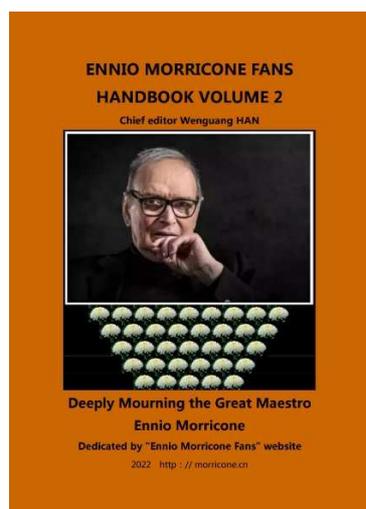


—————ANNIVERSARY—————

Following the Maestro for 44 years

20th Anniversary of the Chinese Website

by Wenguang Han



I, Wenguang Han, a Chinese, am 86 years old. Since 1979, I have been following the Maestro Ennio Morricone, for 44 years⁶². Reviewing the 44 years experience can be roughly divided into seven key points:

1. In 1979 (42 years old), I heard the theme song **Once Upon a Time in the West** in France and was attracted by it. But I (including my French friends) didn't know who is its composer.
2. In 1994 (57 years old), I went to Beijing on a business trip and accidentally bought a new music CD at a high price in a store. After careful study, I finally learned the name of Ennio Morricone⁶³.
3. In 2003 (66 years old), I established the "Morricone Fans" website. Started the glorious mission of collecting, disseminating and studying Morricone's works⁶⁴. Over the past 20 years, it has received the support and trust of many fans, and welcomed more than 2 million visitors from more than 200 countries around the world.
4. In 2009 (aged 72), Morricone held his first concert in Beijing, China. I saw Morricone with my own eyes and presented a gift to him on behalf of Chinese fans. In the same year, the China Ennio Morricone Fans Association was established, and I was invited to serve as honorary president⁶⁵.
5. In 2012 (76 years old), the "Ennio Morricone Fans Handbook" (Volume I), edited by me, was published.
6. In 2017 (aged 80), I published "An open letter to the official website of Ennio Morricone"⁶⁶.
7. From 2019 to 2023 (82-86 years old), Volume 2 and Volume 3 of "Ennio Morricone Fans Handbook" edited by me (hereinafter referred to as the Handbook), were published and distributed successively. To help fans' personal appreciation and research, a corresponding large "Reading Resource Library" has also been put into use⁶⁷.

44 years of random feeling 1: Morricone is not only a Maestro, but also a great man

29 years ago, after I learned the name of Morricone, I heard a lot of comments about Ennio Morricone from various sources and channels, but most of them came from the West – those who first knew him. As an Oriental, Chinese, different historical culture, and even different social systems, how should we treat him? After 44 years, through the establishment of websites, the preparation of books, the reception of feedback

⁶² About me, please see [here](#).

⁶³ see [here](#).

⁶⁴ see Maestro #1, p.39.

⁶⁵ see [here](#).

⁶⁶ see [here](#).

⁶⁷ see [here](#).

Ennio Morricone Fans Handbook

Volume 3

Chief Editor HAN-Wenguang



Commemorating the 20th anni of the website (Ennio Morricone Fans) and the 5th anni of (Morricone Forum)

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from many fans of different ages, different faiths and different occupations from all over the world. Now, I can finally use my own words: "Morricone is indeed an outstanding film musician, one in a million, and he is also a great man". I am proud to choose such a great man and his works as the theme to build a website of my own.

To say that he is "great", first of all, because of his amazing diligence.

No matter before or after becoming famous, he never takes pride in himself and always insists on hard work. According to my 4th edition chronology and the information on the chimai website, he has created nearly 10000 original music pieces for 440 films in his life for more than 70 years. An average of 7 films and 140 original music pieces (excluding absolute music) per year. In 1972, he scored up to 26 films, with an average of 14 days per film. This number ranks first in the world today. In his later years, he devoted himself to concerts all over the world. According to the statistics on wikipedia⁶⁸, during the 34 years from September 1986 to January 2020, Morricone hosted 294 concerts in more than 50 countries around the world, with an average of 9 concerts held every year. Organizing a

concert involves a lot of heavy work, from planning, signing, organizing, rehearsal, to performance, transportation, accommodation, safety, etc. For an old man who is over 70, 80 years old, the difficulty and strength of such a density can be imagined

To say that he is "great", because of the singularity and universality of his works.

Almost every piece of music surprises you. He is good at getting inspiration from other classical musicians, as well as looking for wonders from various sound sources, playing skills, classical instruments and other aspects: such as whistling. The sound of a horse's hoof and whiplash, typewriters, electric guitar bursts, wordless vocals (1968 **Once Upon a Time in the West**, 1972 **Il maestro e Margherita**, 1973 **Le Serpent**), drumming of a parade (1995 **Sostiene Pereira**), and so on; special performance skills of various traditional instruments, for example, the staccato of the violin (1981 **The Life and Times of David Lloyd George, Le professionnel**), the arpeggio of the piano (1970 **La califfa**, 2002 **La luz prodigiosa**), the sputter articulation of the panpipe (1984 **Once Upon a Time in America**, 1989 **Casualties of War**), and so on; the modern playing of ancient traditional musical instruments in various countries: for example, the cymbal, gongs and drums in the East (1983 **Le marginal**), Israel's Jew's harp ("Dollars Trilogy"), Portugal's Fado (1995 **Sostiene Pereira**), etc. The audience will never forget it, and the memory will still be fresh.

Secondly, from the perspective of the mass character of his works, his works are widely welcomed by the people of all countries, different nationalities, different faiths and different classes in the world. During the editing process of Volume 1 to Volume 3 of the Handbook, I saw that his music works have been widely cited and extended. According to the 4th edition of the chronology, in 2020, the number of films (FB, FC and FU⁶⁹) had reached 677, greatly exceeding the number of his original music films. In addition to Western countries such as Europe and the United States, his works have spread to countries such as China, Japan, India, Egypt, Turkey, the Philippines, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela and Myanmar. To show the infinite vitality of his great works.

To say that he is "great", we should talk more about his personality charm.

Morricone is a Catholic. He lives and works in his own way and never goes out of line; he is modest and prudent; for social affairs, he took a clear stand to uphold justice, support the weak, oppose oppression, and pursue freedom. This can be clearly concluded from many films, music and social activities he composed

⁶⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Ennio_Morricone_concerts

⁶⁹ FB: important association; FC: General association; FU: Others (advertising, drama, interviews.... etc.)

for. For example, **La battaglia di Algeri**, **Casualties of War**, **Queimada**, **La Classe operaia va in paradiso**, **Indagine su un cittadino al di sopra di ogni sospetto**, **The Mission**, **L'avventuriero**, **Metello**, **La Califfa**, **Malena** and so on. He often participates in many social activities. This is particularly prominent in the process of editing Volume 3 of the Handbook. For example, FU7401 **Vi scrivo da un carcere in Grecia** (“I write to you from a Greek prison”), FU8901 **MUTAC** (“Museum of Farmers' Traditional Art”), FU9301 **Eva Fischer, pittore** (“Eva Fischer, painter”), FU9501 **Musica per la resistenza** (“Resistance Movement Music”, event), FU0101 “Ritratti italiani n. 7: Gillo Pontecorvo (“Italian Portrait No. 7: Gillo Pontecorvo”), FU0504 “Elio Petri... appunti su un autore” (“Elio Petri... a writer's note”), FU0505 **Wstawac! Il comando dell'alba** (“Get up! The order of dawn”, theatre play), FU1004 “Zylem 17 razy” (“I have lived 17 times”), FU1502 **Stabat mater dolorosa** (“Madonna's lament”) and so on, from workers to farmers, from poets to painters, writers, from prisoners to resistance fighters, from environmental protection to energy, from leftists to religious ceremonies... you can see many of the maestro's close friends who share the same ideal and his track of activities almost everywhere. In this sense, he is not just a musician.



Our website is fortunate to choose such a great musician as theme and shoulder the historical mission of disseminating the outstanding works of this great musician. Although there are many difficulties, we will continue to work hard, pass on from generation to generation, and persist for a long time.

44 years of random feeling 2: Maestro magazine (and chimai website) is my good teacher

As far as I know, the chimai website has also been established for 20 years. From my 20 years of use, observation and comparison, this is a very professional, comprehensive and reliable website. Among all websites in the world, it is unique. Didier Thunus, its webmaster, and Bouster Patrick, a editor of Maestro, are my good friends and dedicated people with selfless spirit. I can get a lot of scarce and reliable information from it. The magazine Maestro, which has been published since 2013, is a good teacher worthy of trust. So far, it has published 23 issues and about 300 high-quality articles with the theme of Morricone's works. In order to quickly find the information, I need to edit the Handbook from these articles, I first translated all their English documents (issues 1-23) into Chinese through online paid translation. Although the translation results are somewhat different, they are basically available. In order to spread widely in the Chinese world, I have provided it for free to my members.

Then I cut them all into single-page files and saved them in my computer. In this way, whenever I search the Internet without results, I will use the W10 hard disk search function to quickly find the information I need in these articles. For some works of the 1950s and 1960s, the information provided by this magazine can be said to be unique, especially Morricone's works in early radio programs and many TV shows. For example, in Volume 3 of the Handbook, FU6002Q **Gente che va e gente che viene** (“People come and go”), FU6004 **In due si vince meglio** (“Win-win is better”, Radio Broadcast), FU6104 **Piccolo concerto** (“Mini concert”, TV Show), FU6202 **Caccia ai corvi** (“Crow hunting”, theatre play), FU6304 **Smash** (“Impact”, TV show), FU6306 **Musica hotel** (“Music hotel”, TV Show), etc. In addition, this magazine also provides a lot of information about the soundtrack of Morricone's early advertising, such as FU6901 **Il Californiano** (“The Californian”, commercial), FU6902 **Op steel** (commercial), FU7001 **Terra magica** (“Magic Land”, event), etc. Its help to me can be said to be huge.

44 years of random feeling 3: The post-Morricone era

On July 6, 2020, the Maestro died unfortunately. We all have to enter a post-Morricone era. What should we do in addition to grief and mourning?



3-1 Change ideas to solve the long-term survival of personal public welfare website

It is not easy to build a personal website of public welfare, and also is not easy to persist in the long run. There have been four personal Morricone theme websites around the world. But now, the websites of Japan and Austria have been closed, leaving only Belgium and China. The Dutch MSV magazine, which was launched in 1980, also announced its suspension in 2012⁷⁰. I think the key issue is the economy. At the age of 75, I was aware of this problem: if not solved, will the new generation of successors take over? The ideal is beautiful, but the reality is very bony. In order to solve this problem, I have tried advertising, sponsorship and other methods for nearly 10 years, but they are not ideal. Especially the sponsorship of many old friends is hard to accept.

Since 2020, I have finally decided to try to sell the Handbook (electronic version) with its own copyright online at a reasonable price, which has been widely understood and supported by fans. The results of three years of practice are gratifying. I have found a balance between "public welfare" and "charging". I think that the readers' willingness to spend money on the book represents a kind of social recognition and feedback, and is also a manifestation of the value of books and websites. For a webmaster, it is not only a gain, but also a spur, responsibility and motivation. I believe that my successor will also be able to persist in the long term. Let it continue to shine in the post-Morricone era. I hope it can persist to the 22nd century or even further.

3-2 On the basis of continuing to study the original music films of Morricone, pay attention to and support the films and We-media that cited Morricone's music

For the latter, our attention is still insufficient, and many fans often exclude them. In fact, Morricone has personally demonstrated for us the use of classical music. For example, in the film **My Name is Nobody**, *Valkyries* uses Wagner's *The ride of the Valkyries*; in the film **Stanno tutti bene**, Verdi's *The Force of Destiny* and Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* are used; Verdi's *Te Deum* and *I masnadieri* and Stefano Landi's *Dirindindin* were used in the film **Allonsanfan**; the use of Bach's *Fugue in D minor* in the film **Le clan des Siciliens** has achieved good results. After Morricone's death, the films and We-media that cited Morricone's works in large numbers will inevitably become an important carrier for the widespread dissemination and inheritance of the Maestro works. We should pay attention to this trend and make contributions to it.

3-3 Support and encourage all kinds of social forces, and establish various forms of Morricone resource libraries, memorial halls, and museums

After 20 years of efforts, my website has built a large and rich Reading Resource Library that is open to a small number of fans for personal appreciation and research⁷¹. It will continue to be improved and expanded. I have noticed that fans in many countries have already taken action, like Keith Brewood⁷² in the UK, Lee Jin-weon⁷³ and Park⁷⁴ in South Korea have built (or are building) various types of memorial halls on their own. Yi Su, president of China Morricone Fans Association (MorriUnion), is mobilizing social capital to build a Morricone Memorial Hall in Guangdong Province. I also saw that a huge Morricone mural has appeared in Sicily⁷⁵. I also believe that the Italian government will build a wonderful museum for him.

Ennio Morricone is immortal!

⁷⁰ see Maestro #4, p.18

⁷¹ See [here](#).

⁷² see Maestro #8, p.38.

⁷³ see Handbook, Volume 2 p.850.

⁷⁴ see [here](#).

⁷⁵ see [here](#).