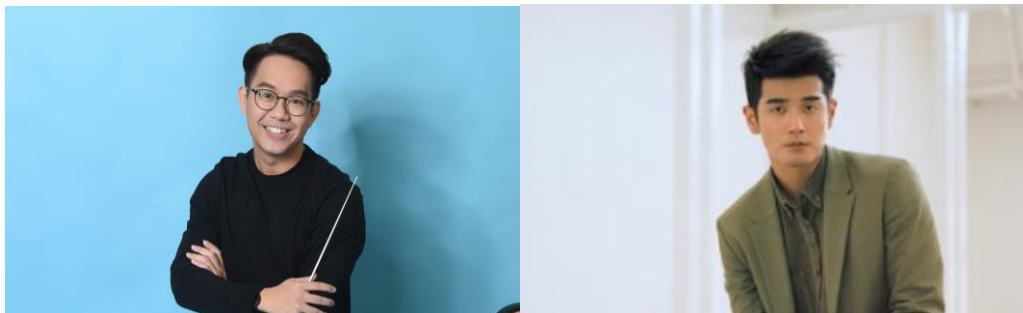


Immediate release

## A Different Chinese New Year Celebration with Ding Yi and Nathan Hartono

*Ding Yi Music Company opens its season with an annual festive rhapsody concert series featuring our very own local talents!*

**Singapore, 16 Jan 2020** – Showcasing Chinese festive classics in new and youthful renditions, Ding Yi's *Happy Chinese New Year Concert 2020* 《欢乐春节 - 新春音乐会 2020》 is back with exciting repertoire to usher in the Year of the Rat. Happening on the 8 Feb 2020 (Sat) at the China Cultural Centre Theatre, the concert will be conducted by Ding Yi Assistant Conductor Wong De Li, Dedric (黄德励), with special appearance by local singer-songwriter Nathan Hartono (向洋). This is Hartono's first time performing live with Chinese chamber music.



Ding Yi Assistant Conductor Wong De Li, Dedric and local singer-songwriter Nathan Hartono

Ding Yi percussionist Derek Koh Wen Jun (许文俊), a graduate of the prestigious Mannes School of Music, will be premiering and performing to his own composition specially commissioned for the concert, titled *Flushing Chinatown* 《法拉盛华埠》. Newly joined Ding Yi *huqin* musician Chia Wan Hua (谢宛桦) will debut her first solo performance, Wang Dan Hong's *Strings of Lingnan* 《弦意岭南》, with the ensemble.

Since the launch of the Happy Chinese New Year concert series in collaboration with China Cultural Centre in 2016, Ding Yi has been continuously pushing new formulas to present a myriad of Chinese classical music through challenging new interpretations while riding on the festive spirit. Expect a refreshing presentation of familiar tunes such as Law Kin Pong's *Another Plum Blossom* 《梅花新弄》 and Wang Chenwei's *Cantonese Medley* 《粤舞升平》.

\*

### About Ding Yi Music Company

*"Best known for putting contemporary spin on classic chamber orchestra music alongside more traditional performance"* – The Straits Times

Established in 2007, Ding Yi's mission is to advocate and promote its unique Singaporean identity and sound – Ding Yi Chinese chamber music by producing iconic programmes locally and overseas, proudly flying our Singapore flag high, leaving footprints in many important international music festivals. Ding Yi is also a proud recipient of the third Chinese Cultural Contribution Award in 2019 and NAC Major Company Scheme since 2016. For more information, please visit [www.dingyimusic.com](http://www.dingyimusic.com).

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## ANNEXES

- I. FAST FACTS
- II. ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES
- III. ABOUT THE CONCERT

**FAST FACTS****Happy Chinese New Year Concert 2020**

8 Feb 2020, Sat

3.30pm, 7.30pm

China Cultural Centre Theatre

**Ticketing agent: SISTIC****Standard price: \$28****Discounts:**

<b>Concessions for students, NSFs and seniors</b>	\$20
<b>Special Package</b> (Purchase of four or more tickets only.)	\$18 each
<b>Card Discounts</b> For PAssion Card, OCBC Arts Platinum Card	15%
For SAFRA Card, OCBC Debit/ Credit Card	10%

\*All ticket prices exclude SISTIC charge

SISTIC Ticketing:	<a href="http://bit.ly/2EJFFuj">http://bit.ly/2EJFFuj</a>
Ding Yi Website:	<a href="https://www.dingyimusic.com">https://www.dingyimusic.com</a>
Ding Yi Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube):	@dingyimusic

**Images and other information can be downloaded through these links for media use**

1. Ding Yi logo

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wt5pyjd3psnej5q/AABAtPr25TnavlJzrQ1UBt2Qa?dl=0>

2. Ding Yi group photo(s)

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nqt5fw6tqnskjy/AACfLI2wTRUEvwqbOSulGRxna?dl=0>

3. Ding Yi Bio

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0kxyjtcn9ipmvmw/AABiOIAITj\\_IaiDi8UnwtNV9a?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0kxyjtcn9ipmvmw/AABiOIAITj_IaiDi8UnwtNV9a?dl=0)

4. Conductor photo(s): Wong De Li, Dedric

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/r4payoi95j74u20/AADwqVsK7ZWtKKyi-V0csGvUa?dl=0>

5. Artists photo(s) and Bio

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pyqwmvozb4bz6gk/AAAFQ3BVBxP-2VZrmKhfg1Vja?dl=0>

## ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES

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### Wong De Li, Dedric – Conductor



Wong De Li, Dedric aspired to be a conductor in his teen years, and his interest was ignited again by the renowned Chinese music educator and Singapore Cultural Medallion recipient Dr Tay Teow Kiat. With his master's degree in orchestral conducting at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing, under the tutelage of renowned Professor Yang Youqing and guidance from conducting maestro and Music Director of Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) Tsung Yeh, he aims to push Ding Yi up to new heights of artistic excellence and to develop a unique Singaporean musical direction.

In 2013, Wong was selected to participate in the Conducting Masterclass by renowned conducting maestros Prof Zhang Guoyong and Qu Chunquan, organised by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra. While in 2015, he was again selected to attend the Conducting Workshop by Tsung Yeh, organised by SCO.

As a 2014 National Arts Council (NAC) Arts Scholarship recipient and a two-time recipient of the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Arts and Cultural Bursary in 2004 and 2006, he has performed in many countries such as China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia.

In 2016, Wong staged his conducting recital with the China Conservatory of Music Middle School Youth Chinese Orchestra with reputable conductor Gu Guanren. In the same year, he assumed the conductor role for the Cultural Symphony Orchestra and was also featured as an outstanding NAC scholar in the 2016 *Straits Times Scholars Choice*.

More info: <https://www.dingyimusic.com/conductor>

## Nathan Hartono – Vocalist



Nathan Hartono is a multi-hyphenate; a Singaporean singer songwriter actor who simply cannot be pigeonholed. Since winning a singing competition over a decade ago, he has gone on to release three albums, star on an HBO Asia series, and perform on hundreds of stages around the world.

In 2016, his popularity further propelled when he emerged as first runner-up on Chinese singing competition, Sing! China, under the mentorship of mandopop king Jay Chou. His soulful performances captivated the hearts of audiences across Asia and beyond.

Hartono has since been nominated as “Most Popular Overseas Singer” at the 2017 MTV Global Chinese Music Awards, featured in Prestige Singapore's 2018 Prestige 40 Under 40, named a Brand Personality for the Singapore

Tourism Board, and appointed as ambassador for Ministry of Education’s Committee to *Promote Chinese Language Learning*, on top of a multitude of successful brand partnerships.

His debut mandarin single *Ai Chao Gei Dian* (爱超给电) was launched in February 2018, and has since charted within Top 50 on Spotify Viral 50 in Singapore (#8), Taiwan (#17) and Malaysia (#48), Top 10 on iTunes Singapore, and Top 20 on YES 933’s weekly radio chart. It also saw him working with renowned Tokyo-based photographer and film director Leslie Kee on the official music video.

In 2019, Hartono landed his featured film debut with the Mandarin romantic-comedy *When Ghost Meets Zombie*. In the same year, Hartono returned with a new popfunk mandarin single *Make It Right* (排过的队) that showcases his knack for strong groovy melodies with an irresistible groove.

## Derek Koh Wen Jun – Percussion



Touted as one of the most promising musicians of his generation by The Straits Time (Singapore), Derek Koh has grown rapidly to become a highly sought-after percussionist due to his comforts in both Western and Chinese repertoire. Koh has been part of the award-winning Chinese Chamber Ensemble Ding Yi Music Company since 2010, and also appears regularly as a freelance percussionist with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. Invited as guest Principal Timpanist for the Szechuan Symphony Orchestra on their Asian tour in 2017, Koh has also appeared as percussionist alongside the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. In 2016, he was selected to be in the inaugural Musician Fellowship program started by the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, where he worked with the orchestra for half of its season. Koh has also won fellowship positions in

the Grammy-award winning Orpheus Chamber Orchestra (New York), Aspen Music Festival (Aspen, Colorado), Miami Music Festival (Miami, Florida), and PRISMA Festival, (British Columbia).

Koh has held two sold out recitals at the Esplanade recital studio and has featured as soloist in productions like the Singapore International Festival of the Arts and President's Star Charity, and classical concerts with The Philharmonic Orchestra and the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) Orchestra.

A graduate of NAFA's School of Young Talents where he was scouted at the age of five, he continued his undergraduate studies at the institution where he received his Bachelor of Music (first class honours) conferred by the Royal College of Music. Koh most recently received his Master's degree at Mannes School of Music under the support of the prestigious Mannes Dean's Scholarship. Koh would like to thank his important mentors percussionists Mark Suter, Maya Gunji, and Yangqin Professor Wei Yan Ming for their guidance in his musical journey.

## Chia Wan Hua – *Huqin*



Chia Wan Hua graduated with Bachelor of Music (Honours) from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) in collaboration with the Royal College of Music (London). As a student, Chia received the Ngee Ann Kongsi Merit Award, Tan Chin Tuan Merit Award and NAFA Music Performance Degree grant. She currently teaches at various schools as *erhu* instructor.

Chia has studied several instruments including the *erhu*, *guzheng* and piano. She is presently under the personal tutelage of master Zhang Yu Ming. Chia has also won second prize (*erhu* youth category) in the biennial National Chinese Music Competition in 2004 and 2006, and second runner up (*erhu* open category) in 2018.

Chia has been fortunate to experience different genres of traditional music and instruments such as Huang Mei Opera, the *jinghu* (lead instrument in Peking Opera) and the *erxian* (lead instrument in Teochew opera). In 2015, she led the Singapore Thau Yong Amateur Musical Association in a concert in Shan Tou (Teochew Province) on the *erxian*, which was well-received by local professionals and audiences.



ABOUT THE CONCERT

# Happy Chinese Year Concert 2020

Celebrate Lunar New Year 2020 with a refreshing Chinese chamber music showcase, starring singer-songwriter Nathan Hartono. Conducted by Ding Yi Assistant Conductor Wong De Li, Dedric, hear familiar yet youthful renditions of Chinese classics and popular favourites to welcome the new year!

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**DEREK KOH WEN JUN**  
*Flushing Chinatown\**

**Arr. EDMUND SONG**  
*The Longest Movie*

**LAW KIN PONG**  
*Another Plum Blossom\**

**LOK SULWYN**  
*Eternal Shanghai Divas\**

**Arr. WANG CHENWEI**  
*Cantonese Medley*

**WANG DANHONG**  
*Strings of Lingnan*

\*Commissioned by Ding Yi Music Company

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(1hr 10min (no intermission))

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Wong De Li, Dedric, conductor  
Nathan Hartono, vocalist  
Chia Wan Hua, *huqin*  
Derek Koh, percussion

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*Cantonese Medley*

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*Strings of Lingnan*

**8 Feb 2020, Sat**  
8:30pm, 7:00pm  
China Cultural Centre Theatre (Level 4)

2020年2月8日 星期六  
晚上7:00分 与晚上8:30分  
中国文化中心剧场 (四楼)

**Happy Chinese New Year Concert 2020**

慶祝2020年首個首年會以應傳統，歡迎未來，為歡欣慶祝！  
讓我們透過一場由本地創作歌手伴唱的中華室內樂演出，高興慶祝2020年  
的新年，在歡欣的氣氛中，為您獻上精彩的音樂會。透過一場令人耳目一新的  
中華樂隊，透過熱情和青春的演奏，呈獻一場令人耳目一新的中華樂隊！

**好歌集**  
《長江流》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*

**樂隊**  
《永朝時代歌歌之《東方舞》》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*  
《東風吹綠柳》\*

**Wong De Li, Dedric**  
黃德立 戴德烈

**Nathan Hartono**  
納瑟 哈托諾

**Chia Wan Hua**  
卓婉華

**Derek Koh**  
戴德烈

**Ding Yi Musicians 樂藝推廣樂家**

**Ticket Price 票價: \$28\***

Concessions for students, NPs and seniors 在職學生、國民服務人員及長者人士優惠票	420
Special Package 音樂套票 Purchase four or more tickets only. Limited tickets available. 凡購至少四張門票，套裝數量有限。	418 each/每張
Card Discounts 卡優惠 For Passion Card, OCBC Arts Platinum Card 百喜卡、華僑銀行藝術卡	15%
For SAFRA Card, OCBC Debit/Credit Cards, 誠實理財會卡、華僑銀行信用卡。	10%

**BOOK NOW! 馬上訂購門票!**

Tickets are available at all RSTC, authorized agents,  
Admission only \$8 (above \$10000 RSTC fee, terms and conditions apply).

訂票可在各RSTC、經售處購取。  
訂票費用每張\$8(不另計\$10000手續費、詳情請洽)。